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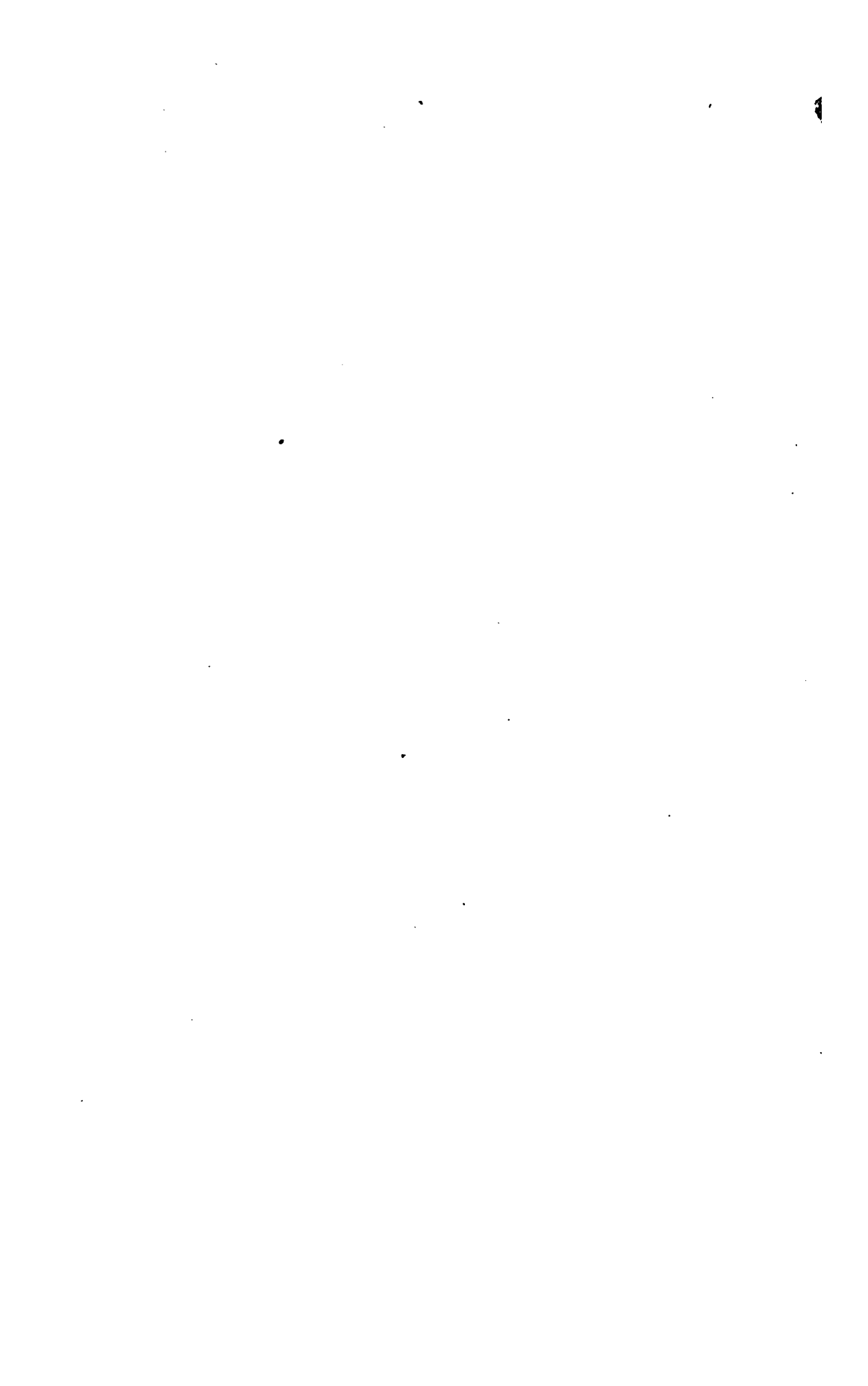
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**HANSARD'S
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE**

THIRD SERIES:

COMMENCING WITH THE ASCENSION OF

WILLIAM IV.

46th & 47th VICTORIA, 1883.

VOL. CCLXXXIII.

COMPRISING THE PERIOD FROM

THE TENTH DAY OF AUGUST 1883.

TO

THE TWENTY-FIFTH DAY OF AUGUST 1884.

EIGHTH VOLUME OF THE SESSION.

LONDON:

PUBLISHED BY CORNELIUS BUCK,

AT THE OFFICE FOR "HANSARD'S PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES,"

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 Further Proceeding on Consideration, as amended, *resumed*
 After some time, it being ten minutes before Seven of the clock, the
 Further Consideration, as amended, stood adjourned till *this day*.
 The House suspended its Sitting at Seven of the clock.

—o—

The House resumed its Sitting at Nine of the clock.

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ORDERS OF THE DAY.

Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) Bill

Further Proceeding on Consideration, as amended, *resumed* ..
 After long time, *Moved*, "That the Bill be re-committed in respect of Clause 34,"—(*Mr. Attorney General* :)—After further short debate, Motion *agreed to* :—Bill *re-committed* in respect of Clause 34.
 Bill *considered* in Committee; an Amendment made;—Bill *reported*; as amended, *considered*.
Moved, "That the Bill be now read the third time,"—(*Mr. Attorney General*.)
 Motion *agreed to* :—Bill read the third time, and *passed*.

Education (Scotland) Bill [Bill 226]—

Order for Committee read :—*Moved*, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair,"—(*Mr. Mundella*) ..
Moved, "That this House do now adjourn,"—(*Colonel Alexander* :)—After short debate, Motion, by leave, *withdrawn*.
 Original Question again proposed :—After short debate, Original Question put, and *agreed to* :—Bill *considered* in Committee.
Moved, "That the Chairman do report Progress, and ask leave to sit again,"—(*Mr. Mundella* :)—Motion *agreed to*.
 Committee report Progress; to sit again upon *Monday* next.

Isle of Wight Highways (*re-committed*) Bill [Bill 268]—

Order for Committee read :—*Moved*, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair,"—(*Mr. Hibbert*) ..
 Question put :—The House *divided*; Ayes 60, Noes 26; Majority 34.—(*Div. List*, No. 282.)
 Bill *considered* in Committee, and *reported*, without Amendment; read the third time, and *passed*.

Leaseholders (Facilities for Purchase of Fee Simple) Bill—

Moved, "That the Bill be read a second time To-morrow" ..
 Amendment proposed, to leave out the word "To-morrow," in order to insert the words "upon Monday next,"—(*Sir R. Assheton Cross*),—instead thereof.
 Question put, "That the word 'To-morrow' stand part of the Question :"
 —The House *divided*; Ayes 28, Noes 59; Majority 31.—(*Div. List*, No. 283.)
 Main Question, as amended, put, and *agreed to* :—Second Reading *deferred* till *Monday* next.

Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Durham) Bill—

Order for Committee read :—*Moved*, "That this House will, To-morrow, resolve itself into the said Committee,"—(*Mr. Theodore Fry*) ..
 Amendment proposed, to leave out the word "To-morrow," in order to insert the words "Monday next,"—(*Sir R. Assheton Cross*),—instead thereof.
 Question proposed, "That the word 'To-morrow' stand part of the Question :"
 —After short debate, Question put :—The House *divided*; Ayes 35, Noes 47; Majority 12.—(*Div. List*, No. 284.)
Moved, "That the Order for Committee be read and discharged,"—(*Mr. Theodore Fry* :)—Motion *agreed to* :—Order *discharged* :—Bill *withdrawn*.

Cholera Hospitals (Ireland) Bill [Bill 282]—

Bill *considered* in Committee ..
 Bill *reported*; as amended, to be considered upon *Monday* next. ..

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MOTION.

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SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE—THE NEW RULES—RESOLUTION—

Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that the Rules of the Supreme Court of Judicature, 1883, may be annulled,"—(*Sir R. Assheton Cross*.)

Debate arising :—Debate *adjourned* till *To-morrow*. [3.45.]

COMMONS, SATURDAY, AUGUST 11.

PARLIAMENTARY REGISTRATION (IRELAND) BILL—Observations, Mr. Gladstone ; Question, Sir R. Assheton Cross ; Answer, Mr. Gladstone .. 1

Moved, "That the Order for Committee be deferred till Monday next,"—(*Mr. Gladstone* :)—Question put, and *agreed to*.

QUESTIONS.

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COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEAL BILL—Question, Mr. Morgan Lloyd ; Answer, The Attorney General 1

PARLIAMENT—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—BANKRUPTCY BILL—Question, Mr. Callan ; Answer, The Attorney General for Ireland 1

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

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SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE—THE NEW RULES—RESOLUTION—

Order read, for resuming Adjourned Debate on Question [10th August] :
—Question again proposed :—Debate *resumed* 1

After debate, Amendment proposed,

To leave out from the second word "that" to the end of the Question, in order to insert the words "Order 63, of the Rules of the Supreme Court, 1883," may be annulled,"—(*Mr. H. H. Fowler*.)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question :"—After further debate, Question put :—The House *divided* ; Ayes 99, Noes 22 ; Majority 77.—(Div. List, No. 285.)

Main Question put :—The House *divided* ; Ayes 49, Noes 71 ; Majority 22.—(Div. List, No. 286.)

Bankruptcy Bill [Bill 248]—

Order for Consideration, as amended, read ..

Moved, "That the Bill be re-committed in respect of Clause 24,"—(*Mr. Chamberlain* :)—*Moved*, "That this House do now adjourn,"—(*Mr. Arthur O'Connor* :)—After short debate, Motion, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Original Question put, and *agreed to*.

Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair "
After debate, Motion, by leave, *withdrawn* :—Order for re-committal of Bill *discharged* :—Bill, as amended, to be considered upon *Monday* next. [8.45.]

LORDS, MONDAY, AUGUST 13.

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 After short debate, on Question? *Resolved* in the *negative*.

POST OFFICE—UNDERGROUND TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE WIRES—Qu
 tion, Observations, Viscount Sidmouth, The Duke of Buccleuch; *Re*
Lord Thurlow

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ACTS—THE COMPULSORY CLAUSES—Question, Obser
 tions, The Earl of Milltown; *Reply*, The Earl of Northbrook

Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Bill (No. 178)—

Moved, "That the House do resolve itself into Committee on the Bill,"
 (*The Lord Carlingford*)

After short debate, Motion *agreed to*; House in Committee accordingly
 Amendments made; the Report thereof to be received on *Thursday* ne
 and Bill to be *printed*, as amended. (No. 190.)

Diseases Prevention (Metropolis) Bill (No. 181)—

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^a,"—(*The Lord Carrington*)

After short debate, Motion *agreed to*:—Bill read 2^a accordingly, and a
mitted to a Committee of the Whole House *To-morrow*. 9.3

COMMONS, MONDAY, AUGUST 13.

QUESTIONS.

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—o—

SUPPLY—considered in Committee—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES.
(In the Committee.)

CLASS III.—LAW AND JUSTICE.

- (1.) Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £29,235, be granted, &c., to complete the sum necessary to defray the certain Allowances under the Act 15 and 16 Vic. c. 83" ..
After long debate, Motion made, and Question put, "That a sum, not exceeding £29,235, be granted, &c.,"—(Mr. Parnell.)—The Committee divided; Ayes 93; Majority 69.—(Div. List, No. 287.)
Original Question put, and agreed to.
- (2.) £55,651, to complete the sum for the Supreme Court of Judicature in Ireland.
- (3.) £6,813, to complete the sum for the Court of Bankruptcy, Ireland.—After debate, Vote agreed to.
- (4.) £845, to complete the sum for the Admiralty Court Registry, Ireland.
- (5.) £10,927, to complete the sum for the Registry of Deeds, Ireland.
- (6.) £1,464, to complete the sum for the Registry of Judgments, Ireland.
- (7.) £60,720, to complete the sum for County Court Officers, &c., Ireland.
- (8.) £72,498, to complete the sum for the Dublin Metropolitan Police.
- (9.) £51,968, to complete the sum for Reformatory and Industrial Schools, Ireland.
- (10.) £4,345, to complete the sum for the Dundrum Criminal Lunatic Asylum, Ireland.

CLASS IV.—EDUCATION, SCIENCE, AND ART.

- (11.) Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £24,000, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the certain Allowances connected therewith" ..
March 1884, for the Salaries and Expenses of the Science and Art Department ..
Moved, "That the Chairman do report Progress, and ask leave to sit again to-morrow."—After short debate, Question put:—The Committee divided; Ayes 15, Noes 74; Majority 59.—(Div. List, No. 288.)
Original Question again proposed ..
Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £24,000, be granted, &c.,"—(Mr. Cavendish Bentinck.)—After debate, Motion, *withdrawn*.
Original Question put, and agreed to.

Resolutions to be reported To-morrow; Committee to sit again Wednesday.

National Debt (re-committed) Bill [Bill 287]—

Order for Committee read:—*Moved*, "That Mr. Speaker do now lay the Bill on the Table."—(Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer) ..

Amendment proposed,

To leave out from the word "That" to the end of the Question, in order to resolve itself into a Committee,—"this House will, upon this day three months, resolve itself into a Committee,"—(Sir Joseph M'Kenna),—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand as the Question."—After short debate, Question put:—The House divided; Ayes 51, Noes 23; Majority 28.—(Div. List, No. 289.)

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National Debt (re-committed) Bill—continued.

Question again proposed, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" ..

Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned,"—(*Sir H. Drummond Wolff* :)

Question put:—The House *divided*; Ayes 14, Noes 56; Majority 42.—
(Div. List, No. 290.)

Original Question put, and *agreed to*.

Bill *considered* in Committee:—After short time spent therein, Bill *re-ported*, without Amendment; to be read the third time *To-morrow*.

Education (Scotland) Bill [Bill 226]—

Bill *considered* in Committee [*Progress 10th August*] ..

After some time spent therein, Bill *reported*; as amended, to be con-
sidered *To-morrow*.

Expiring Laws Continuance Bill [Bill 283]—

Bill *considered* in Committee ..

Bill *reported*, without Amendment; to be read the third time *To-morrow*.

Medals Bill [Bill 188]—

Order read, for resuming Adjourned Debate on Question [3rd July],

"That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" (for Committee on the
Medals Bill):—Question again proposed:—Debate *resumed* ..

Question put, and *agreed to*:—Bill *considered* in Committee:—Committee
report *Progress*; to sit again *To-morrow*.

Cholera Hospitals (Ireland) Bill [Bill 282]—

Bill, as amended, *considered* ..

After short debate, Bill read the third time, and *passed*.

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND ART (ADMINISTRATION OF VOTES)—

Ordered, That Mr. SCLATER-BOOTH and Mr. JESSE COLLINGS be added to the Select
Committee on Education, Science and Art (Administration of Votes),—(*Mr. Chan-
cellor of the Exchequer*.)

NAVY AND ARMY EXPENDITURE, 1881-2—

Resolutions *considered* in Committee ..

Resolutions to be reported *To-morrow*. [4.45.]

LORDS, TUESDAY, AUGUST 14.

Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill (No. 186)—

Amendments *reported* (according to Order) ..

Further Amendments made:—Bill to be read 3^d on *Thursday* next, and to
be *printed*, as amended. (No. 192.)

ARMY—MILITARY PRISON AT GREENLAW, SCOTLAND—Question, Observa-
tions, The Marquess of Lothian; Reply, The Earl of Morley; Observa-
tions, The Duke of Buccleuch ..

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS PREVENTION ACT, 1849—PROSECUTIONS FOR PIGEON-
SHOOTING—Question, Lord Westbury; Answer, The Earl of Dalhousie :
—Short debate thereon ..

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- (1.) Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £261,103, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the Expenses of the Directors of Convict Establishments in England and the Colonies, and of the Convict Establishments under their control " 752
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- (3.) Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £781,345, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the Constabulary Force in Ireland " 830
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- (5.) £96,019, to complete the sum for the British Museum.—After short debate, Vote *agreed to* 877

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- (6.) Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £45,000, be granted to Her Majesty, to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the purchase of certain Manuscripts from the Collection of the Earl of Ashburnham " 882
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- (7.) Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £8,530, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the Salaries and Expenses of the National Gallery " 886

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In line 8, after the words "tidal waters," to insert the words, "a printed copy of every Bill containing provisions with respect to the use of weights and measures, or the		

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inspection or verification of the same, shall be deposited at the Standard Department of the Board of Trade,"—(*The Chairman of Ways and Means*.)

Amendment *agreed to*.

Standing Order 155 read.

Amendment proposed, in line 3, after the word "Railway," to insert the word "Tramway,"—(*The Chairman of Ways and Means* :)—Amendment *agreed to*.

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—o—

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Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland) Bill [Bill 286]—

Order for Committee read :—*Moved*, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair,"—(*Mr. Trevelyan*) 967

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(1.) £14,250, to complete the sum for Learned Societies and Scientific Investigation.	
(2.) £7,749, to complete the sum for the London University.	
(3.) £2,400, to complete the sum for Aberystwith College, Wales.	
(4.) £4,000, to complete the sum for the Deep Sea Exploring Expedition (Report).	
(5.) £570, to complete the sum for the Transit of Venus.	
(6.) £255,723, to complete the sum for Public Education, Scotland.—After short debate, Vote <i>agreed to</i>	1022
(7.) £12,852, to complete the sum for Universities, &c. in Scotland.	
(8.) £1,700, to complete the sum for the National Gallery, &c. Scotland.	
(9.) £10,000, Scottish Historical Portrait Gallery.—After short debate, Vote <i>agreed to</i>	1034
(10.) £408,339, to complete the sum for Public Education, Ireland.—After short debate, Vote <i>agreed to</i>	1034
(11.) £1,040, to complete the sum for the Teachers' Pension Office, Ireland.	
(12.) £410, to complete the sum for the Endowed Schools Commissioners, Ireland.—After short debate, Vote <i>agreed to</i>	1054
(13.) Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £1,029, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the Salaries and Expenses of the National Gallery of Ireland, and for the purchase of Pictures"	1055
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(14.) Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £10,728, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, in aid of the Expense of the Queen's Colleges in Ireland"	1061
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- (16.) £6,894, to complete the sum for the Suppression of the Slave Trade.
- (17.) £2,671, to complete the sum for Tonnage Bounties, &c. and Liberated African Department.
- (18.) £18,801, to complete the sum for the Colonies, Grants in Aid.—After short debate, *Vote agreed to* .. 1081
- (19.) £17,300, to complete the sum for Telegraph Companies (Subsidies).
- (20.) Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £5,000, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, as a Grant in Aid of the Revenue of the Island of Cyprus" .. 1081
- After short debate, Question put:—The Committee *divided*; Ayes 66, Noes 20; Majority 46.—(Div. List, No. 298.)
- (21.) Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £11,246, be granted to Her Majesty, to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the repayment of the balance of the amount advanced out of the Civil Contingencies Fund for payment to the United States Government in settlement of the Fortune Bay Fishery Claims" .. 1085
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- After short debate, Original Question put, and *agreed to*.

CLASS VI.—NON-EFFECTIVE AND CHARITABLE SERVICES.

- (22.) £210,737, to complete the sum necessary for Superannuations and Retired Allowances.
- (23.) £10,800, to complete the sum necessary for Merchant Seamen's Fund Pensions, &c.
- (24.) £442,500, to complete the sum for Pauper Lunatics, England.
- (25.) £51,500, to complete the sum for Pauper Lunatics, Scotland.
- (26.) £7,000, to complete the sum for Pauper Lunatics, Ireland.
- (27.) £8,725, to complete the sum for Hospitals and Infirmarys, Ireland.
- (28.) £48,588, Friendly Societies Deficiency.
- (29.) £1,888, to complete the sum for Miscellaneous Charitable and other Allowances, Great Britain
- (30.) £2,722, to complete the sum for Miscellaneous Charitable and other Allowances, Ireland.
- (31.) £8,422, Commutation of Annuities.
- (32.) £1,000, for Cochrane's Deposits.

CLASS VII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

- (33.) £19,523, to complete the sum for Temporary Commissions.
- (34.) £2,912, to complete the sum for Miscellaneous Expenses.

REVENUE DEPARTMENTS.

- (35.) £810,785, to complete the sum for Customs.
- (36.) £1,438,366, to complete the sum for Inland Revenue.
- (37.) £3,683,218 (including a Supplementary sum of £339,466), to complete the sum for Post Office.
- (38.) £486,285, to complete the sum for Post Office Packet Service.
- (39.) £1,226,073 (including a Supplementary sum of £200,000), to complete the sum for Post Office Telegraphs.
- (40.) £500,000, Afghan War (Grant in Aid) 1883-4.

CLASS I.—PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS.

- (41.) £4,000, Supplementary, Royal Palaces.
- (42.) £4,895, Supplementary, Houses of Parliament.
- (43.) £5,323, Supplementary, Harbours under the Board of Trade.
- (44.) £500, Supplementary, House of Commons Offices.—After short debate, *Vote agreed to* .. 1087

CLASS II.—SALARIES AND EXPENSES OF CIVIL DEPARTMENTS.

- (45.) Motion made, and Question put, "That a sum, not exceeding £10,200, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for Her Majesty's Foreign and other Secret Services :"—The Committee *divided*; Ayes 63, Noes 16; Majority 47.—(Div. List, No. 299.)

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Local Government Board (Scotland) Bill [Bill 251]—	
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After short debate, Motion <i>agreed to</i> :—Bill read a second time, and <i>committed</i> for Monday next.	[4.0.]

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(1.) Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £4,927, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the Salaries of the Officers and Attendants of the Household of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and other Expenses " ..	1118

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Original Question put, and agreed to.
- (2.) Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £27,555, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the Salaries and Expenses of the Offices of the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland in Dublin and London, and Subordinate Departments" 1203
After short debate, Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £21,430, be granted, &c."—(*Mr. Biggar* :)—Question put, and *negatived*.
Original Question put, and agreed to.
- (3.) £1,280, to complete the sum for the Charitable Donations and Bequests Office, Ireland.
- (4.) Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £85,482, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the Salaries and Expenses of the Local Government Board in Ireland, including various Grants in Aid of Local Taxation" 1210
Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £84,482, be granted, &c."—(*Mr. O'Brien* :)—After short debate, Question put :—The Committee divided ; Ayes 19, Noes 53 ; Majority 34.—(Div. List, No. 301.)
Original Question put, and agreed to.
- (5.) £32,262, to complete the sum for the Public Works Office, Ireland.—After short debate, Vote agreed to 1219
- (6.) £3,708, to complete the sum for the Record Office, Ireland.—After short debate, Vote agreed to 1220
- (7.) £9,261, to complete the sum for the Registrar General's Office, Ireland.
- (8.) Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £13,385, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the Salaries and Expenses of the General Valuation and Boundary Survey of Ireland" 1221
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- (9.) £311,000, Medical Establishments.—After debate, Vote agreed to 1226
- (10.) £562,800, Volunteer Corps.—After short debate, Vote agreed to 1243
- (11.) £278,000, Army Reserve Force.—After debate, Vote agreed to 1250
- (12.) £34,000, Miscellaneous Effective Services.
- (13.) Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £241,800, be granted to Her Majesty, to defray the Charge for the Salaries and Miscellaneous Charges of the War Office, which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884" 1266
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- (14.) £22,800, Rewards for Distinguished Services.
- (15.) £80,000, Half Pay.—After short debate, Vote agreed to 1300
- (16.) £1,134,000, Retired Pay, &c.
- (17.) £118,200, Widow's Pensions, &c.
- (18.) £16,000, Pensions for Wounds.
- (19.) £32,900, Chelsea and Kilmainham Hospitals.
- (20.) £1,269,900, Out-Pensions.
- (21.) £195,000, Superannuation Allowances.
- (22.) £48,000, Retired Allowances, &c. to Officers of the Militia, Yeomanry Cavalry, and Volunteer Forces.
- (23.) £1,230,000, Army (Indian Home Charges).—After short debate, Vote agreed to 1301
- (24.) £60,600, Medicines and Medical Stores, &c.
- (25.) £10,400, Martial Law, &c.
- (26.) £154,332, Greenwich Hospital and School.

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<i>Considered in Committee.</i>	
(In the Committee.)	
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IRELAND—GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE IN NAVAL MATTERS—Observations, Mr. O'Kelly; Reply, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman:—Short debate thereon ..	1373
Question put:—The House <i>divided</i> ; Ayes 99, Noes 12; Majority 87.—(Div. List, No. 306.)	
First Resolution <i>agreed to</i> .	
Second Resolution (£27,555, Salaries and Expenses of the Offices of the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland in Dublin and London, and Subordinate Departments) read a second time ..	1374
Amendment proposed, to leave out "£27,555," and insert "£23,555,"—(Mr. Healy,)—instead thereof.	
Question proposed, "That '£27,555' stand part of the said Resolution:—"After short debate, Question put:—The House <i>divided</i> ; Ayes 97, Noes 12; Majority 85.—(Div. List, No. 307:)—Resolution <i>agreed to</i> .	
Third Resolution <i>agreed to</i> .	
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Amendment proposed, to leave out "£85,482," and insert "£84,982,"—(Mr. Healy,)—instead thereof.	
Question proposed, "That '£85,482,' stand part of the said Resolution:—"After short debate, Question put:—The House <i>divided</i> ; Ayes 75, Noes 13; Majority 62.—(Div. List, No. 308:)—Resolution <i>agreed to</i> .	
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Eleventh Resolution (£278,000, Charge for the Pay, Allowances, &c. of a number of Army Reserve First Class, not exceeding 31,000, and of the Army Reserve Second Class) read a second time ..	1385
<i>Moved</i> , "That this House doth agree with the Committee in the said Resolution:—"After short debate, Question put:—The House <i>divided</i> ; Ayes 100, Noes 11; Majority 89.—(Div. List, No. 309:)—Resolution <i>agreed to</i> .	
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Sixteenth Resolution (£1,134,000, Retired Pay, Retired Full Pay, and Gratuities for Reduced and Retired Officers, including Payments awarded by the Army Purchase Commissioners) read a second time .. 1395
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Seventeenth and Eighteenth Resolutions *agreed to*.

Nineteenth Resolution (£32,900, Chelsea and Kilmainham Hospitals and the In-Pensioners thereof) read a second time .. 1399
After short debate, Resolution *agreed to*.

Twentieth and Twenty-first Resolutions *agreed to*.

Twenty-second Resolution (£48,000, Retired Allowances, &c. to Officers of the Militia, Yeomanry, and Volunteer Forces) read a second time .. 1399
Resolution *agreed to*.

Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Resolutions *agreed to*.

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Moved, "That this House doth agree with the Committee in the said Resolution"—After long debate, Question put, and *agreed to*:—Remaining Resolution *agreed to*.

Court of Criminal Appeal Bill [Bill 244]—

Moved, "That the Bill be considered To-morrow,"—(*Mr. Attorney General*) .. 1443

After short debate, Question put, and *agreed to*:—Consideration, as amended, *deferred till To-morrow*.

Merchant Shipping (Fishing Boats) Bill [*Lords*] [Bill 288]—

Moved, "That the Bill be now read a second time,"—(*Mr. Chamberlain*) .. 1446

After short debate, Motion *agreed to*:—Bill read a second time, and committed for *To-morrow*.

Provident Nominations and Small Intestacies Bill [Bill 264]—

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Resolution *agreed to*; to be reported *To-morrow*.

[2.45.]

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Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^a,"—(*The Lord President*) .. 1448

Amendment *moved*, to leave out ("now") and add at the end of the Motion ("this day three months,")—(*The Earl of Kilmorey*):—After short debate, on Question, That ("now") stand part of the Motion? their Lordships divided; Contents 32, Not-Contents 52; Majority 20.

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Labourers (Ireland) Bill (No. 183)—	
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Revenue and Friendly Societies Bill—	
Read 1 ^a ; to be <i>printed</i> ; and to be read 2 ^a <i>To-morrow</i> (<i>The Lord Thurlow</i>); and Standing Order No. XXXV. to be considered <i>To-morrow</i> in order to its being dispensed with. (No. 215.)	
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Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Bill—	
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[3.0. A.M.]

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Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill [Bill 299]—	
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Several <i>agreed to</i> ; several <i>disagreed to</i> .	
Committee <i>appointed</i> , "to draw up Reasons to be assigned to The Lords for disagreeing to certain of the Amendments made by The Lords to the Bill :"—List of the Committee	
1580	
Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Bill [Bill 301]—	
Lords' Amendments <i>considered</i>	1581
Several <i>agreed to</i> ; several <i>disagreed to</i> .	
Committee <i>appointed</i> , "to draw up Reasons to be assigned to The Lords for disagreeing to certain of the Amendments made by The Lords to the Bill :"—List of the Committee	
1592	
Merchant Shipping (Fishing Boats) Bill [Bill 288]—	
Order for Committee read :— <i>Moved</i> , "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair"—(<i>Mr. Chamberlain</i>)	1592
After short debate, Question put, and <i>agreed to</i> .	
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Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Bill —	
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[3.0.]

LORDS, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22.

Revenue and Friendly Societies Bill (No. 215)—	
<i>Moved</i> , "That the Bill be now read 2 ^a ,"—(<i>The Lord Thurlow</i>)	1602
Motion <i>agreed to</i> :—Bill read 2 ^a accordingly.	
Standing Order XXXV. <i>considered</i> (according to order).	
<i>Moved</i> , "That the said Standing Order be dispensed with,"—(<i>The Lord Thurlow</i> :)—After short debate, Motion <i>agreed to</i> ; House in Committee accordingly.	
Bill changed to "Revenue Bill."	
Report of Amendments received :—Bill read 3 ^a , with the Amendments;	
—Bill <i>passed</i> , and sent to the Commons.	

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Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) Bill (No. 189)—

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3^a,"—(*The Earl of Northbrook*) .. 1604
 After short debate, Motion *agreed to*:—Bill read 3^a accordingly, with the Amendments, and *passed*, and sent to the Commons.

Bankruptcy Bill (No. 211)—

Amendments *reported* (according to order) 1605
 Bill to be read 3^a *To-morrow*.

Expiring Laws Continuance Bill (No. 197)—

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3^a,"—(*The Lord Thurlow*) .. 1607
 Motion *agreed to*:—Bill read 3^a accordingly.
 Amendments *moved*, and *negatived*:—Bill *passed*, and sent to the Commons.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION—SCHOOL BOARDS—POWER OF EXACTING HOME LESSONS FROM SCHOLARS—Question, Observations, Lord Stanley of Alderley; Reply, Lord Carlingford 1608

Provident Nominations and Small Intestacies Bill—

Commons' reasons for disagreeing to one of the Lords' Amendments *considered* (according to order) 1610
 Amendment *not insisted on*.

Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill (No. 216)—

Commons' reasons for disagreeing to certain of the Lords' amendments, and Commons' amendments to Lords' amendments *considered* (according to order) 1610

Moved, That this House do not insist on the amendment in page 2, line 11, to which the Commons have disagreed; objected to; and an amendment *moved* to leave out all the words after ("House") and insert ("do amend the amendment in page 2, line 11"); on question, that the words proposed to be left out stand part of the motion, the numbers being equal, it was (according to ancient rule) *resolved in the negative*; and, on question, that the words ("do amend the amendment in page 2, line 11") be there inserted, *resolved in the affirmative*: The said amendment amended accordingly: Several of the amendments to which the Commons have disagreed *not insisted on*; one *insisted on*; and the amendments made by the Commons to certain of the amendments made by the Lords *agreed to*: *Moved* not to insist on the amendment in page 18, line 38, to which the Commons have disagreed; objected to; and, on question, *resolved in the affirmative*.

A Committee appointed to prepare a reason to be offered to the Commons for the Lords insisting on one of their amendments to which the Commons have disagreed: The Committee to meet *forthwith*: Report from the Committee of the reason to be offered to the Commons; read, and *agreed to*: And a message sent to the Commons to return the said Bill, with an amendment and reason.

Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Bill (No. 217)—

Commons reasons for disagreeing to certain of the Lords' Amendments and Commons Amendments *considered* (according to order) .. 1640

Moved, That this House do not insist on the amendment in page 2, line 3, to which the Commons have disagreed; objected to; and an amendment *moved* to leave out all the words after ("House") and insert ("do amend the amendment in page 2, line 3"); on question, *agreed to*; amendment amended accordingly: One of the amendments to which the Commons have disagreed *not insisted on*: An amendment made by the Commons to an amendment made by the Lords, *agreed to*, and one *disagreed to*: An amendment to which the Commons have disagreed *insisted on*: Several *not insisted on*: Several of the amendments made by the Commons to certain of the amendments made by the Lords *agreed to*: An amendment made by the Commons *agreed to*, with an amendment: An amendment to which the Commons have disagreed *not insisted on*.

A Committee appointed to prepare reasons to be offered to the Commons for the Lords disagreeing to one of the Commons amendments to the Lords amendments and insisting on one of the amendments to which the Commons have disagreed: The Committee to meet *forthwith*: Report from the Committee of the reasons to be offered to the Commons; read, and *agreed to*: And a message sent to the Commons to return the said Bill, with the amendments and reasons.

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Brought from the Commons; read 1^a; to be printed: and to be read 2^a *To-morrow*.—
(*The Lord Thurlow*.) (No. 219.)

[9.0.]

COMMONS, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22.

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—o—

Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (Nos. 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 2, 9) Bills—

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QUESTIONS.

—o—

STREET TRAFFIC (METROPOLIS)—WHITEHALL—Question, Mr. Macfarlane; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre	1644
INDIA—CRIMINAL CODE (PROCEDURE) AMENDMENT (MR. ILBERT'S) BILL— REPORTS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS—Question, Mr. E. Stanhope; An- swer, Mr. Gladstone	1645
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—o—

Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill—

Bill considered in Committee 1647
After short time spent therein, Bill reported, without Amendment; to be
read the third time *To-morrow*.

INDIA—EAST INDIA REVENUE ACCOUNTS—THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATE- MENT—COMMITTEE—

Order for Committee read :—*Moved*, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the
Chair,"—(*Mr. J. K. Cross*) 1649

Amendment proposed,

To leave out from the word "That" to the end of the Question, in order to add the
words, "in the interests of India and of the United Kingdom, it is desirable that
India should not bear the charge of the Consular and Agency expenditure on the
Persian Gulf, and upon the Tigris and Euphrates, and that the concerns of British
trade and commerce in Western Asia should be in the hands of officers more com-
pletely responsible to the Home Government,"—(*Mr. Arthur Arnold*),—instead
thereof.

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of
the Question."

Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned,"—(*Sir George Campbell*):—
After debate, Debate adjourned till *To-morrow*.

Patents for Inventions Bill [Bill 261]—

Moved, "That the Lords' Amendments be now considered,"—(*Mr. Cham-
berlain*) 1710

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Question put:—The House <i>divided</i> ; Ayes 81, Noes 16; Majority 65.— (Div. List, No. 314.)	
After short debate, it being a quarter of an hour before Six of the clock, Further Consideration, as amended, stood adjourned till <i>To-morrow</i> .	
Factories and Workshops Amendment Bill [<i>Lords</i>] [Bill 273]—	
<i>Moved</i> , “That the Bill be now read a second time,”—(<i>Mr. Hibbert</i>)	.. 1711
After short debate, Second Reading <i>deferred</i> till <i>To-morrow</i> .	
Public Health (Dairies, &c.) Bill [<i>Lords</i>] [Bill 280]—	
<i>Moved</i> , “That the Bill be now read a second time,”—(<i>Mr. Hibbert</i>)	.. 1711
Second Reading <i>deferred</i> till <i>To-morrow</i> .	
Union Officers’ Superannuation (Ireland) Bill [Bill 132]—	
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After short debate, Committee <i>deferred</i> till <i>To-morrow</i> .	
National Debt Bill [Bill 287]—	
Consideration of Lords’ Amendments 1712
Lords’ Amendments to be considered <i>To-morrow</i> , and to be <i>printed</i> . [Bill 304.]	[5.55.]
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Merchant Shipping (Fishing Boats) Bill (No. 218)—	
<i>Moved</i> , “That the Commons’ Amendments be now considered,”—(<i>The Lord Thurlow</i>).. 1713
After short debate, Motion <i>agreed to</i> :—Commons’ Amendments <i>considered</i> , and <i>agreed to</i> .	
Post Office (Money Orders) Acts Amendment Bill (No. 219)—	
<i>Moved</i> , “That the Bill be now read 2 ^a ,”—(<i>The Lord Thurlow</i>)	.. 1713
Motion <i>agreed to</i> :—Bill read 2 ^a accordingly; Committee <i>negatived</i> ; and Bill to be read 3 ^a <i>To-morrow</i> .	
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE PARLIAMENTS AND OFFICE OF THE GENTLE- MAN USHER OF THE BLACK ROD—	
<i>Moved</i> , “That the Second Report from the Select Committee be con- sidered,”—(<i>The Earl of Redesdale</i>) 1714
After short debate, Motion <i>agreed to</i> .	
Second Report <i>considered</i> (according to order), and <i>agreed to</i> .	
METROPOLITAN IMPROVEMENTS—STATUE OF THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON—	
Question, Observations, Lord Stratheden and Campbell; Reply, Lord Thurlow:—Short debate thereon 1714
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Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill—	
Returned from the Commons with the amendment made by the Lords to which the Commons had disagreed and on which the Lords have insisted <i>agreed to</i> ; and with the further amendment made by the Lords <i>disagreed to</i> , with a reason for such disagreement: The said reason to be <i>printed</i> , and to be considered <i>To-morrow</i> . (No. 220.)	

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Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Bill—

Returned from the Commons with the amendment made by the Lords to which the Commons had disagreed and on which the Lords have insisted *agreed to*; with the amendment made by the Commons to an amendment made by the Lords to which the Lords have disagreed *not insisted on*; with the amendment made by the Lords to an amendment made by the Commons to the Lords amendments *agreed to*; and with the further amendment made by the Lords *disagreed to*, with a reason for such disagreement: The said reason to be *printed*, and to be considered *To-morrow*. (No. 221.)

Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill—

Read 1st; and to be read 2^d *To-morrow*: (The Earl Granville); and Standing Order No. XXXV. to be considered *To-morrow* in order to its being dispensed with.

[12.0.]

COMMONS, THURSDAY, AUGUST 23.

PRIVATE BUSINESS.

Milford Docks Bill—

Moved, "That, in the case of the Milford Docks Bill, Standing Order 246 be suspended, and that the Lords' Amendments to the Bill be now taken into Consideration,"—
(*Sir Charles Forster*) 1719
After short debate, Question put, and *agreed to*:—Lords' Amendments *agreed to*.

QUESTIONS.

NAVY—H.M.S. "IRIS"—Question, Mr. Gourley; Answer, Sir Thomas Brassey	1724
EGYPT—THE CHOLERA—Question, Mr. D. Grant; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice	1725
CIVIL SERVANTS OF THE CROWN—ENGAGEMENT IN OTHER EMPLOYMENTS—Question, Sir George Campbell; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer	1726
WEST INDIES—STIPENDIARY MAGISTRATES IN GRENADA—Question, Sir George Campbell; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley	1726
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT—THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD—Question, Mr. J. G. Talbot; Answer, Mr. Mundella	1727
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ROYAL IRISH CONSTABULARY—ALLOWANCES TO INVALIDED CONSTABLES—Question, Mr. Healy; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan	1728
POOR LAW (ENGLAND AND WALES)—KENSINGTON POOR RATES—Question, Mr. Healy; Answer, Mr. George Russell	1728
POST OFFICE (IRELAND)—THE MAGHERA POSTMISTRESS—Questions, Mr. Healy; Answers, Mr. Fawcett	1729
ROYAL IRISH CONSTABULARY—CASE OF SUB-CONSTABLE PRIOR—Question, Mr. Biggar; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan	1730
ROYAL IRISH CONSTABULARY—POLICE FORCE AT GLIN, CO. LIMERICK—Question, Mr. O'Brien; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan	1730
THE MAGISTRACY (IRELAND)—KILDARE INFIRMARY—Question, Mr. O'Brien; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan	1731
HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE (IRELAND)—SITTINGS OF THE PROBATE AND MATRIMONIAL DIVISION—Questions, Mr. O'Brien; Answers, The Attorney General for Ireland	1731
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VACCINATION—CASE OF E. A. HENNING—Question, Mr. Hopwood; Answer, Mr. George Russell ..	1734
NATIONAL EDUCATION (IRELAND)—THE BOARD SCHOOL BOOKS—Questions, Mr. Biggar, Mr. T. P. O'Connor; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan ..	1735
POST OFFICE (TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT)—LEAVE—Questions, Mr. Arthur O'Connor; Answers, Mr. Fawcett ..	1736
THE PARKS (METROPOLIS)—THE REGENT'S PARK—Questions, Mr. Hopwood, Mr. Dillwyn; Answers, Mr. Courtney, Mr. Shaw Lefevre ..	1738
CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT—OUTDOOR CLERKS—Question, Mr. Anderson; Answer, Mr. Courtney ..	1738
DUCHY OF LANCASTER ACT—THE SOUTHPORT FORESHORE—Questions, Mr. Cheetham; Answers, Mr. Dodson ..	1739
COUNTY GOVERNMENT (IRELAND)—THE GRAND JURY PANELS, 1882-3—Question, Mr. Callan; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan ..	1740
THE MAGISTRACY (IRELAND)—THE MAYOR OF WEXFORD—Question, Mr. Small; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan ..	1741
IRELAND—THE NATIONAL LEAGUE—INFLAMMATORY SPEECHES—Questions, Colonel King-Harman, Mr. Sexton, Mr. Healy, Mr. Harrington, Mr. T. P. O'Connor; Answers, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Trevelyan ..	1741
ROYAL IRISH CONSTABULARY—COUNTY INSPECTOR PENNINGTON—Question, Mr. Harrington; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan ..	1743
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ARTIZANS' DWELLINGS IN LARGE TOWNS—Question, Mr. Broadhurst; An- swer, Sir William Harcourt	1762
CRIMINAL LAW (SCOTLAND)—SUNDAY TRAFFIC—THE STROME FERRY RIOTS —SENTENCE ON THE RIOTERS—Question, Mr. Macfarlane; Answer, Sir William Harcourt	1762
PUBLIC HEALTH (METROPOLIS)—SEWAGE VENTILATORS—Questions, Mr. J. G. Talbot; Answers, Sir Charles W. Dilke, Sir William Harcourt ..	1763
LAW AND POLICE (IRELAND)—THREATENING LETTERS—Question, Mr. Joseph Cowen; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan; Question, Mr. Molloy; [No reply] ..	1764
PREVENTION OF CRIME (IRELAND) ACT, 1882—PROCLAMATIONS—LOUTH AND DROGHEDA—Question, Mr. Callan; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan ..	1765
PARLIAMENT—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—PUBLIC HEALTH (DAIRIES, &c.) Bill—Question, Sir Walter B. Barttelot; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke	1766
Order for Second Reading read, and <i>discharged</i> :—Bill <i>withdrawn</i> .	
RANCE—THE FRENCH PYRENEES — SUPPOSED CASUALTY TO THE REV. MERTON SMITH—Question, Mr. Montagu Scott; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice	1766

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill [Bill 306]—

Motion made, and Question, "That the Lords' Reason and Amendment
to the Commons' Amendments be considered forthwith,"—(*Mr. Dodson*,)
—put, and *agreed to* 1767

One *disagreed to*; the Commons do not insist on their disagreement to the
Lords' Amendment, in page 3, line 5, on which The Lords do insist.

Committee *appointed*, "to draw up Reasons to be assigned to The Lords for disagree-
ing to one of the Amendments made by The Lords to the Bill:"—List of the Com-
mittee 1769

Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Bill [Bill 307]—

Lords' Reason and Amendment *considered forthwith* 1769

One *disagreed to*; the Commons do not insist on the second Amendment
made by the Commons to the Lords' Amendment, page 2, line 39, to
which the Lords have disagreed.

The Commons do not insist on the disagreement to The Lords' Amend-
ment, page 3, line 14, on which the Lords do insist.

The Commons agree to the Amendment made by The Lords to Clause 29,
as re-inserted by the Commons.

Committee *appointed*, "to draw up Reasons to be assigned to The Lords for disagree-
ing to one of the Amendments made by The Lords to the Bill:"—List of the Com-
mittee 1770

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Bankruptcy Bill [Bill 306]—

Moved, "That the Lords' Amendments be considered forthwith,"—(*Mr. Chamberlain*) 1770
After short debate, Question put, and *agreed to*.
One amended, and *agreed to*; subsequent Amendments *agreed to*.

Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill—

Moved, "That the Bill be now read the third time" 1774
After debate, Question put, and *agreed to*:—Bill read the third time, and *passed*.

INDIA—EAST INDIA REVENUE ACCOUNTS—THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT—

Order read, for resuming Adjourned Debate on Amendment proposed to Question [22nd August], "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair:"
—Question again proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question:"—Debate *resumed* 1806
After debate, Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Main Question put, and *agreed to*:—ACCOUNTS *considered* in Committee.
(In the Committee.)

Resolved, "That it appears, by the Accounts laid before this House, that the Ordinary Revenue of India for the year ending the 31st day of March 1882, was £62,913,743; the Revenue from Productive Public Works, including the Net Traffic Receipts from Guaranteed Companies, was £10,782,063, making the total Revenue of India for that year £73,695,806; that the Ordinary Expenditure in India and in England, including Charges for the Collection of the Revenue, for Ordinary Public Works, and for Interest on Debt, exclusive of that for Productive Public Works, was £61,464,074; the Expenditure on Productive Public Works (Working Expenses and Interest), including the payments to Guaranteed Companies for Interest and Surplus Profits, was £9,649,005, making a total Charge for that year of £71,113,079; that there was an excess of Revenue over Expenditure in that year of £2,582,727; that the Capital Expenditure on Productive Public Works in the same year was £2,269,861; and that there was also a Capital Outlay on the East Indian Railway of £1,041,562, including £586,300 India 3½ per cent. Stock, issued in redemption of portion of the East Indian Railway Annuity."

Resolution *reported*, and *agreed to*.

QUESTIONS.

SOUTH AFRICA—ZULULAND—Question, Sir Henry Holland; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington 1820

PARLIAMENT—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—ADJOURNMENT—

Moved, "That this House, at its rising, adjourn until Saturday, at Two o'clock,"—(*The Marquess of Hartington*:)—Motion *agreed to*.

Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill—

Reasons for disagreeing to the Amendment made by The Lords *reported*, and *agreed to*:
To be communicated to The Lords.

Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Bill—

Reasons for disagreeing to the Amendment made by The Lords *reported*, and *agreed to*:
To be communicated to The Lords.

MAIL CONTRACTS (HOLYHEAD AND KINGSTOWN)—

Ordered, That the contract dated 20th August 1883, between Her Majesty's Postmaster General and the City of Dublin Steam Packet Company, for the conveyance of Mails between Holyhead and Kingstown, be approved,—(*Mr. Courtney*.)

[1.15.]

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JUDICIAL BUSINESS—

Ordered, That this House do meet on *Tuesday* the 13th day of *November* next for the purpose of hearing and determining Appeals and matters connected therewith, pursuant to the provisions of the "Appellate Jurisdiction Act, 1876"; and that during such meeting of the House leave be given to the Appeal Committee to meet and appoint their own Chairman.

PARLIAMENT—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—REPRINTING OF BILLS AMENDED ON THIRD READING—RESOLUTION—

Moved, "That Bills amended on Third Reading in this House be always reprinted as amended,"—(*The Duke of Argyll*) .. 1822
Motion agreed to.

FRANCE—SPEECH OF M. WADDINGTON, THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR—Question, The Marquess of Salisbury; Answer, Earl Granville .. 1823

PARLIAMENT—PRIVILEGE—BRADLAUGH *v.* CLARKE—Observations, Lord Denman .. 1823

Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill (No. 220)—

Commons' reason for disagreeing to Lords further amendment *considered* (according to order) .. 1824
Amendment *not insisted on*.

Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Bill (No. 221)—

Commons' reason for disagreeing to Lords further Amendment *considered* (according to order) .. 1835
Amendment *not insisted on*.

STREET TRAFFIC (METROPOLIS)—HAMILTON PLACE, PICCADILLY—Observations, Earl Fortescue; Reply, Lord Thurlow .. 1836

DEATH OF THE COMTE DE CHAMBORD—Question, Lord Bray; Answer, Earl Granville .. 1837

Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill—

Read 2^a (according to order); Committee *negatived*: Then Standing Order No. XXXV. *considered* (according to order), and *dispensed with*; Bill read 3^a and *passed*.

[4.45.]

LORDS, SATURDAY, AUGUST 25.

PROROGATION OF THE PARLIAMENT—

The ROYAL ASSENT was given to several Bills; and afterwards HER MAJESTY'S MOST GRACIOUS SPEECH was delivered to both Houses by the LORD HIGH CHANCELLOR (in pursuance of Her Majesty's Command).

Then a Commission for proroguing the Parliament was read.

After which,

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said—

My Lords, and Gentlemen,

By virtue of Her Majesty's Commission, under the Great Seal, to us and other Lords directed, and now read, we do, in Her Majesty's Name, and in obedience to Her Commands, prorogue this Parliament to Monday the twelfth day of November next, to be then here holden; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Monday the twelfth day of November next.

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LAW AND POLICE (IRELAND)—EXTRA POLICE TAX, CORK—Questions, Mr. Sexton; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan	1843
PUBLIC HEALTH—THE HORNSEY SANITARY DISTRICT—Question, Mr. Anderson; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke	1846
REGISTRATION OF ELECTORS (IRELAND)—Question, Mr. Healy; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan	1847
ARREARS OF RENT (IRELAND) ACT—THE COLLECTOR GENERAL OF RATES, DUBLIN—Question, Mr. Healy; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan	1848
PREVENTION OF CRIME (IRELAND) ACT, 1882—PROCLAMATION OF CO. LOUTH—Question, Mr. Callan; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan	1849
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NEW WRITS ISSUED.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16.

For *Essex County* (Eastern Division), *v.* Colonel Samuel Ruggles-Brise, Chiltern Hundreds.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 21.

For *Rutland County*, *v.* the Right Hon. Gerard James Noel, Chiltern Hundreds.

NEW MEMBER SWORN.

THURSDAY AUGUST 23.

For *the County of Sligo*—Nicholas Lynch, esquire.



HANSARD'S PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES,

IN THE

FOURTH SESSION OF THE TWENTY-SECOND PARLIAMENT OF THE
UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND,
APPOINTED TO MEET 29 APRIL, 1880, IN THE FORTY-THIRD
YEAR OF THE REIGN OF
HER MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA.

EIGHTH AND LAST VOLUME OF SESSION 1883.

HOUSE OF LORDS,

Friday, 10th August, 1883.

MINUTES.]—PUBLIC BILLS—*Second Reading*—*Friendly, &c. Societies (Nominations)* * (166).
Committee—*Agricultural Holdings (England)* * (171-186); *Parochial Charities (London)* * (168-187); *Patents for Inventions* * (179-188).
Committee—Report—*Statute Law Revision* * (176).
Report—*Trial of Lunatics* * (184).
Third Reading—*Statute Law Revision and Civil Procedure* * (177), and *passed*.

MADAGASCAR — ACTION OF THE
FRENCH AT TAMATAVE — INSULT
TO THE BRITISH FLAG.

QUESTION. OBSERVATIONS.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY:
I wish to ask the noble Earl opposite the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, if he can inform the House how

far the information recently received from Madagascar corresponds with the telegraphic information which created such a sensation in this country some time ago? I ask the Question, because, in a recent speech at a dinner in the City, the Prime Minister used language with respect to this information of so ambiguous a character that I am afraid much misconception may be caused by it. His language was open to the interpretation either that the information originally received was true, but that the French Government had made suitable apology or reparation, or that the information received some time ago was false or exaggerated. I should be very glad if the noble Earl found it consistent with his duty and with the public interests to give us some information on the subject.

EARL GRANVILLE: My Lords, voluminous despatches have been received from Madagascar, and are being considered by the Departments and by Her Majesty's Government. The French Government are in daily expectation

of receiving their despatches. I have agreed with M. Waddington that, as soon as these arrive, there shall be no delay in the intercommunication of the information both Governments have received. I believe both Governments are animated by the same feelings of self-respect and of friendly feeling towards one another; and it is, therefore, reasonable to expect that a perfectly satisfactory solution of the question may be arrived at. It might not contribute to this result if I gave any premature opinion on the Papers which have arrived, even if I was prepared, which I am not, at this moment, to do so. I quite understand the desire of the noble Marquess for information on so delicate a question; but I trust he will not press at present for it under the circumstances which I have mentioned.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND—THE VACANT
ANGLICAN BISHOPRIC OF JERUSALEM.

QUESTION. OBSERVATIONS.

THE BISHOP OF ROCHESTER asked the noble Earl the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether he has received any communication from the Prussian Government respecting the filling up of the Anglican Bishopric of Jerusalem? The appointment now rested with the Prussian Government, and the See had been vacant for 18 months, and some £15,000 was collected by private subscription and placed in the hands of Trustees. Those Trustees were five in number, of whom four were Members of their Lordships' House; and he ventured to ask the noble Earl, as one of those Trustees, whether he could give any information from the Prussian Government as to the speedy filling up of the vacancy? There was a considerable number of people in the country who felt that much advantage would accrue from the See being occupied. He (the Bishop of Rochester) felt that, in this matter, he was to a certain extent upon his honour; for, in the autumn, when the late Archbishop of Canterbury was on his sick bed, which he never afterwards left, he begged him to spare no pains to procure the filling up of this See. In Jerusalem there were many schools and an admirable hospital. Many of the Churches had representatives there, and he thought their

Earl Granville

Church should not be left out. He had himself, in the course of frequent visits to the East, twice visited the Holy City, and he believed much good would result from the appointment he pressed for.

EARL GRANVILLE, in reply, said, that the matter was one not entirely of a political character; but he was desirous of bringing it to a satisfactory issue. He had been in communication with the German Ambassador on the subject, and had expressed his willingness to act as an intermediary. He had, however, not received any answer to his communication; but he would renew his endeavours to obtain one, and he was not without hope that the matter would be brought to a satisfactory conclusion.

SCOTLAND—THE QUEEN'S PARK,
EDINBURGH.—QUESTION.

THE EARL OF ROSEBURY said, he wished to ask the noble Lord opposite (Lord Thurlow) a Question of which he had given private Notice, As to what decision the Office of Works has arrived at with reference to Memorials received from Edinburgh, asking that a portion of the Queen's Park there might be set apart for the purpose of playing football?

LORD THURLOW: In reply to the Question which has been asked by the noble Earl, I beg to say, on behalf of the Office of Works, that the general question of devoting a portion of a public park to a special use, like that of football, as in the case of the Queen's Park, is one which has frequently received their consideration; and it is their opinion that there are great difficulties in the way of complying with such a request as being, of course, more or less inconsistent with the general enjoyment of the park by the public at large. The Office of Works fear that they are unable at present to depart from that principle.

AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS (ENGLAND) BILL.—(No. 171.)

(The Lord President.)

COMMITTEE.

Order of the Day for the House to be put into Committee read.

In reply to Lord LOVAT,

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, the Bill did

not propose any interference with freedom of contract, nor prevent any mode of agreement as to permanent improvements in Part I. of the 1st Schedule. The tenant, under the Bill, could make no claim whatever for compensation with respect to such improvements, unless he had before their execution obtained the consent of the landlord. The landlord could, of course, make any agreement that he pleased with the tenant; but, without agreement, the mere refusal of consent on the part of the landlord was a bar to any claim on the part of the tenant.

EARL FORTESCUE said, he was ashamed to find, when he saw his Question in print, that it was not in as good English as it ought to have been. [*Laughter.*] He would ask his noble Friend, who knew what it meant, to imagine the Question put in better language than it now stood in—namely, Whether the Government, will consider the practicability of introducing into the Bill some provision for alleviating the great hardship now suffered by the family of any clergyman if he dies while occupying his glebe, as many clergymen have lately found themselves reluctantly compelled to do?

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL), in reply, said, the noble Earl had asked him a Question, the wording of which he could not undertake to correct, but which he would read to the House. The noble Lord having done so, resumed, by saying that its language was rather confusing; but he would answer it as well as he could. He thought he quite understood the nature of the hardship referred to and the reluctance. Indeed, some cases of the sort that he knew of had been very distressing; but they could not undertake in this Bill to deal with a question of that kind, as clergymen in occupation were their own landlords, and not tenants. If such cases were to be dealt with it must be by a distinct measure.

House in Committee accordingly.

PART I.

IMPROVEMENTS.

Compensation for Improvements.

Clause 1 (General right of tenant to compensation).

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY, in moving an Amendment to limit the right

of compensation to such improvements as were "suitable to the agricultural requirements of the holding," by inserting these words in the clause, said, the proposal was more than verbal. It was necessary to surround the concession to the tenant with every reasonable safeguard. It would be only fair, for example, to prevent drains being put in and paid for, and valued for, that were not required for the holding. It was well known that drainage of some lands would do more harm than good.

Amendment moved,

In page 1, line 9, after ("improvement") insert ("suitable to the agricultural requirements of the holding.") — (*The Marquess of Salisbury.*)

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL) said, he did not think that the Amendment was at all necessary; and, if adopted, it might give rise to costly disputes. He did not see how improvements not suitable to the holding could produce any result; and if they did not produce any result there could be no question of value, and the tenant could not receive any compensation for them.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, that they were addressing referees, who were not so acute as lawyers; and they ought to give those persons clearly and distinctly to understand that they were not to give the tenant something merely because he had spent a good deal of money. Therefore, he thought his Amendment would provide a safeguard; but he would not divide upon it.

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL) said, that it might have been a very useful one in the Act of 1875; but they did not here make the outlay the standard, but the result.

Amendment (by leave of the Committee) withdrawn.

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON said, that the clause allowed the improvements in the first two Parts of the Schedule to be estimated on the principle that the inherent capabilities of the soil were not to be taken into account as part of the improvement. He thought that principle should apply to the 3rd Part of the Schedule also; and he would, therefore, move an Amendment to that effect.

Amendment moved, in page 1, line 15, to leave out ("Parts I. and II. of.")—(*The Duke of Richmond and Gordon.*)

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he did not believe that he differed in principle from the noble Duke opposite (the Duke of Richmond and Gordon); but he had a considerable amount of objection to the extension to Part III. of the Proviso that what was justly due to the inherent capabilities of the soil was not to be taken into account as part of the improvement in estimating its value. It was originally confined to Part I., and then it was extended to Part II.; but he did not think it would be advisable to extend it to Part III., which would go beyond the intentions of those who introduced it in the other House. It was not originally in the Bill, but was avowedly introduced for the purpose of protecting the landlord against possible danger in the case of some of the greater improvements making a material and a permanent change in the condition of the holding. Cases were put such as that of the reclamation of a large tract which might have been brought about by a comparatively small operation—for example, by the turning of a stream; and it was thought that without that Proviso and caution the valuers might fancy themselves required to give the tenant the whole of the increased value produced by that small operation. The result of the Amendment being carried would be seriously to embarrass the valuers, and might prevent them from giving the tenant that which he might be fairly entitled to. He did not believe landlords would gain by the extension of the Proviso to Part III.; and he must, on those grounds, adhere to the clause as it stood.

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON said, that as none of the improvements in Parts I. and II. could be carried on without the consent of the landlord he could then make his own terms; but, in the case of the 3rd Part of the Schedule, improvements could be done without his consent; and as he felt very strongly on the point, thinking the Proviso more necessary for Part III. than the other parts of the Schedule, he would take the opinion of their Lordships on his Amendment.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, the matter involved the whole question to whom the latent qualities of the soil were to belong—whether they were to belong to the landlord, as at present, or to be alienated to the tenant? A tenant might put a quantity of lime on the top of the clay, and the result might be an additional crop; but that additional crop was the result, not of the lime only, but of both the clay and the lime; and the tenant had no more right to the clay than the landlord had to the lime. Therefore there should be no compensation for it. There was a tendency in the Government to ask them to rely on valuers. Let their Lordships carry their minds back to the discussions on the Irish Land Act; and they would remember, when they wanted to have anything made definite in the Irish Land Act, that they were always told to trust to the Commissioners. In too many instances they followed that advice, and they knew what the consequences had been.

LORD BRAMWELL said, he could not help thinking that the Proviso was a dangerous one, and that it would be much better to leave it out altogether.

THE EARL OF REDESDALE (CHAIRMAN of COMMITTEES) said, that that was not the proper time to discuss that question.

On Question, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause?"

Their Lordships *divided*:—Contents 51; Non-Contents 82: Majority 31.

Resolved in the negative.

LORD LECONFIELD moved an Amendment to the effect that the tenant's claim for compensation should exclude what was due to the inherent capabilities of the soil, "or the advantages of the situation." He was quite willing to add to the Amendment the words "or the advantages of the situation," as proposed in an Amendment of his noble Friend. (Earl Fortescue).

Amendment moved, in page 1, line 18, leave out ("soil") and insert ("holding.")—(*The Lord Leconfield.*)

EARL FORTESCUE thereupon proposed to add to the Amendment words providing that compensation should not be given for the "advantages of situa-

tion"—such as, for instance, proximity to a railway station newly opened.

Amendment *moved*, to said proposed Amendment, to add the words ("or the advantages of situation.")—(*The Earl Fortescue.*)

LORD BRAMWELL said, he thought that Clause 1, and particularly the Proviso, might possibly lead to a mischievous result; for, the clause, as it stood, would give rise to the inference that although, in estimating the value of an improvement, what was attributable to the inherent value of the soil was not to be taken into account, there was something that might be taken into account which was not the outlay of the outgoing tenant. That was a plausible argument, which might in some cases be used, and used successfully. He would suggest that, in assessing the compensation payable to an outgoing tenant, in respect of his outlay, the incoming tenant ought not to pay more than the sum he could himself have got the work done for; and that, if the improvement did not remain, the sum expended on it by the outgoing tenant ought to be deducted from the sum payable by the incoming tenant. He supposed, also, that if the work could be done, for instance, for £100, the outgoing tenant ought not to have more than that sum, and that when the so-called improvement was not worth its cost—in other words, was an improvident outlay—the outgoing tenant ought to have nothing; and further, that, if a portion only of the benefit of the improvement remained, the outgoing tenant ought not to be paid more than the value of that portion. He thought it reasonable that the claim of the outgoing tenant should be calculated on that footing; and the principle did not differ from that accepted by the noble Lord (the Lord President of the Council), and those who supported the Bill. The right mode of accomplishing that would be by substituting another Proviso to the effect he (Lord Bramwell) had stated. He would not, however, move it as an Amendment, but would throw it out as a suggestion to the noble Lord.

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON said, he was of opinion that the Amendment of the noble Earl (Earl Fortescue), would make the clause more simple; but he considered that such a Proviso as the noble and learned Lord

(Lord Bramwell) had suggested would only make the clause more complicated. He looked upon it as a most extraordinary measure of compensation.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he hoped the Government would not substitute the Proviso suggested by the noble and learned Lord (Lord Bramwell). He (the Duke of Argyll) thought it was perfectly true that the Proviso of the Government did involve the suggestion of the noble and learned Lord, a power to the valuers to give to tenants something more than their mere outlay; and there were certain cases in which the value of the improvement might exceed the sum expended, and could not be included in that outlay. That, he thought, was the intention of the Government, and he did not want to evade that principle; and he objected to the proposition of his noble and learned Friend, because it was giving to the tenant the unearned increment of other men's labour, due to the rise of wages and so forth.

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL) said, he entirely agreed with what had been said by both his noble Friends (the Duke of Argyll and the Duke of Richmond and Gordon) as to the noble and learned Lord's (Lord Bramwell's) proposal. He (Lord Carlingford) thought his noble and learned Friend could not have seen how entirely his Amendment ran counter to the principle of the Bill. The effect of his proposal would be that the outgoing tenant, who might have executed work years before, would find his compensation governed by the state of prices and things existing at the time when he quitted the holding. He thought the Bill, as it stood, was better than if either of the proposals before their Lordships was adopted.

LORD BRAMWELL said, that the real thing a man ought to pay was not that which might have been improvidently spent by the outgoing tenant; but that which the improvement was to the incoming tenant—that was, the price at which he could get it done. If they left the question to be what it cost the outgoing tenant, there would always be a conflict of testimony as to that.

THE EARL OF REDESDALE (CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES) said, he must call the attention of noble Lords to the Question before the House.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, they could not discuss these individual proposals without wandering sometimes slightly from the Question; and, therefore, he thought it was hardly fair that their Lordships should be called to Order. He sympathized with the object of the noble Earl (Earl Fortescue); but really he believed a more suitable Amendment would be to insert the words "or to any cause other than the skill or outlay of the tenant." The intention was that everything that proceeded from the tenant's own acts and skill should belong to him, and that that which was contributed by other causes to swell the value of the land should belong to the landlord. He, therefore, wished to exclude from the compensation that the tenant received anything not the result of what the tenant himself had done. They were agreed that they should not press what was known as Mr. Balfour's Amendment, limiting the compensation to the original outlay; but he thought it was fair to limit it to that which resulted from the original outlay. He would move to substitute those words for those in the Amendment before their Lordships.

Amendment *moved*, to substitute for said proposed Amendment (*Earl Fortescue*) the words ("or to any cause other than the skill or outlay of the tenant.")—(*The Marquess of Salisbury*.)

EARL FORTESCUE said, he greatly preferred the words of the noble Marquess opposite (the Marquess of Salisbury) to his own; but thought it would not do to leave the words "inherent capabilities of the soil" alone.

THE MARQUESS OF HUNTLY supported the Amendment of the noble Marquess.

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, it would be impossible to add such words as "the advantages of the situation," as they would include the nearness of the railway station, and a vast number of extraneous circumstances. He could not conceive that any competent or honest valuer would take anything into account beyond the fair effects of the outlay of the tenant. That was perfectly understood.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said, that, as he understood the clause, it would be competent for a valuer to form an opi-

nion as to what the holding would let to an incoming tenant for, if the improvements of the outgoing tenant were not there.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, the noble Lord opposite (the Lord President of the Council) did not recognize that there were a number of causes of the value of an improvement in the mind of the valuer. The condition they wished to insert was, that the contributory element which came from other causes of the value to the incoming tenant should not be taken into consideration.

THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY said, that the Government could not accept the Amendment of the noble Marquess opposite (the Marquess of Salisbury). It was very much like the Amendment moved by Mr. Balfour in the other House, and which had been rejected, differing, as it did, from it only by the addition of the word "skill." He did not think the words were necessary—indeed, they might be dangerous; and he would appeal to their Lordships not to press jealous and narrow points. He believed the clause would be narrowed lower than the Government wished. The contention of the Government was, that if a tenant should make a judicious outlay, and so create something of greater value than the actual sums spent, he ought to be entitled to reap advantage from his action. If no more were given to the outgoing tenant than that which represented the value of what he had himself created, no damage would be done to the landlord. On the other hand, if the valuers were bound down by the words which it was proposed to introduce into the clause, outgoing tenants would run a considerable risk of being deprived of something which they ought to have.

LORD BRABOURNE said, that the speech of the noble Earl who had just sat down (the Earl of Kimberley) was the most dangerous that had yet been delivered on either side of the House. Their Lordships had agreed that there were two distinct things to be dealt with in this clause; one, the value proceeding from the inherent qualities of the land, which should clearly belong to the landlord; the other, a value created by the skill and capital of the tenant, which should as clearly be the property of the tenant. But now the noble Earl stepped

in, and said that there was an indefinite something beyond these two, which, by some peculiar process, valuers would be able to discover, and which would add to the value which the tenant could fairly claim. If that indefinite and indescribable something were recognized by their Lordships, the whole Bill would be in confusion, and a door would be opened to an enormous and mischievous amount of litigation. Let them, at all events, state, in definite terms, what was to be valued and what was not, for these indefinite somethings would lead to that kind of confusion which had been caused by the Irish legislation of the Government, and which, above all things, their Lordships should be anxious to avoid. He (Lord Brabourne) preferred the words suggested by the noble Marquess (the Marquess of Salisbury), and hoped they would be added to the clause.

LORD NORTON also supported the Amendment of the noble Marquess (the Marquess of Salisbury).

THE EARL OF CAMPERDOWN said, he did not think that it would be wise to insist upon its acceptance.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he did not think that the addition of the words suggested by the noble Marquess opposite (the Marquess of Salisbury) brought them any nearer the point, and hoped that he would not press them. In his opinion, they were aiming at a sharp definition of that which, in itself, was undefinable.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, that he was afraid the result of the course taken by the Government in not accepting his Amendment would be the achievement of the very opposite of that at which they aimed by the Bill. It appeared to him that the improving tenant would henceforth be looked upon as a perfect plague, and a person to be avoided by every prudent landlord, for no landlord would ever derive benefit from any improvements, or from any increase in the value of a farm. He should not, however, press the Amendment to a Division, and he begged to withdraw it.

Amendment (*The Marquess of Salisbury*) (by leave of the Committee) *withdrawn*.

Amendment (*The Earl Fortescue*) *negatived*.

Amendment (*The Lord Leconfield*) (by leave of the Committee) *withdrawn*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

As to Improvements executed before the Commencement of Act.

Clause 2 (Restrictions as to improvements before Act).

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON proposed an Amendment, which provided that compensation under the Act should not be payable in respect of improvements executed before the commencement of the Act, except in cases "where a tenant has, before the commencement of the Act," made certain specified improvements, by inserting, after "where a tenant has," the words "within seven years."

Amendment *moved*, in page 1, line 22, after ("has") insert ("within seven years.")—(*The Duke of Richmond and Gordon.*)

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he did not think that the Amendment was advisable or necessary. In ordinary cases, no hardship would arise; but there might be instances in which the limit of time would work injustice. The result would be that it would only lead to hardships and heartburnings; and he thought that, on the whole, it would be better to leave the clause as it stood.

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON said, he thought the noble Lord (the Lord President of the Council) had hardly understood the purport of the Amendment. What he complained of was that there was no limit at all fixed in the Bill. If the clause were to stand as it was, there would be nothing to prevent a tenant from going to the landlord, and asking compensation for that which he knew had been paid over and over again. He would give an instance from his own experience. A valuer had told him that he had clay-burned some land 35 years ago. He had reaped the benefit of the improvement over and over again, but there was nothing in the Bill to prevent its being charged for again.

THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY said, he thought that seven years was too short a period, and that it would really exclude certain improvements which his noble Friend opposite (the Duke of Richmond

and Gordon) himself would be anxious to include. He was informed that the improvement of chalking lasted much longer.

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON suggested 10 years as a limit.

THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY said, he would not commit the Government absolutely on the point; but if his noble Friend would alter it to 10 years as he had suggested, the Government would not divide against it.

Amendment *amended*, by substituting for the word ("seven") the word ("ten"), and *agreed to*.

On the Motion of The LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL, the following Amendments made:—In page 1, line 22, leave out ("this exception that") and insert ("the exceptions following that (1)"); line 26, after ("or") insert ("(2)"); line 27, leave out ("when") and insert ("where"); page 2, line 5, leave out ("the") at end of line and insert ("this"); line 6, after ("then") insert ("such tenant"); line 8, leave out ("he.")

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY, in moving to add at the end of the clause the words—

"Provided that no compensation shall be claimed under this clause in contravention of any specific agreement existing at the time of the passing of this Act between the parties in reference thereto,"

said, the Amendment raised the question whether or not there was to be any confiscation element in the Act; for he contended that if they said that, when there was a specific agreement that compensation should not be paid, they would, nevertheless, vitiate and annul that contract, and determine that compensation should nevertheless be paid, he did not see how their action could be called by any other name than confiscation. Such agreements might have been made for a consideration to the tenant of equal value to that which he gave, such as buildings, a longer lease, improvements to be carried out by the landlord, or a lower rent; and, consequently, great injustice might be done if the Proviso were not accepted. He hoped, however, the Government would see their way to do so.

The Earl of Kimberley

Amendment *moved*,

In page 2, at end of clause, to add—"Provided that no compensation shall be claimed under this clause in contravention of any specific agreement existing between the parties in reference thereto."—(*The Marquess of Salisbury*.)

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he was surprised that the noble Marquess opposite (the Marquess of Salisbury) had thought it necessary to move this Proviso. Even if such an agreement as that contemplated by the Amendment should have been made for any consideration whatever—which he (Lord Carlingford) very much doubted—the matter of compensation would be taken into account under Clause 6, by the valuer. He did not think it necessary or advisable to provide by the Bill for such cases as the noble Marquess imagined. The only possible cases which would come within the noble Marquess's Proviso would be those in which the landlord had somehow or other induced the tenant to make an agreement, depriving himself of the right to compensation, without receiving any consideration on the other side. It was not wise, in passing that Bill, which appeared to be accepted by both sides of the House, to imagine every possible danger that could arise from one tenant out of 100,000. They ought not, by these suspicious, and what would, by many, be considered jealous and selfish precautions, to give the Bill a bad name and a bad aspect in the eyes of those for whose benefit it was intended, while adding nothing that was worth speaking of to the protection of the landlord.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, he thought the noble Lord opposite (the Lord President of the Council) had forgotten the doctrine of the thin end of the wedge. He (the Marquess of Salisbury) thought it very wise to take into consideration the doctrine of germs, and to remember that any admission, however small its application or practical result, by Parliament, of a dangerous principle, would probably on some future day be appealed to by a Liberal Ministry desirous of gaining the vote of the constituencies; and when Conservatives or Constitutionalists wished to oppose its extension, they would, no doubt, be told that the thing had already been conceded in principle, and that it ought

to be more widely acted upon. If their Lordships inserted in that Bill a provision which admitted the principle that contracts might be destroyed without compensation, they would lay down a dangerous precedent. He could not admit the argument that tenants should be allowed to tear up all existing contracts. If contracts existed, they should be protected.

THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY said, the noble Marquess opposite (the Marquess of Salisbury) had argued the case on what seemed to him (the Earl of Kimberley) somewhat high grounds. He believed that the specific contracts contemplated by the noble Marquess either did not exist at all, or had only a very shadowy existence; and he, therefore, held that it was neither good policy nor very generous to put into the clause a cavilling Proviso to meet so remote and infinitesimal a possible contingency. He would ask if it was worth while to provide for extremely improbable cases?

THE DUKE OF MANCHESTER said, he thought that the Proviso was necessary, as in some cases those who drained land did it badly, cheaply, and with tiles which were too small.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he would point out that the Bill respected specific agreements and nothing else; but it might be that, in many cases, the landlord might have let his farm at a certain rent, on the understanding that there should be no claim for compensation for improvements, and the equivalent to the tenant was the cheapness of his rent. Of course, that would not be taken into consideration by the valuer; and, believing that that was the intention of the Government, it should be made clear. He, however, thought they should respect the arrangement where a specific agreement had been entered into in the past. Their Lordships were told not to look at the matter in a narrow or jealous spirit, and he responded to that appeal. They were accepting a great deal in adopting that Bill. But he could not believe that the tenants of England or of Scotland, as honest men, would not approve of a Proviso which exempted from the operation of the Bill any agreement made under a specific existing contract. He frankly confessed that he considered it due to public honesty and honour that such contracts should be respected; and unless his noble Friend

(the Lord President of the Council) would assure him that, on the Report, words would be introduced securing that such contracts should be respected, he would certainly vote for the Amendment of the noble Marquess.

THE EARL OF CAMPERDOWN said, that, in his opinion, the acceptance of the Proviso of the noble Marquess opposite (the Marquess of Salisbury) would in no way interfere with the principle of the Bill. The clause under notice dealt with the past, but the principle of the Bill dealt with the future; and he thought that, while legislating for the future, it was very desirable that they should show they did not intend to interfere with contracts made in the past.

THE EARL OF DERBY said, that the principle of the legislation contained in the Bill, and which had been lost sight of during the discussion, was that the tenant was not on equal terms in making a bargain with his landlord. ["Oh, oh!"] The only reason by which Parliament could interfere with the perfectly sound principle of free contract was, that the tenant was not on the terms he had mentioned. If that was not so, no legislation at all was required. Both sides of the House had accepted the principle of the measure. He, himself, had never known a case of a tenant contracting that he should be debarred from claiming compensation; but, if that were done, it was to be presumed that it was done in consideration of some advantage which the tenant was to receive for waiving his claim; and it seemed to him that such a case would be covered by the provision in Clause 6, which said that any consideration that had been received from the landlord was to be taken into account in reduction of the compensation.

After some remarks from Lord ELLENBOROUGH,

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, that the last part of Clause 1 met the objections of the noble Marquess (the Marquess of Salisbury), and the Proviso was not necessary.

LORD BRABOURNE said, that he always listened with attention to anything that fell from the noble Earl opposite (the Earl of Derby), whose knowledge was great, and his caution proverbial. The noble Earl stated that a tenant was not upon an equal footing

with a landlord in making a bargain as to hiring a farm; and upon that ground he opposed the addition of the Proviso of the noble Marquess (the Marquess of Salisbury). He (Lord Brabourne) merely rose to ask the noble Earl this one question—did he mean to argue, from his premisses, that because landlord and tenant did not, in his opinion, stand upon an equal footing in making their bargains, therefore such bargains made in the past ought to be broken under the provisions of the present Bill? If he did not think so, what objection could there be to a Proviso which simply secured that faith should be kept in these matters?

THE EARL OF WEMYSS said, that when the Hares and Rabbits Bill was before the other House, the hon. Member for Forfarshire (Mr. J. W. Barclay) proposed that the provisions of that Bill should apply to existing contracts, and the Secretary of State for the Home Department expressed indignant surprise that he should do so; but now the noble Earl the Secretary of State for the Colonies came forward to support a similar proposal with regard to this measure. He (the Earl of Wemyss) hoped his noble Friend (the Marquess of Salisbury) would persevere in his Amendment, for it was only right that provision should be made preventing contracts in leases being interfered with.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he did not see why any distinction should be made between two men contracting as to money, and two men contracting as to money's worth. He considered that nothing was more absurd than to say that, at the present moment, there was not equality between landlord and tenant in these transactions, and supposed that the next thing that would be upset would be contracts for rent.

On Question? Their Lordships divided:
—Contents 116; Not-Contents 46: Majority 70.

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Resolved in the affirmative.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he would urge on the Government, before Report, to consider the question of introducing some provision specifying the time within which the outgoing tenant must send in his claim for compensation. In many cases, where the leases or tenancies expired within the next 12 months, it was impossible to get incoming tenants to bid, as they did not know what compensation might be claimed under the Bill. The case was especially serious in Scotland, where the system of leases prevailed.

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he would consider the matter before Report.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to.*

As to Improvements executed after the Commencement of Act.

Clause 3 (Consent of landlord as to improvement in first part of Schedule).

On the Motion of The LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL, Amendment made, in page 2, line 16, after ("previously") insert ("to the execution of the improvement and after the passing of this Act.")

Clause, as amended, *agreed to.*

Clause 4 (Notice to landlord as to improvement in second part of Schedule).

THE EARL OF CARNARVON moved an Amendment, requiring a tenant to give his landlord not less than two months' notice of his intention to make any improvement mentioned in the 2nd Part of the First Schedule of the Bill.

Amendment *moved*, in page 2, line 28, leave out ("one month") and insert ("two months.")—(*The Earl of Carnarvon.*)

Amendment *agreed to.*

THE DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS, in moving an Amendment, requiring that drainage work executed by a tenant should be carried out under the inspection and with the approval of an Inspector appointed by the Enclosure Commissioners, said, his object was to prevent drainage being done in an imperfect manner. He believed the supervision he proposed would be acceptable, and satisfactory both to landlords and tenants.

Amendment *moved*,

In page 2, line 30, after ("work") insert ("and unless the work shall be carried out under the inspection of, and with the approval of, an Inspector appointed by the Enclosure Commissioners.")—(*The Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.*)

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he hoped the noble Duke would not press the Amendment. If it were agreed to, it would make the clause a dead letter. It would be far better, in his opinion, to refuse the right altogether, which the Bill proposed to give to the tenant, of executing drainage where the landlord would not do it, rather than, in 99 cases out of 100, to make it absolutely impossible that the tenant should undertake the work himself. If inspection of this kind were to be imposed in all cases, needless expense and interference would be brought about; and he did not know if the noble Duke provided for any payment of those Inspectors of the Enclosure Commissioners, as it was quite hopeless to expect the tenant to go to the expense and trouble of an inspection.

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON said, he fully agreed in what had been said by the noble Lord (the Lord President of the Council). He (the Duke of Richmond and Gordon) wished to point out that if much drainage were done, there would be a great demand upon the Enclosure Commissioners for Inspectors. His experience of drainage was that it was by no means an inexpensive operation; and that, where it was worth doing, landlords preferred to do the draining themselves,

either with their own money or with money borrowed. He hoped his noble Friend (the Duke of Buckingham) would not put the Committee to the trouble of a Division on the subject.

THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH said, he was of opinion that tenants, in executing drainage, would endeavour to do it in the cheapest manner, and in most cases would make it shallow. Drainage work, unless it was done practically, rendered the doing of the work over again necessary; in fact, he himself was obliged, at the present time, to drain over again land that had been drained by his tenants. If the tenants were not supervised in their draining operations they would do more harm than good, for they would generally do it with tiles of so small a size that the process would soon have to be repeated.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he felt the force of the objection taken by the Government. It would be inexpedient, in all cases, to call in the Enclosure Commissioners, especially in cases where the work to be done was inconsiderable; but, on the other hand, in cases of large drainage works, it would be advisable that the tenant should be supervised. He wished to ask the noble and learned Earl on the Woolsack a question. The clause said the tenant was to give notice to the landlord of his intention to drain, and also to give him a specification of the work intended. But it went on to speak of "the improvement," and he apprehended that the legal interpretation of that would be that "the improvement" was the work as "specified." He wished to know then, whether, if the landlord should exercise his option to carry out the improvement, he would be required to carry it out according to the specification? Further, supposing a tenant furnished a specification for certain work, and drained a depth, say, of only 18 inches, was the landlord to have no means of checking that kind of operation, except by doing the work himself? There seemed to be no end of pitfalls, and no end of opportunities for litigation in the clause; and, in his opinion, as he read it, a more inequitable, more unjust, and more immoral condition could not be placed in an Act of Parliament. It was a clause in derogation of public policy, as public policy was that the drainage should be thoroughly and perfectly done. He wished

The Duke of Richmond and Gordon

to ask the noble and learned Earl (the Lord Chancellor) whether the "specification" meant "the improvement?"

THE LORD CHANCELLOR, in reply, said, that he did not think, as at present advised, the word "specification" would apply to "the improvement," further than being merely a description of it. Therefore, in the case of a landlord electing to carry out the improvement himself, he would not be bound to keep to the specification of a tenant. His impression was, that the landlord would be allowed to improve upon the tenant's specification, so long as he executed the work in a proper and reasonable manner, without needless expense, and still charge a percentage on the whole outlay. He considered that if a landlord allowed a tenant to do any drainage, he would send an agent to see how the work was going on; and if it were done too cheaply and badly there would be no improvement made.

THE EARL OF CAMPERDOWN said, he was of opinion that in that case "specification" was not the right word to use.

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, that if the drains were improperly made, and did not produce any effect on the land, the man would get no compensation.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, it would be a decidedly unfair and unjust provision that a landlord should be bound by a bad and imperfect specification put forward by an ignorant tenant. He would, therefore, move an Amendment later on to provide that "the landlord may object to the specification, and may execute the drainage himself."

THE EARL of KIMBERLEY said, he entirely agreed with the noble Duke behind him (the Duke of Argyll) that it would never do to allow an ignorant tenant to bind his landlord by a bad specification. He thought that the landlord should, in the alternative, be placed in a position to execute the drainage works himself, and would suggest that the word "description" of the work intended would meet the case better. The matter should be considered on Report.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, that the landlord should have power to stop the execution of drainage injurious to the land; and, as he read the clause, there was nothing in it to prevent a

landlord from binding his tenants not to drain. Of course, if the tenant did drain, he could claim compensation for it; but he could be bound not to do so, under such penalties as could be put in the agreement. In those circumstances, he did not think the clause would really be found to be so injurious in practice to landlords as it appeared at first sight. He thought the most convenient course would be for the Government to bring up some appropriate language on Report.

LORD WATSON suggested that the clause as drawn did not carry out the object of its framers.

THE DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS said, he would withdraw the Amendment, on the understanding that the matter would be considered on Report.

Amendment (by leave of the Committee) *withdrawn*.

LORD EGERTON OF TATTON, in moving, as an Amendment, in page 2, line 37, to omit from the word "sum" to "not" in line 38, said, the words he proposed to strike out provided that the landlord who executed an improvement himself might charge the tenant a sum not exceeding 5 per cent per annum on the outlay incurred in executing it. Those words, he maintained, were quite unnecessary, and he objected in principle to any interference between landlord and tenant that was not necessary for the purposes of the Act. If, however, that part of the clause was to be retained, 6½ or 7 should, he thought, be substituted for 5 per cent.

* Amendment *moved*, in page 2, line 37, to leave out from ("sum") to ("not") in line 38.—(*The Lord Egerton of Tatton*.)

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, that the clause gave to a landlord who himself executed works of drainage two alternatives as to the mode of charging the tenant for them. He might charge either a sum not exceeding 5 per cent on the outlay, or such annual sum, payable for a period of 25 years, as would repay such outlay with interest at 3 per cent. He understood the noble Lord opposite (Lord Egerton of Tatton) to desire to remove the first alternative from the clause, and to leave the landlord only the second alternative. He

did not see the advantage of such a change.

Amendment (by leave of the Committee) *withdrawn*.

THE DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS moved, as an Amendment, to substitute 4 per cent for 3 per cent at line 40. He thought the two alternatives given in the clause should be retained; but he thought the rate of interest in the latter was put at so low a figure in the clause as to render it impossible, according to all experience, for the landlord to borrow money. It seemed to him it should be raised from 3 to 4 per cent.

Amendment *moved*, in page 2, line 40, to leave out ("three") and insert ("four.")—(*The Duke of Buckingham and Chandos*.)

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he thought the terms fixed by the clause were not unreasonable, and there was no sufficient ground for raising the figure.

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON said, he thought the rate of interest ought to be increased; for the landlord would, in many cases, have himself to borrow the money to execute the improvements.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he was surprised that Her Majesty's Government would not accept the Amendment. Landlords had seldom any money at command to enable them to execute improvements, and, therefore, had to borrow for the purpose; and they could not borrow at less than 4 per cent. This usury clause was simply going back to barbarous principles. The principle of the Bill was that it was in the interests of public policy that every tenant should be free to drain his land, or call on his landlord to do so. He did not deny that there was much to be said in favour of that principle; but surely that compelled the Government to fix the interest at such a rate as they knew the landlord would be able to borrow at. In that case, it was only just, if the landlord was to execute the work, and had to borrow money for the purpose, to fix the higher rate rather than the lower. He had himself drained at 5 per cent, and also very largely at 6½ per cent; and he had found that, in many cases, his tenants were willing to pay 6½, because they themselves got 13 or 14 per

cent for the outlay. The rate fixed ought to be the market rate.

EARL FORTESCUE said, that the clause, obliging, as it did, landlords to lay out their money at less than the market rate of interest, was nothing less than confiscation.

THE EARL OF CAMPERDOWN hoped the Government would not accede to the Amendment.

Amendment agreed to.

Moved, "To leave out Clause 4, as amended."—(*The Lord Stanley of Alderley.*)

On Question? Resolved in the negative.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 5 (Reservation as to existing and future contracts of tenancy).

THE EARL OF FIFE, in moving an Amendment, stating that in the consideration of what should constitute such fair and reasonable compensation as would oust compensation under the Act, regard should be had to the time when, and the circumstances in which the improvements were made, said, he wished to point out that a perfectly *bona fide* agreement might be entered into between a landlord and his tenant with regard to the compensation which the latter ought to receive for his outlay on improvements, and that such compensation, though perfectly fair in the circumstances in which the contract was originally made, might, as the Bill stood, be set aside on an application to a valuer by the tenant, such application being made years afterwards when the conditions of the locality might have undergone a complete change. His Amendment was intended to obviate that state of things.

Amendment moved, in page 3, line 22, after ("reasonable compensation") insert ("having regard to the circumstances existing at the time of making such agreement.")—(*The Earl of Fife.*)

LORD EGERTON OF TATTON asked that the words of the Amendment he had on the Paper, having regard to the custom of the country, should also be included. He held that agreements ought to be considered fair and reasonable when they were in accordance with the provisions of the Act of 1875, and when they were thought to be fair and reasonable in the locality to which they applied.

The Duke of Argyll

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he would point out that the Amendment had nothing to do with existing contracts of tenancies; but he objected to the addition of the words "and custom of the country, if any." It was impossible to accept those words; but he was prepared to accept the words moved by the noble Earl on that side of the House.

After a few remarks from Lord EGERTON OF TATTON,

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, it was clear that a certain amount of litigation would have to be gone through before the precise meaning of the Bill could be settled; and he certainly commiserated those who would have to undertake such litigation. Not until the decisions of the Courts of Law had been given would their Lordships know what this measure meant.

Amendment agreed to.

On the Motion of The LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL, the following Amendment made:—In page 3, line 25, insert at the end of the clause as a separate paragraph—

"The last-mentioned provision of this section relating to a particular agreement shall apply in the case of a tenancy under a contract of tenancy current at the commencement of this Act in respect of an improvement mentioned in the third part of the first schedule hereto, specific compensation for which is not provided by any agreement in writing, or custom, or the Agricultural Holdings Act, 1875."

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Moved, To insert the following New Clause (5a):—

"A tenant shall, if required by his landlord, send him vouchers of his outlay on improvements mentioned in the third part of the First Schedule hereto within six months after their execution; and compensation under this Act shall not be paid unless the tenant, if so required, has within such period produced the said vouchers."—(*The Duke of Buccleuch.*)

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, the Government could see no necessity for the proposed Amendment. It was true it was the most moderate of its class; but it was one of several of the same kind on the Paper which tended very much to harass the tenant with unnecessary restrictions, and he must therefore decline to accept it. He thought it would be very unwise to require the tenant to submit

to conditions of this kind. They must remember that the Bill went upon the principle of value. By adopting that principle, they were saved the necessity of surrounding those operations of the tenant with all those precautions which would inevitably have the result of preventing him from executing the improvements at all, or of depriving him of his compensation, however good his manuring might have been.

LORD BALFOUR said, he had an Amendment on the Paper to which he might refer at this stage. Its object was to secure both the landlord and the tenant against fraud, by providing that, in the large majority of cases, where artificial manures were applied to the land, analyses of them should be made. It was impossible to find out, in many cases, the results of manures, unless analyzed before they were put on the land, for great frauds were committed by artificial manure manufacturers; and therefore there was a strong reason for providing against them by insisting upon analyses, and their proper application. He could claim the authority of the Government for the principle of his Amendment. Clause 13 provided that samples and vouchers might be called for; but, as there was no penalty attaching to their destruction, the unscrupulous man who destroyed such evidence as made against him would be in a better position than a scrupulous one. Unless some greater security in this respect were given to both landlord and tenant, the Government ran considerable risk of inflicting much harm on both. This was not an Amendment particularly in the interest of the landlord. As soon as he got the Scottish Bill, he had sent it to the committee of the local agricultural society in his district; and the Amendment which he had to propose was recommended by practical men, who knew the dangers that existed.

VISCOUNT MIDLETON said, he fully agreed with what had been said by his noble Friend (Lord Balfour). He thought it was impossible to exaggerate the danger of fraud in regard to artificial manures that was likely to arise under the Bill; and he hoped that the Government would pledge themselves to bring up, at a future stage, some provision which would protect the interests, not only of the landlord, but also of the incoming tenant, upon whose shoulders

the deficiency in respect to the quality of those manures often fell.

THE EARL OF FIFE said, he considered it would be wrong to put such conditions into an Act of Parliament as those proposed by the Amendment, as all these arrangements could be embodied in agreements between landlord and tenant. In fact, it had been his practice to make such arrangements as were requisite with his tenants. He approved, however, of the practice of taking an analysis of the artificial manures that were put into the soil.

LORD BALFOUR said, that, with reference to the remarks of the noble Earl (the Earl of Fife), he would refer him to Clause 54, and would suggest to him that such agreements might be held to be illegal were the Bill to pass as it stood.

LORD HENNIKER said, he could confirm, to the fullest extent, what had been said by the noble Lord (Lord Balfour) as to the frauds and abuses existing in regard to artificial manures. Many instances had come before him, showing that those manures were adulterated by the merchants to such an extent as to render them almost absolutely valueless. He knew of a case, of which he had good proof, where a man he knew well—the son of a builder who hired a gravel pit—had seen the process of making guano. There was a vein of yellow clay, which was useless for any other purpose, in this gravel pit. It was sold by cart-loads to a manure manufacturer. This young man used to take this clay every now and then, and have it mixed up into a sort of pea-soup, with bones, offal, and so on; at the proper time chemicals were added, and the result was the production of the most perfect-looking guano possible. Again, a friend of his had, some 21 or 22 years ago, gone out to Peru to buy up all the guano there for one of the largest firms in London. He had succeeded in doing so, and he told him at the time that the produce of these guano islands—the accumulations of centuries—could not last—he was not quite sure—but his recollection was from seven to ten years. Of course, there might be guano elsewhere; but this fact would show their Lordships the difficulty of the question. When the greatest stock of real guano could be used up in such a short time, how could what was now sold be genuine,

and worth putting on the land? There was, he thought, a great deal to be said in favour of the Amendment of his noble Friend (the Duke of Buccleuch); and he trusted that it would not be withdrawn, unless an assurance were given by the Government that the matter which it involved would be satisfactorily dealt with.

THE EARL OF NORTHBROOK said, he hoped that their Lordships would not agree to the Amendment. He fully agreed with his noble Friend (the Earl of Fife) that it would be inexpedient to include in the Bill any such minute regulations in regard to fertilizing substances and feeding stuffs as those now proposed. The present Bill applied to that matter precisely the same principle as was contained in the *Agricultural Holdings Act of 1875*—namely, that the sum to be paid to the outgoing tenant should be the value to the incoming tenant.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said, he would point out that there was nothing in Clause 54 making it unlawful for a landlord and tenant to come to an agreement as to the verification, by any reasonable and proper means, of the character and quality of manures and feeding stuffs, and of keeping a record of them. The clause only voided an agreement depriving a tenant of his right to compensation.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, that the statement of the noble and learned Earl (the Lord Chancellor) brought great relief to his mind. If the view of the noble and learned Earl was correct that it was competent under the Bill to make these agreements, there was no need for the Amendment of the noble Duke opposite. In that case, he (the Duke of Argyll) would fully admit that it was inexpedient to put such minute regulations into an Act of Parliament; but he thought that, in respect of any manures for which the tenant was to claim, the tenant ought to give vouchers to his landlord, without which they could not prevent the greatest possible frauds from taking place, because great frauds were committed with regard to manures and feeding stuffs.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, that, notwithstanding the explanation of the noble and learned Earl on the Woolsack, he should like, in order to make assurance doubly sure, and to guard against uncertainty of the law, and to give some

better assurance of protection, to see an Amendment inserted to the effect that a landlord and tenant should be able to make an agreement for the purpose of insuring a record being kept both as to the quality and quantity of the manures which were to be put into the soil. If some such words were introduced, the clause would then be deemed satisfactory, and it would protect all parties against fraud.

LORD HARRIS supported the Amendment.

LORD BALFOUR said, what they wanted to do was to make assurance doubly sure, so that when the question as to compensation came to be tried the opinion given by the noble and learned Earl upon the Woolsack should be the law, and not merely an opinion.

Clause (by leave of the Committee) *withdrawn*.

Regulations as to Estimates of Improvements.

Clause 6 (Set-off of benefit to tenant).

On the Motion of The LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL, the following Amendment made:—In page 3, line 40, after ("therefrom") insert ("and.")

LORD DE L'ISLE AND DUDLEY proposed, as an Amendment, that the landlord should have the right to claim compensation from the tenant for waste or breach of husbandry committed at any time within seven years before the determination of the tenancy. The Bill limited the claim of the landlord to a period of four years before the end of the tenancy. He thought that, as the tenant could claim for improvements made within 10 years, it was only fair that the landlords' rights should extend back for seven years.

Amendment *moved*, in page 4, line 16, to leave out ("four") and insert ("seven.")—(*The Lord De L'Isle and Dudley*.)

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, that this was in reality an Amendment on the Act of 1875. He did not know that anything had happened since the passing of that Act to lead to the conclusion that that was an improper enactment.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he thought it was unfair, where the tenant

could claim for the whole 19 years of a lease, that the landlord's counter-claim for that part should extend to only four years back.

On Question? Their Lordships divided :—Contents 75; Not-Contents 48: Majority 27.

Resolved in the affirmative.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to.*

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON, in moving, as an Amendment, after Clause 6, the insertion of a new clause, providing that, with respect to the application of artificial manures, there should not be taken into account any larger outlay during the last year of the tenancy than the average amount of the tenant's outlay for like purposes during the three next preceding years of the tenancy, or other less number of years for which the tenancy has endured, said, he wished to point out that it was quite possible that, in the last year of his tenancy, a farmer might lay out an enormous sum of money in feeding stuffs in respect of which he would get compensation, although he had previously expended nothing.

Amendment moved,

After Clause 6, page 4, line 17, insert as a separate clause: Provided always, as regards 22 and 23 of Part III. of First Schedule, "There shall not be taken into account any larger outlay during the last year of the tenancy than the average amount of the tenant's outlay for like purposes during the three next preceding years of the tenancy or other less number of years for which the tenancy has endured."—(*The Duke of Richmond and Gordon.*)

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he was sorry he could not accept this Amendment, coming from the noble Duke, though it would be far more agreeable to him to do so. But the principle of the Bill was that judgment was to be formed in accordance with results; and he must therefore be consistent, and decline to accept it.

THE MARQUESS OF HUNTLY said, the object of the Bill was to secure good farming. The Amendment had a distinct tendency in this direction, and the Government should therefore accept it. To his great regret, however, they had declined to do so.

THE EARL OF DALHOUSIE hoped that the noble Duke (the Duke of Rich-

mond and Gordon) would not press the Amendment, which was not necessary to the Bill.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, that that proposal was very analogous to a stipulation contained in almost every Scotch lease, to the effect that the farmer should not, during the last few years of the lease, bring upon the farm a larger amount of stock than it usually or legitimately carried. It was one of the commonest tricks for the farmer to do that, in order to swell his claim; and, therefore, a distinct condition was inserted in Scotch leases to guard against it. He, for one, earnestly hoped that under that Bill they would be free to make their own contracts in reference to that matter.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said, that the question would be, whether the existence of such a condition as this in an agreement would make the agreement unfair and unreasonable? All that was desired by it could be obtained by such an agreement as was contemplated in the 5th clause.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, he would contrast the observation of the noble and learned Earl on the Woolsack with the frequent assurances they had received that the words "fair and reasonable" in relation to those matters were incapable of statutory definition. In respect to what was done in the last year of the tenancy, no valuer, however infallible his instincts, could possibly tell what was the value of an outlay the results of which were not yet above the ground. In regard to the last year, they must, therefore, proceed by outlay, and could not possibly proceed by value, because the value would not then have shown itself. No answer had been given to the contention that, unless they inserted in the Bill some clause of that kind, the opportunities for fraud would be so great that they were certain to be taken advantage of.

Amendment agreed to; Clause inserted.

LORD BALFOUR, in moving the insertion of a clause to follow Clause 6, with the object of providing that where a tenant proposed to claim compensation under the Act as to manures, he should afford the landlord an opportunity of taking samples as to the fertilizing substances or feeding stuffs for which the claim was made, said, he wished to ask

whether it would be possible for him, under that Bill, to make a contract providing that, if some artificial manure that was universally acknowledged to be prejudicial to the soil—for example, nitrate of soda, which had a stimulating effect in the first year after it was applied, but was unduly exhausting to the land—he should be entitled to receive a certain sum of money.

Amendment moved,

In Page 4, after Clause 6, insert as a new clause:—"In all cases where a tenant proposes to claim compensation under Part III. of the First Schedule of this Act he shall—

- (1.) Afford the landlord or any person duly authorised by him an opportunity of taking samples of any fertilising substance or feeding stuffs for the application or use of which he proposes to claim compensation:
- (2.) Give at least seven days' notice in writing to the landlord or his duly authorised agent of his intention to apply any fertilising substance to any crop upon the holding during the last year of the tenancy:
- (3.) Cause analyses to be made of all such fertilising substances and feeding stuffs:

And in ascertaining the amount to be paid to a tenant for compensation in respect of the application or use of fertilising substances and feeding stuffs any referee or umpire shall have regard to—

- (a.) The state and condition of the holding;
- (b.) The quantity, cost, and quality as ascertained by analysis of the fertilising substances and feeding stuffs used, and the time and mode of their application and use;
- (c.) Any special circumstance by which the interest of the landlord, the tenant, or his successor in the farm, may be affected."—(*The Lord Balfour.*)

THE LORD CHANCELLOR, in reply, said, that an agreement for a fair and reasonable compensation would not be inconsistent with the Bill.

LORD HARRIS, who had the following Amendment upon the Paper:—In Page 4, after Clause 6, insert the following clause:—

(Right of landlord to have analysis of artificial manures, feeding stuffs, &c. for which compensation claimed.)

"The landlord shall be entitled to take from a certified analytical chemist an analysis and statement of the money value of any artificial manures, feeding stuffs, and permanent grass seeds bought and used by the tenant on his holding during the last year of his tenancy, and for which compensation is claimed under this Act,"

Lord Balfour

said, he should not move it, as he was quite willing to give way to the Amendment of his noble Friend (Lord Balfour) now before the Committee.

THE EARL OF GALLOWAY hoped the Committee would agree to one or other of the Amendments. This was a tenant's question, rather than a landlord's.

THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY said, that, in his opinion, if all these minute obligations as to notices, &c., were cast upon the tenant, the Act would be useless; for the tenant would be inclined rather to forego his compensation than comply with them.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, he must admit that the proposals of his noble Friend behind him (Lord Balfour) were open to the objection of being too minute. He also thought their Lordships might accept the explanation of the noble and learned Earl on the Wool-sack, that the question of manures might be dealt with by agreement. It was, moreover, preferable that these matters should be the subject of mutual agreement, rather than laid down in the iron form of an Act of Parliament.

Amendment (by leave of the Committee) *withdrawn*.

Procedure.

Clause 7 (Notice of intended claim) *agreed to*.

Clause 8 (Compensation agreed or settled by reference).

Amendment moved,

In page 4, line 32, to leave out ("the difference") and insert ("any difference as to the amount of compensation, and as to whether any agreement is fair and reasonable, and as to any matter to be taken into account in reduction or augmentation of the tenant's claim for compensation, and as to all other matters incidental to settling the account between landlord and tenant in respect of compensation under this Act.")—(*The Lord President.*)

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, he objected to the Amendment, because, under it, the noble Lord (the Lord President of the Council) would take away from the Courts of Law the right of deciding what constituted a fair and reasonable agreement, and hand that right over to a valuer or referee sent down from the Land Commission Office. When a question was brought before a Court of Law, one knew that the old principles of the Common Law would be

applied as far as possible to existing Acts of Parliament; but no such certainty could be felt when matters were referred to valuers who possessed no legal experience, and who might be prejudiced this way or that. He repeated that the question what was fair and reasonable was not to be decided by a Court of Law, but by a referee. That seemed to him a most objectionable proposal. He would only ask them to remember a very striking instance of what he said. Remember their experience of the Sub-Commissioners under the Irish Land Act. The Courts of Law had saved what little remained to be saved to the Irish landlord; and he did not wish the Courts of Law to be prevented from saving what little there was left to the English landlord. Their experience ought to teach them to trust in the old Courts of Law in preference to new tribunals.

THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY said, he thought that the effect of the noble Marquess's observation would be that everyone was to be driven into litigation.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said, that, in his opinion, it would be well for landlords and tenants to refer their differences to a referee in the first instance, and only in case of disagreement to have recourse to litigation.

THE EARL OF CAMPERDOWN said, it seemed to him that the question whether an agreement was fair and reasonable ought to be settled by a higher authority than a referee.

THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY said, with regard to the objection of the noble Earl (the Earl of Camperdown), he should like to know if it was not the fact that referees were accustomed to deal with disputes in which the question of compensation was involved? In all cases in which no more than £100 was at stake, it would be wise to accept the decision of a referee.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, that there was another reason why a decision of a Court of Law should be taken. They had seen what difficulty there was in ascertaining what "fair and reasonable" was; and yet on the decision of the meaning of those words depended the comfort of every landlord and every tenant. He considered that it was a matter of vital importance to have it decided as early as possible what

was the meaning of those words, for that it was a matter which should rest with valuers up and down the country was more than they could contemplate with satisfaction. If those words were decided by a valuer here and a valuer there, it established nothing; but once a thing had been decided by a Court of Law, the decision became law, and was recognized all over the country. There could be no doubt the effect of the clause must be to enlarge the powers of the referee. He considered the referee the weakest part of the Bill, and he had no confidence in him, and, therefore, objected to any enlargement of the powers vested in him.

THE EARL OF CAMPERDOWN said, the objection he took to the clause was, that it mixed up two things that should be entirely separate—namely, the amount of the compensation, and the question of what was fair and reasonable.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said, he would point out that if a tenant claimed compensation under the Act, and not under the agreement, in cases where an agreement for compensation had been entered into, he would have to go to the referee; and how was the referee to ascertain whether his jurisdiction was excluded or not without ascertaining whether the compensation under the agreement was fair and reasonable or not?

On Question, "That the words ('the difference') stand part of the Clause?"

Their Lordships *divided*:—Contents 85; Not-Contents 40: Majority 45.

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Sidmouth, V.	Leconfield, L.
Alington, L.	Lovat, L.
Ashford, L. (V. Bury)	Norton, L.
Bagot, L.	O'Neill, L.
Balfour of Burleigh, L.	Penrhyn, L.
Botreaux, L. (E. Lou-doun.)	Sherborne, L.
Brabourne, L.	Somerton, L. (E. Nor-manton.)
Brancepeth, L. (V. Boyne.)	Stanley of Alderley, L.
Brodrick, L. (V. Middle-ton.)	Stewart of Garlies, L. (E. Galloway.)
Clinton, L.	Strathnairn, L.
Crofton, L.	Strathpey, L. (E. Sea-field.)
Delamere, L.	Templemore, L.
Digby, L.	Tollemache, L.
Douglas, L. (E. Home.)	Tredegar, L.
Egerton, L.	Ventry, L.
Ellenborough, L.	Wemyss, L. (E. Wemyss.)
Forbes, L.	Westbury, L.
Gerard, L.	Wynford, L.
Haldon, L.	Zouche of Haryng-worth, L.
Harlech, L.	
Harris, L.	

NOT-CONTENTS.

Selborne, E. (L. Chan-celler.)	Breadalbane, L. (E. Breadalbane.)
Grafton, D.	Carlingford, L.
Ailesbury, M.	Carrington, L.
Cowper, E.	Chesham, L.
Derby, E.	Dacre, L.
Granville, E.	De Mauley, L.
Kimberley, E.	Howth, L. (E. Howth.)
Morley, E.	Kenmare, L. (E. Ken-mare.)
Northbrook, E.	Lytton, L.
Saint Germans, E.	Methuen, L.
Shaftesbury, E.	Monson, L. [Teller.]
Sydney, E.	Ponsonby, L. (E. Bess-borough.)
Gordon, V. (E. Aber-deen.)	Ramsay, L. (E. Dal-house.)
Powerscourt, L.	Reay, L.
Exeter, L. Bp.	Ribblesdale, L.
Aberdare, L.	Rosebery, L. (E. Rose-bery.)
Belper, L.	Sandhurst, L.
Blachford, L.	Thurlow, L.
Boyle, L. (E. Cork and Orrery.) [Teller.]	Vaux of Harrowden, L.
	Wolverton, L.
	Wrottesley, L.

Resolved in the affirmative.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 9 (Appointment of referee or referees and umpire).

THE EARL OF CARNARVON said, he desired to amend the clause at page 4, line 36, by inserting the words "or if they have, by agreement, already made

such an appointment." Under the Bill, the parties might agree in appointing a referee; and he desired to provide for the case in which the parties might, at the commencement of the tenancy, or any other period, provide for a possible disagreement and select their umpire.

Amendment moved,

In page 4, line 36, after ("concur") insert ("or if they have, by agreement, already made such an appointment.")—(The Earl of Carnarvon.)

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he thought the balance of convenience against the Amendment, which would be open to abuse. It was undesirable that such an appointment should be made before the occasion for it arose; and he should prefer the clause to be as it stood.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, he regretted that the Government had refused to accept an Amendment proposed solely to check litigation. The danger of the clause, as it stood, was this—that, unlike the Act of 1875, this Bill was compulsory, and the tenant, under it, would have a right to insist that a referee should be sent down by the Land Commission; and thus a class of men, whom he might call Sub-Commissioners, might come into existence, who would act as the Irish Sub-Commissioners had acted. Who were the Land-Commissioners? They consisted of three gentlemen—one of them was an old Member of that House, of Liberal opinions, and another of them was Sir James Caird, who was well known to be a man of the most extreme views. ["Oh, oh!"] He would practically have the nomination of the Sub-Commissioners; and great danger might arise from the circumstance. ["Oh, oh!"] Was it, then, perfectly impossible that he should allow those extreme views to be visible in the choice of the men he should send down to decide these arbitrations? He considered that the Amendment would not only tend to diminish litigation, and to keep up the good relations that subsisted between landlord and tenant, but would have the effect of keeping up a more independent and local decision upon these questions.

THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY said, he must confess that he was lost in astonishment at the extraordinary language used

by the noble Marquess opposite (the Marquess of Salisbury), in objecting to a provision so simple as the one under notice, and which was copied from the Act of 1875.

Amendment (by leave of the Committee) *withdrawn*.

Clause *agreed to*.

Clause 10 (Requisition for appointment of umpire by Inclosure Commissioners, &c.)

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY, in moving an Amendment, with the object of providing that, if either party objected to the umpire appointed by the Land Commissioners, then the umpire or his successor should be appointed by the President and Council of the Institute of Surveyors, said, that the object of his Amendment was to provide that the appointment of such officials should not be left absolutely to a person who had strong political views, as had been the case in Ireland. After their experience in that country, they could not safely trust men of extreme opinions in those matters. He thought, if the Government wished to relieve their Bill of any suspicion of partiality, they would adopt the Amendment.

Amendment *moved*,

In page 5, line 32, after ("Commissioners") insert ("but if either party shall in writing object to such appointment, then the umpire, or any successor to him, shall be appointed by the President and Council of the Institute of Surveyors.")—(*The Marquess of Salisbury*.)

In reply to The LORD CHANCELLOR,

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON said, that the Institute of Surveyors was a body which received a Royal Charter in the year 1881, and which was previously recognized by Parliament in the Metropolis Management Act.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said, the Government must decline to accept the Amendment. It cast a reflection upon the Land Commissioners, and treated them in a manner which they did not deserve.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, he had cast no reflection whatever on the Land Commissioners. He only said that they were—what their Lordships had seen the Commissioners and Sub-Commissioners in Ireland to have been

—perfectly honourable men intending to do justice, but yet led by that impulse, which few public men could resist, to leave impressed on their acts some trace of Party bias.

On Question, "That those words be there inserted?"

Their Lordships *divided*:—Contents 74; Not-Contents 46: Majority 28.

Resolved in the affirmative.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clauses 11 to 17, inclusive, severally *agreed to*.

Clause 18 (Award to give particulars).

On the Motion of The LORD LEON-FIELD, the following Amendments made:—In page 7, line 12, leave out from ("and") to the second ("the") in line 14; and in line 15, leave out ("for the purposes of such charge").

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clauses 19 to 21, inclusive, severally *agreed to*.

Clause 22 (Appeal to County Court).

On the Motion of The LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL, the following Amendment made:—In page 7, line 42, insert as a separate sub-section:—

("That the award proceeds wholly or in part upon an improper application of or upon the omission properly to apply the special provisions of section 5 or any other part of this Act.")

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clauses 23 and 24 severally *agreed to*.

Clause 25 (Provisions respecting married women).

On the Motion of The LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL, the following Amendments made:—In page 8, line 32, leave out ("the county court may appoint") and insert ("where the appointment of"); line 33, after ("woman") insert ("is required"), and after ("Act") insert ("the county court may make such appointment"); line 35, leave out ("a married woman") and insert ("a woman married before the commencement of the Married Women's Property Act, 1882"), and after ("use") insert ("to land her title to which accrued before such commencement as aforesaid"); line 38, leave out ("married women") and insert ("woman married

before the commencement of the Married Women's Property Act, 1882"); and in line 39, after ("Aot") insert ("in respect of land her title to which accrued before such commencement as aforesaid").

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 26 (Provision in case of trustee).

On the Motion of The LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL, Clause transposed to follow Clause 30.

Clause *agreed to*.

Clauses 27 and 28 severally *agreed to*.

Charge for Tenants' Compensation.

Clause 29 (Power for landlord on paying compensation to obtain charge).

On the Motion of The LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL, the following Amendment made:—In page 10, line 12, leave out ("section four of") and insert as separate paragraph at end of the clause:—

("The estate or interest of any landlord holding for an estate or interest determinable or liable to forfeiture by reason of his creating or suffering any charge thereon shall not be determined or forfeited by reason of his obtaining a charge under this Act, anything in any deed, will, or other instrument to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.")

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clauses 30 and 31 severally *agreed to*.

Notice to Quit.

Clause 32 *agreed to*.

Fixtures.

Clause 33 (Tenants' property in fixtures, machinery, &c.)

On the Motion of The LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL, the following Amendment made:—In page 11, line 21, leave out ("buildings") and insert ("building.")

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Crown and Duchy Lands.

Clauses 34 to 36, inclusive, severally *agreed to*.

Ecclesiastical and Charity Lands.

Clause 37 *agreed to*.

Clause 38 (Landlord, incumbent of benefice).

On the Motion of The LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL, the following

Amendment made:—In page 14, line 1, after ("writing") insert—

("Of the patron of the benefice, that is, the person, officer, or authority who, in case the benefice were vacant, would be entitled to present thereto, or").

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 39 (Landlord, charity trustee).

On the Motion of The Marquess of SALISBURY, the following Amendment made:—In page 14, line 18, after ("landlord") insert ("in respect of charging the land.")

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Resumption for Improvements.

On the Motion of The LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL, heading amended by the addition of the words ("and Miscellaneous.")

Clause 40 (Resumption of possession for cottages, &c.)

LORD EGERTON of TATTON moved, as an Amendment, to omit the two last paragraphs of the clause, which provide, first, that where a tenant got notice from his landlord of a resumption of part of his holding, he should be entitled to claim a proportionate reduction of rent; and, second, that the tenant might, if he pleased, treat the notice of resumption as a ground for giving up his holding.

Amendment moved, in page 15, line 5, to leave out from ("holding") to the end of the Clause.—(The Lord Egerton of Tatton.)

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON opposed the Amendment.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, he did not like the clause. It was a source of disadvantage to the landlord, and he should prefer to see it struck out of the Bill.

THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY said, the clause was a direct privilege to the landlord, instead of being any disadvantage to him.

Amendment *negatived*.

Clause *agreed to*.

Clauses 41 and 42 severally *agreed to*.

PART II.

DISTRESS.

Clause 43 (Limitation of distress in respect of amount and time).

On the Motion of The LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL, the following Amendment made:—In page 16, line 2, after ("distress") insert—

("Except in the case of arrears of rent in respect of a holding to which this Act applies existing at the time of the passing of this Act, which arrears shall be recoverable by distress up to the first day of January one thousand eight hundred and eighty-five to the same extent as if this Act had not passed.")

THE MARQUESS OF EXETER moved an Amendment, to the effect that the period for which a distress for rent might be made should be two years instead of one.

Amendment moved, in page 16, line 2, to leave out ("one year") and insert ("two years.") — (*The Marquess of Exeter.*)

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he must decline to accept the Amendment, believing that the limitation of the power of distress to one year was the proposal most acceptable to the tenant, and sufficient for the protection of the landlord. The period of one year was fixed on the recommendation of the Select Committee of the House of Commons which recently sat upon the subject.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY, in supporting the Amendment, said, that, as far as he knew, the feeling of the tenantry was the other way. It would be unfortunate for poor tenants, who required indulgence from their landlords at present, if the landlord's security through the power of distraint was to be so limited. In this time of sore distress, it would force many landlords to eject their tenants, who did not desire to do so, and it would operate cruelly on poorer tenants. The result would be that it would produce ill-feeling in many districts where good feeling now existed.

EARL COWPER said, he thought it would be a great pity to interfere with the compromise on that subject embodied in the Bill.

THE EARL OF CARNARVON held that the limit of two years would form a better compromise than one year.

THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY said, that, in his opinion, and in the opinion of many other people, there was a good deal to be said in favour of the abolition of the Law of Distress. There was no-

thing more prejudicial than for land to be in the hands of men without means. Yet the Law of Distress had been in existence for many years, and there were at present many tenants who were behind in their rent; accordingly, he did not think their Lordships should go further than the Committee of the House of Commons had recommended, but that they should limit the right of distress to one year. That seemed a reasonable proposition. He was not prepared to say that there was an extraordinary virtue in one year, as compared with two years; but he thought one year was enough to meet all the requirements of the case; and, moreover, that limit had been recommended by a Committee of the House of Commons after careful consideration.

THE EARL OF CAMPERDOWN said, he did not agree with the noble Earl (the Earl of Kimberley) in thinking it would be advantageous to abolish the Law of Distress altogether. It had been abolished in Scotland; and his (the Earl of Camperdown's) experience was that tenants were regretting the course which had been taken. At the same time, he should regret if the Government consented to adopt two years instead of one, seeing that the latter period was ample enough. The question had been very much discussed at the various Chambers of Agriculture, and the general opinion was in favour of one year.

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON said, he would remind their Lordships that the relation between landlord and tenant was very different to other creditors and debtors. Further than that, the persons who would suffer most by the abolition of the Law of Distress were the small and struggling tenants.

On Question, "That ('one year') stand part of the Clause?"

Their Lordships divided:—Contents 47; Not-Contents 56: Majority 9.

CONTENTS.

Selborne, E. (<i>L. Chancellor.</i>)	Cowper, E.
Grafton, D.	Derby, E.
Manchester, D.	Granville, E.
Bristol, M.	Kimberley, E.
Camperdown, E.	Morley, E.
	Northbrook, E.
	Pembroke and Montgomery, E.
	Saint Germans, E.

Shaftesbury, E.	Howth, L. (<i>E. Howth.</i>)
Stanhope, E.	Kenmare, L. (<i>E. Kenmare.</i>)
Suffolk and Berkshire, E.	Lovat, L.
Sydney, E.	Lyttelton, L.
	Methuen, L.
Gordon, V. (<i>E. Aberdeen.</i>)	Monson, L. [<i>Teller.</i>]
Powerscourt, V.	Ponsonby, L. (<i>E. Bessborough.</i>)
	Ramsay, L. (<i>E. Dalhousie.</i>)
Exeter, L. Bp.	Reay, L.
	Ribblesdale, L.
Aberdare, L.	Rosebery, L. (<i>E. Rosebery.</i>)
Belper, L.	Sandhurst, L.
Blachford, L.	Somerton, L. (<i>E. Noranton.</i>)
Boyle, L. (<i>E. Cork and Orrery.</i>) [<i>Teller.</i>]	Thurlow, L.
Breadalbane, L. (<i>E. Breadalbane.</i>)	Tollemache, L.
Carlingford, L.	Vaux of Harrowden, L.
Carrington, L.	Wrottesley, L.
Chesham, L.	
Dacre, L.	
Emly, L.	

NOT-CONTENTS.

Buckingham and Chandos, D.	Bagot, L.
Northumberland, D.	Botreaux, L. (<i>E. Loudoun.</i>)
Richmond, D.	Brancepeth, L. (<i>V. Boyne.</i>)
	Brodrick, L. (<i>V. Middleton.</i>)
Abercorn, M. (<i>D. Abercorn.</i>)	Clinton, L.
Exeter, M. [<i>Teller.</i>]	Crofton, L.
Salisbury, M.	Delamere, L.
Winchester, M.	De L'Isle and Dudley, L.
	De Mauley, L.
Beauchamp, E.	Digby, L.
Cadogan, E.	Egerton, L.
Carnarvon, E.	Ellenborough, L.
Coventry, E.	Gerard, L.
Doncaster, E. (<i>D. Buccleuch and Queensberry.</i>)	Haldon, L.
Feversham, E.	Harlech, L.
Haddington, E.	Harris, L.
Harewood, E.	Hartismere, L. (<i>L. Heniker.</i>)
Harrington, E.	Heytesbury, L.
Macclesfield, E.	Hopetoun, L. (<i>E. Hope-toun.</i>) [<i>Teller.</i>]
Manvers, E.	Leconfield, L.
Milltown, E.	Stanley of Alderley, L.
Mount Edgcumbe, E.	Stewart of Garlies, L. (<i>E. Galloway.</i>)
Redesdale, E.	Strathnairn, L.
Romney, L.	Templemore, L.
Sandwich, E.	Tredegar, L.
Tankerville, E.	Westbury, L.
	Wynford, L.
Clancarty, V. (<i>E. Clancarty.</i>)	Zouche of Haryngworth, L.
Hawarden, V.	
Melville, V.	
Sidmouth, V.	

Resolved in the negative.

Words substituted.

On the Motion of The LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL, the following Amendment made:—In page 61, line 11, leave out from (“except”) to the end of the Clause.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to.*

Clause 44 (Limitation of distress in respect of things to be distrained).

On the Motion of The LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL, the following Amendment made:—In page 16, line 23, after (“feeding”) insert (“or if any part of such price has been paid exceeding the amount so paid.”)

Clause, as amended, *agreed to.*

Clause 45 (Remedy for wrongful distress under this Act).

On the Motion of The LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL, the following Amendments made:—In page 17, line 9, leave out from (“and shall”) to (“Summary Jurisdiction Acts”) in line 11, both inclusive; line 12, leave out (“court”) and insert (“county court or court of summary jurisdiction”), and leave out (“summary”); and in line 16, after (“requires”) insert—

(“Any such dispute as mentioned in this section shall be deemed to be a matter in which a court of summary jurisdiction has authority by law to make an order on complaint in pursuance of the Summary Jurisdiction Acts.”)

Clause, as amended, *agreed to.*

Clauses 46 to 51, inclusive, severally *agreed to.*

PART III.

General Provisions.

Clause 52 (Commencement of Act) *agreed to.*

Clause 53 (Exception of non-agricultural and small holdings).

THE EARL OF CAMPERDOWN moved an Amendment, to insert words to provide that nothing in the Bill should apply to holdings “less than two acres in extent.”

Amendment *moved*, in page 18, line 38, after (“holding”) insert (“less than two acres in extent.”)—(*The Earl of Camperdown.*)

LORD HENNIKER said, he hoped his noble Friend (the Earl of Camperdown) would press his Amendment. It was most important to the small holder of land. It had been said in the other House that small holder had no compensation for improvements when he left. His father was one of the first to establish the allotment system

in his own county, and he had a great many allotments on his property. All he would say was, that he knew of no case where there had not been a fair compensation given. It had been well remarked in the House of Commons that some provision ought to be made that the compensation should in no case exceed half the value of the land. To let all these small holdings come under the Bill would be to discourage landlords from letting small plots of land, and to discourage the allotment system. It was said that all difficulty would be avoided by a weekly agreement. He believed such an agreement was beneficial to the tenant, for it enabled him to seek the best employment at short notice, without the tie of having to pay for land he did not want. At the request of some working men, he had let them about two acres each; it was an experiment he thought would answer well with good men—that was, as long as they could earn their wages besides. He believed it was of advantage to these men that they should have the power of giving six months' notice. If the two acre limit were retained, he would let them nearly two acres each without coming under the Bill. If it was not retained, this experiment would not be encouraged. The letting of large plots of land was very much appreciated. He hoped the Committee would agree to the Amendment.

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, that the House of Commons had agreed that the Bill should apply to market gardens; and, that being the case, it would be impossible to agree to the limit proposed. Further than that, he did not see why, if improvements had been made on a small scale, compensation on the same scale should not be awarded.

THE EARL OF CAMPERDOWN said, he should be glad to modify his Amendment to meet the case referred to by the noble Lord, so that it should read as follows:—"Nothing in this Act shall apply to a holding that, not being a market garden, is less than two acres in extent."

EARL COWPER said, he preferred the clause as it stood.

THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY said, he would remind their Lordships that the clause, as now framed, was not in the

original Bill. He did not agree to the Amendment, however, on the ground that it might interfere with the letting of land in small allotments; and he would therefore suggest, as the best mode of meeting all the requirements of the case, that they should adopt the limit of one acre.

LORD STANLEY OF ALDERLEY said, he should prefer the limitation being kept at two acres, because, besides the allotments of arable land, there were in some parts of the country small holdings of pasture land called cowgates, which would keep one or two cows, and these might be interfered with by this clause of the Bill.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, he hoped the Committee would agree to the Amendment, otherwise he could not accept the clause, as it would cruelly affect the poorer tenants. The effect of this Bill would be to cause many landlords to evict their tenants.

Amendment amended, and agreed to.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 54 to 59, inclusive, severally agreed to.

Clause 60 (Interpretation).

On the Motion of The Lord PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL, the following Amendments made:—In page 20, line 38, leave out ("after the commencement of this Act"); and in line 40, after ("other") insert ("immediately after the commencement of this Act.")

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 61 (Repeal of Act of 1875).

On the Motion of The Lord PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL, the following Amendments made:—In page 21, line 32, after ("1875") insert ("and the Agricultural Holdings (England) Act, 1875, Amendment Act, 1876"); leave out from ("right") in line 34 to ("under") in line 35, both inclusive, and insert ("thing duly done or suffered or any proceedings pending under or in pursuance of"); line 36, leave out ("of a tenant"); page 22, line 3, after ("Act") insert ("or"), and insert as a separate sub-section—

"(d.) Any right in respect of fixtures affixed to a holding before the commencement of this Act."

Line 4, leave out from ("such") to ("such") both inclusive, and after

("right") insert ("reserved by this section may be enforced"); and in line 6, leave out ("he would have been entitled.")

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clauses 62 and 63 severally *agreed to*.

SCHEDULES.

FIRST SCHEDULE.

THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH proposed to strike out Part II., which referred to drainage.

Amendment *moved*, in page 23, lines 20 to 23, leave out ("Part II.")—(*The Duke of Buccleuch.*)

LORD CARLINGFORD (Lord PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he could not accept the Amendment, seeing that the Government attached great importance to that part of the Schedule as it stood. They regarded drainage, in very numerous cases, so essential to farming, that they earnestly desired to stipulate, by provisions in the Bill, that where the landlord could not, or would not, undertake the work himself, the tenant should be able to do so.

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON said, he would advise his noble Friend (the Duke of Buccleuch) not to persist in this Amendment, as it was one which would most materially affect one of the principles on which the Bill had been drawn, which was to encourage drainage. He (the Duke of Richmond and Gordon) had not that fear, which some noble Lords had, that tenants were going to drain all the land in the country; he only wished they could.

Amendment (by leave of the Committee) *withdrawn*.

Schedule *agreed to*.

SECOND SCHEDULE *agreed to*.

The Report of the Amendments to be received on *Tuesday* next; and Bill to be printed as amended. (No. 186.)

House adjourned at One o'clock A.M.,
to Monday next, a quarter past
Four o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Friday, 10th August, 1883.

The House met at Two of the clock.

MINUTES.]—SUPPLY—considered in Committee
—Resolutions [August 9] reported.

PUBLIC BILLS—First Reading—Merchant Shipping (Fishing Boats) * [288].

Second Reading—Leaseholders (Facilities for Purchase of Fee Simple) [134], *deferred*.

Committee—Education (Scotland) [226]—*a.r.*

Committee—Report—Cholera Hospitals (Ireland) [282].

Committee—Report—Third Reading—Iale of Wight Highways (*re-comm.*) [268].

Considered as amended—Third Reading—Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) [265], and *passed*.

Withdrawn—Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Durham) [21].

QUESTIONS.

LAW AND JUSTICE (IRELAND)—CASE OF DR. DAVIS.

MR. BIGGAR asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether his attention has been called to a case brought by Dr. Michael Davis, J.P. against Terence Reilly, for possession of a holding in Coravillis, Inniskeen, county Cavan, and which was tried before Captain Mansfield, R.M. and Messrs. Gibson and Chambers, J.P. who, on examining the documentary evidence, pronounced the complainant guilty of perjury; and, whether he will direct any proceedings to be taken against Dr. Davis?

MR. TREVELYAN: It is the fact that in the course of the case referred to one of the magistrates present—namely, Mr. Chambers, did say that Dr. Davis, in an application which he joined with his tenant in making under the Arrears Act, had made an affidavit not in accordance with what the law required, and sworn what was not true. Such statement was, however, made under a misapprehension of the facts, and was not concurred in or approved of by the two other magistrates mentioned in the hon. Member's Question; and on inquiry I do not find that there are any grounds for instituting proceedings against Dr. Davis. It is, of course, no part of my duty to order a prosecution.

POOR LAW (IRELAND)—CATHOLICS IN DONEGAL WORKHOUSE.

MR. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, What provision, if any, has been made for the spiritual necessities of the Catholic inmates of the Donegal Workhouse since the resignation of the Catholic chaplain, the Rev. Hugh M'Fadden, P.P. on the first of May last; is it a fact that the Catholic inmates attend Mass on Sunday in the Parish Church without being in charge of any official in connection with the Workhouse, and is this in accordance with Workhouse regulations; is it a fact that the Parish Priest of Donegal is obliged to employ a Catechist to instruct the Workhouse children after Mass in the Parish Church; is it true that the Catholic Guardians have declined to attend the meetings of the Board in consequence of the majority refusing to appoint a Catechist, there being no Catholic school teacher or official in connection with the Workhouse; and, whether the Local Government Board approve of a Catechist being appointed in the absence of any Catholic official, and have expressed their regret that the majority of the Board will not sanction such appointment?

MR. TREVELYAN: The Roman Catholic chaplain resigned his office in May, and it was found impracticable to obtain the services of another chaplain. The workhouse inmates have, therefore, as the only alternative, been allowed to attend Mass in the parish church on Sundays and Holy days. They are not attended by a workhouse officer to the church, which is only a few hundred yards from the workhouse. The master has reported weekly to the Guardians that the inmates returned in good time, and in good order. The arrangement is, of course, unusual, and is not provided for in the general workhouse regulations. The Local Government Board are not aware of the employment of a Catholic catechist at the expense of the parish priest; but they understand there is a Roman Catholic monitress in the workhouse who teaches the children their Catechism. It is the case that the Local Government Board approve of the appointment of a Catholic catechist, and have expressed to the Guardians their regret that the majority decline to sanction such an appointment. With

regard to the non-attendance of the Catholic Guardians at the Board meetings, I am informed that it is not known locally that the catechist question is the cause of it.

MR. HARRINGTON asked whether this was not a case in which he ought to recommend the Local Government Board to appoint paid Guardians for the district?

MR. TREVELYAN said, that would be a very strong step to take, having regard to the fact that the present Guardians were elected for the general administration of poor relief.

COLONEL COLTHURST suggested that the Local Government Board should intimate to the Guardians that they might be compelled to override their decision.

MR. TREVELYAN said, he would consider the matter.

THE ROYAL IRISH CONSTABULARY AND DUBLIN METROPOLITAN POLICE—PENSIONS.

MR. O'BRIEN asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether it is the fact that the Royal Irish Constabulary Pensioners who retired from the force between 1866 and 1874 got only about three-fourths of their pay as pension, although the Act of 1847 gave them their full pay as pension after 20 years' service, and although the majority of these men served over thirty years; whether it is the fact that the Dublin Metropolitan Police and the officers of the constabulary who joined and were discharged under the Act of 1847 were pensioned off with their full pay; what is the reason of this inequality in the treatment of officers and men who joined and served in the same force and were discharged under the same Act of Parliament; and, whether the Government will give to pensioners with 30 years' service the full pay allowance to which the Act of 1847 entitled them after a service of 20 years?

MR. TREVELYAN: The case of these pensioners has been several times debated in this House, and has been frequently considered, and successive Governments have decided that they received the pensions to which they were entitled by law. I cannot undertake to re-open the matter, the details of which are too complicated to be satisfactorily dealt with in answer to a Question; but

I may mention that the hon. Member is under a misapprehension in supposing that a direct comparison between the case of these men and that of Constabulary officers serving under the Act of 1847 and of the Metropolitan Police can be instituted as he suggests. The officers had to serve for 40 years under that Act before they could retire on full pay; and, in the case of the Metropolitan Police, different statutory provisions exist to affect the construction.

ARMY—TIME-EXPIRED SOLDIERS.

COLONEL COLTHURST asked the Secretary of State for War, Whether he will consider the advisability of allowing men who have taken their discharge at the expiration of either the first or second period of service, or who have purchased their discharge at any period of service, to re-engage within six months, reckoning their former service? The hon. and gallant Member also asked, Whether the noble Marquess's attention has been called to the refusal of a large number of men to re-engage on the completion of their first term of service, on account of not receiving their Deferred Pay; and, whether he will consider the advisability of issuing such Pay on re-engagement instead of withholding it until discharge?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON: It will be convenient to answer this and No. 6 Question together. There is some confusion in the terms employed. Inducements have been offered to men to extend their service with the Colours, and one of these is the permission to re-engage for pension, if recommended by their Commanding Officer. I believe that the number of men who, up to the present time, have extended their Colour service, is not large. Both the suggestions in the hon. and gallant Member's Questions have been considered; but they would both be in principle opposed to the short service system, and they would also tend actually to defeat the object which we have at present in view, which is to secure an extension of the continuous service of men now serving in the ranks.

COLONEL COLTHURST: On Tuesday I will ask the noble Marquess, Whether it is not a fact that two officers of the Guards were sent to Portsmouth especially to tempt men recently arrived from India to re-engage, and thus to

defeat the short service system; and whether that attempt did not fail owing to their not receiving deferred pay?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON: Does the hon. and gallant Member employ the term re-engage or extend their service?

COLONEL COLTHURST: Extend their service with the Colours.

ARMY—GOVERNORS OF MILITARY PRISONS.

COLONEL COLTHURST asked the Secretary of State for War, with reference to Articles 376 and 377, Royal Warrant, Pay, &c., 1881, What length of service will entitle existing Governors of Military Prisons to promotion to first class; and, whether appointments to Military Prisons will in future be made in accordance with the provisions of Article 377?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON: The class refers to the charge, and not to the individual. The condition of receiving the pay of the first class is to be the Governor of a Military Prison of the first class. Article 377 constitutes the rule for future appointments.

CRIME AND OUTRAGE (IRELAND)— OUTRAGE AT DRUMCLIFFE, CO. SLIGO.

MR. SEXTON asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether he has caused inquiry to be made into the conduct of the police and magistrates with regard to an outrage committed on Sunday, the 8th ultimo, at Drumcliffe, in the county Sligo, where five young men, members of the Orange Lodge of Sligo, having first indulged in liquor at the house of a publican named Adams, marched along the highway, wearing Orange sashes, shouted abuse of "Papists" in front of the Catholic Chapel, cursed the Pope, and pursued and fired at a young man named Denis Tighe, a Catholic; why the police allowed, or have not sought to punish, the breach of the Sunday Closing Act which led to this disorder and violence; why Constable Craig, the Constable in charge of the locality, omitted to report the facts to his superiors until after they had been published in the "Sligo Champion" of the 14th instant, six days after the occurrence, when it was no longer possible to conceal them; why Constable Craig, in the summons, charged the act of firing off a revolver at a person as

Mr. Trevelyan

merely a Road Nuisance Offence; why, instead of summoning the five offenders as defendants he summoned two of them as witnesses; why he summoned the man fired at as a defendant, not as a witness; and, why he refrained from summoning several eye-witnesses who could have given conclusive evidence; what notice will be taken of the conduct of Constable Craig; whether the three magistrates who heard the case at Sligo, on the 20th ultimo, dismissed it without prejudice, although several witnesses directly identified the defendants, though the only evidence for the defence was that of two men who had been themselves abettors of the disorderly proceedings, and though the Chairman characterised the "whole affair" as "disgraceful;" and, whether, considering the nature of the evidence, as well as the manner in which the case was managed and presented by Constable Craig, the Government will now order the arrest of all the offenders, and the renewal of proceedings against them?

MR. TREVELYAN: I am informed that a party of young men returning from an Orange meeting at Drumcliffe entered a public-house and had some refreshment. There was no breach of the Licensing Laws, as they were *bona fide* travellers. They subsequently met on the road another party, and a row ensued. Two shots were fired, the Orange party allege from behind a hedge, while the Roman Catholic party allege that they were fired by the Orangemen. The constable followed the usual course of reporting the matter to the district Resident Magistrate and taking his directions. All the parties were summoned, and the evidence was so contradictory that the magistrates could come to no decision, and dismissed both sides without prejudice. [*Laughter from the Irish Members.*] I assure the hon. Members that both sides swore extremely determined. I will not say there was hard swearing, as it would imply that one side have sworn truly and the other side untruly. Every effort is being made to obtain further evidence, and if the charge of firing shots or carrying firearms can be brought home to anyone, they will be made amenable.

MR. O'KELLY: Will the right hon. Gentleman say why the men were not arrested and searched to see whether they had firearms in their possession?

MR. HEALY: I wish to ask whether the houses of these parties were searched for firearms?

MR. TREVELYAN said, the houses of the Orange party had been searched, but no firearms found.

EVICCTIONS (IRELAND)—CO. SLIGO.

MR. SEXTON asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether it is true that a tenant named Thady Timlin, of Culleens, near Ballina, county Sligo, was lately ejected from his holdings for a debt of thirty shillings, one year's rent; whether the ejection was enforced by the landlord, a person named Henigan, accompanied by a bailiff and two policemen, without the presence of the sheriff; whether they seized, in satisfaction of the debt of thirty shillings, the bedclothes belonging to the old couple who lived in the house, and a crop worth about ten pounds; and, whether the proceeding was legal, and what redress is open to the evicted tenant?

MR. TREVELYAN: I have received a telegram stating that Timlin was evicted for non-payment of two years' rent, amounting to £3. The eviction was carried out by a bailiff named Farmer, acting under a deputation from the Sheriff. He was not accompanied by police; but a police patrol happened to pass while the eviction was going on. The bailiff told Timlin that he might regard all his effects as seized; but it does not appear that anything was carried away. If there is any suggestion of illegality in the proceedings it is not for me to decide the point, as the Courts are open to persons feeling aggrieved.

BOARD OF NATIONAL EDUCATION (IRELAND) AND THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND ART — IRISH SCIENCE TEACHERS.

MR. SEXTON asked the Vice President of the Council, Whether any arrangement has been concluded between the Department of Science and Art, South Kensington, and the Board of National Education in Ireland, to ensure to the Irish science teachers payment on the results of the May examinations at an earlier period than heretofore; whether the Department will endeavour to make such payments before the new classes are formed in the beginning of October; whether it is still considered

necessary that claims from schools not in connection with the Commissioners of National Education should be referred to their Board for the purpose of being supervised by the Board's inspector before payment can be made by the Department; and, whether the delay in paying the Irish claims has not been due principally to the time occupied by the Returns passing through the hands of the Marlborough Street officials?

MR. MUNDELLA: The arrangement which I promised the hon. Member last year has already been made, and we hope to make all payments duly claimed before the end of September. No claims from any schools will in future be sent to the National Board. But in cases of doubt, where Returns are inaccurately filled up, we shall avail ourselves of the assistance of the Board. The delay in the past has been largely due to the complex arrangement which has now been superseded, and to the late date at which the schools sent in their claims, and too often to their inaccuracy when they are filled up. I hope we shall secure much greater accuracy and despatch in the future.

NATIONAL DEBT BILL — CONVERSION OF PERPETUAL ANNUITIES — FUNDS IN CHANCERY.

MR. GREGORY asked Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Whether the proposed conversion of perpetual annuities held by the Paymaster General of the Court of Chancery will involve any alteration in the accounts kept by him with the suitors of such Court, or in the orders dealing with the funds to which they are entitled, or whether such suitors will be credited as heretofore with sums of £3 Per Cent. Consolidated Bank Annuities in the books of such Paymaster General?

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (MR. CHILDERS): In reply to the hon. Member, I have to state that the conversion of a portion of Government Stocks held by the Paymaster General of the Court of Chancery on behalf of suitors into Terminable Annuities will not involve any alteration in the accounts kept by him with the suitors, or in the orders dealing with the funds to which they are entitled. The suitors will be credited as heretofore with the Stock to which they are entitled, and with the interest upon such Stock as it accrues due.

Mr. Sexton

NAVY — THE DOCKYARDS — LEADING MEN OF SHIPWRIGHTS.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked the Secretary to the Admiralty, What course they propose to adopt with the present acting leading men of shipwrights in the event of the proposed organization being carried out?

SIR THOMAS BRASSEY (for Mr. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN): All acting leading men of shipwrights will become acting inspectors.

ARMY (AUXILIARY FORCES)—MEDALS FOR VOLUNTEERS—MEDALS FOR LONG SERVICE.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked the Secretary of State for War, Whether it is the intention of Her Majesty's Government to confer a medal for long service on the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates of Her Majesty's Volunteer service; and, if so, when it is proposed to carry that intention into effect?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON: As this Question has been already twice answered, I would refer the hon. Gentleman to my reply on the 20th of April last to the hon. Member for Aylesbury (Mr. George Russell), to the effect that the issue of medals should be restricted to war services, long and meritorious Army service, and the saving of life?

THE IRISH LAND COMMISSION—VALUATION OF HOLDINGS — "DRISCOLL v. HALL."

MR. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether, in hearing evidence in "Driscoll v. Hall," the Land Commissioners heard any witness as to value, or confined themselves to hearing evidence as to a legal point; whether they sent a court valuer; in how many cases have they given decisions in which neither they nor the Sub-Commissioners sent a court valuer, and is it an invariable rule not to give judgment unless they or the Sub-Commissioners have sent a court valuer, or heard evidence as to value; and, is it the fact that the rent fixed is greater than what the middleman pays his own landlord for his tenant's land, and for twice as much land in addition, which is in his own possession?

MR. TREVELYAN, in reply, said, that he had referred to the Land Commission

on the subject, but had not yet received any reply.

CHINA—THE OPIUM TRADE.

MR. RICHARD asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether he can give the House any information respecting the negotiations with China about opium, which have been proceeding since 1876?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: The only information that I am at present able to give my hon. Friend is, that the negotiations, as I stated in this House on April 3, are proceeding, and being carried on; and that proposals have been made by the Chinese Government, to which Her Majesty's Government have signified their readiness, under certain conditions, to agree.

SUEZ CANAL—THE CORRESPONDENCE OF 1872.

BARON HENRY DE WORMS asked Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Whether he had read Colonel Stanton's despatch of the 14th of September 1872, in which he states, with regard to M. de Lesseps' claim to the exclusive right of ship communication between the Mediterranean and the Red Sea—

"A pretension which the Khedive is, however, by no means prepared to admit, as he maintains, and I imagine justly, that no such construction can be attached to the terms of M. de Lesseps' Concession, and that there can be no doubt as to his own right to make canals or carry out any other public work within Egyptian Territory."

before he received the deputation of shipowners on the 13th of July this year, and stated, with reference to the monopoly claimed by M. de Lesseps—

"We (the Government) came to the conclusion that M. de Lesseps, or his Company, had an exclusive right by water through the Isthmus to the Gulf of Suez;"

and, whether he still adheres to that statement?

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (MR. CHILDERS): Yes, Sir. When I met a deputation of shipowners in July last, I was cognizant of the Correspondence in 1872, which related to a claim supposed to have been set up by M. de Lesseps for a monopoly of all waterways between the Mediterranean and the Red Sea, both as against the Khedive and any Company. The question discussed with the deputation was not the power of the Khedive to make

Government Canals in Egypt, but his power to grant a Concession to an English Company for a parallel Canal through the Isthmus, as urged by several deputations and Memorials of shipowners. It was with reference to this proposal that I used words to the effect—but not the exact words—quoted by the hon. Member, and I see no reason to depart from that statement.

WATER SUPPLY (METROPOLIS).

MR. W. M. TORRENS asked the President of the Local Government Board, Whether the rate of mortality in the ten cities and boroughs of the Metropolis is not many degrees less than in several of the large provincial towns of the United Kingdom, whose supply of water is drawn in from other than riverine sources, and the sale of which, to consumers, is altogether in the hands of the Municipal Corporations?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: The facts, according to the best information I can obtain at so short a Notice, are these. Taking the towns in the United Kingdom with a population above 100,000, and excluding those where the supply is furnished by Companies, or where the supply is partly or wholly from rivers, there are, I think, nine towns where, according to the last published Quarterly Return of the Registrar General, the death rate was higher than in London, and four where it was lower.

TRAMWAYS AND PUBLIC COMPANIES (IRELAND) BILL.

MR. SEXTON asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If he will communicate to the House, on the Motion for Second Reading of the Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland) Bill, a statement giving particulars of the sums (if any) advanced by the Irish Land Commission, for the purpose of promoting emigration from Ireland, under Clause 32 of "The Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881;" also of the advances made for the like purpose to Irish boards of guardians by the Commissioners of Public Works, under Clause 18 of "The Arrears of Rent (Ireland) Act, 1882," and of the grants under Clause 20 of the same Act for the like purpose, showing the date and amount of each payment, and the person or persons to whom the same was made?

MR. TREVELYAN: I will communicate substantially to the House what the hon. Member asks for; but I may not be able in the course of a speech to give full details as to dates and particulars of every payment; but I will give a general view and abstract of what has been done. I can see no objection to the hon. Member having the information in the shape of a Return.

MR. SEXTON asked if the Return would be furnished before the second reading of the Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland) Bill?

MR. TREVELYAN said, he could not pledge himself to that; but it would be given as soon as possible.

MR. GIBSON: Would the right hon. Gentleman say when the second reading of the Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland) Bill will be taken?

MR. TREVELYAN: I fear no positive information can be given.

MR. GIBSON: Will it be next week?

MR. GLADSTONE: Oh, certainly.

SOUTH AFRICA—ZULULAND— CETEWAYO.

SIR MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, Whether, if it prove to be the fact that Cetewayo has been compelled to seek British protection in the Reserved Territory, Her Majesty's Government will direct that measures shall be taken to prevent him or his adherents from recommencing war, or using the Reserved Territory as a basis for fresh agitation or military operations in Zululand? The right hon. Gentleman added:—I should like to say that I hope this will not be treated as a hypothetical Question. The suggestions I make are only too probable; and I trust we may hear that Her Majesty's Government do not intend to incur the responsibility of doing nothing to prevent the recurrence of bloodshed in Zululand.

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: Whether the right hon. Gentleman regards this Question as a hypothetical one or not, it does not alter the fact that it is hypothetical, and that it is put in a hypothetical form. Events in Zululand have, no doubt, taken a new and unexpected turn during the last few days. As the right hon. Gentleman knows, we only had information recently; and it is impossible at three hours' Notice, and in

the absence of positive information as to Cetewayo's movements, to say what will be the action of the Government beyond the maintenance of order in the Reserve.

SIR MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH: I feel that three hours' Notice is not long, and I shall repeat the Question another day; but I may remind the hon. Member that prompt action is needed if anything is to be done.

SOUTH AFRICA—THE TRANSVAAL— THE VOLKSRAAD.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, Whether he will communicate to the House the text or substance of the Vote of Censure lately passed by the Transvaal Volksraad upon Her Majesty's Ministers; whether it is a fact that the Transvaal Budget of the year shows a deficit of £200,000; whether he can obtain a summary of the Transvaal Budget; and, whether any time has been fixed for the payment of the £450,000 owing by the Boers to Her Majesty's Exchequer, or any portion of that sum?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: Sir, the substance of the Resolution adopted by the Transvaal Volksraad, which the hon. Member, with rare wit, calls a Vote of Censure on Her Majesty's Ministers, was to the effect that the Raad, having seen that the Imperial Government had resolved to take into its own hands the Government of Basutoland under certain conditions, and considering that such a step requires the confirmation of the Cape Parliament, now in Session, resolves that the said step is considered injurious to the peace, welfare, and future union of South Africa, and that this Resolution should be communicated, among others, to the Cape Parliament and the Imperial Government. The Governor at the Cape asked for instructions as to what he should do with the Resolution; and the Secretary of State, on the 26th of July, directed him to inform the Transvaal Government that, in the absence of any explanation of the reasons for which they adopted the Resolution and sent it to the Imperial Government, they must decline to discuss with the Government of the Transvaal a matter which lies altogether beyond the functions of that Government. As to the second Question, I cannot say what deficit, if any, the Transvaal

Budget of the year shows. We have not the figures; and, although we could obtain a summary of it, there would be no advantage in doing it. As to the last Question, I must refer the hon. Member to a Return which I laid on the Table of the House three weeks ago, from which he will see that the Debt is £380,000, and not £450,000. No time has been fixed for the payment of this sum, as by the terms of the Convention—which the hon. Member should consult—it is to be paid by an Annuity for 25 years of £6 *os.* 9*d.* per cent.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT asked whether one of the conditions of the Convention was not that £100,000 should be repaid last August; and, whether the Resolution of Censure was communicated to the Government through the British Resident in the Transvaal?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: Yes, Sir; the Resolution was communicated through the British Resident. As to the £100,000, I have so often explained the matter in this House that I really cannot repeat it.

SPAIN—SURRENDER OF CERTAIN CUBAN REFUGEES—COLONEL MACEO.

MR. O'KELLY asked, Whether Her Majesty's Government will make any further representations to the Government of Spain in reference to the liberation of Colonel Maceo, who was illegally arrested on British territory, and handed over to the Spanish Government; whether Her Majesty's Government is aware that Colonel Maceo is kept locked up in his room almost constantly, and that, during the four months he has been a prisoner in Pampeluna, he has not been further than fifteen or twenty paces from his cell; whether his family, during their daily visit, are locked up with Colonel Maceo in the cell in which he is confined; whether anyone is allowed to visit Colonel Maceo without the special permission of the Governor of the Citadel; whether the Spanish Government grant only an allowance of six reales (about one shilling and three-pence per day) to Colonel Maceo to enable him to live; and, whether this treatment of Colonel Maceo is in accordance with the promises made to Her Majesty's Government by the Govern-

ment of Spain to treat Colonel Maceo with the consideration due to his rank?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: It is not, at present, the intention of Her Majesty's Government to make any further representation in the case of Colonel Maceo. The Papers presented to Parliament will show that Her Majesty's Government have made every effort to secure him treatment in a manner according to the premises made, and that they have received on this subject satisfactory assurances from the Spanish Government. Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid will, however, continue to watch the case.

MR. O'KELLY: Will the noble Lord say whether any Representatives of Her Majesty's Legation at Madrid have visited Maceo in prison to find out how he is treated; or do they simply depend upon the representations of the Spanish officials? Time after time I have received letters from Maceo denying the statements.

MR. SPEAKER called the hon. Member to Order for introducing controversial matter into a Question.

MR. O'KELLY: Well, Sir, I wish to ask whether the Legation at Madrid has taken the trouble to send someone to find out how Maceo is treated?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: The principal complaint, I believe, relates to the fact that the prison at Pampeluna is an exceedingly cold place. That is a proper complaint. With regard to the other Question, I may mention that Maceo's representations have been forwarded to Her Majesty's Government; and, if the hon. Member wishes it, I will lay them on the Table.

MR. O'KELLY: Will the noble Lord inform us whether Colonel Maceo has been living on 1*s.* 3*d.* a-day for the last nine months; and, whether such treatment was in accordance with the agreement made by the Spanish Government?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: I really do not know whether he is living on 1*s.* 3*d.* a-day or not.

MR. JOSEPH COWEN: But will the noble Lord answer the hon. Member for Roscommon as to whether the Representatives of the British Government at Madrid communicated with Maceo himself?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: I am not aware whether one of the Le-

gation at Madrid has personally been to the prison or not. I do not suppose the hon. Member thinks that Maceo ought to be visited week by week and day by day; and I do not suppose that a single visit would be any guarantee that during a certain period of time the promises of the Spanish Government would be carried out. We have obtained assurances from the Spanish Government, and we have every reason to believe that the Spanish Government are loyally carrying out their promises.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS: But will the noble Lord take pains to get from Maceo himself an account of how he has been treated? That is the question—not whether he will ask any Minister to ask the Spanish Government their opinion.

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: We have already done so, and that communication I have already offered to lay before Parliament.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF: But the House has not been informed whether the statement as to 1s. 3d. a-day is correct?

MR. O'KELLY: I should also like to ask the noble Lord whether from this 1s. 3d. a-day Maceo has not to maintain his family?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: I will forward the Question containing these allegations to Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, and call his attention to it.

SPAIN—MILITARY INSURRECTIONS.

MR. BOURKE: Perhaps the noble Lord can inform the House whether the Foreign Office has any information as to the insurrection which has broken out in Spain?

SIR WILFRID LAWSON: It is a military rebellion; and I should like to know whether the Government intend to send out, as they did to Egypt, Forces to put down that rebellion?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: In reply to the Question, Her Majesty's Government have been informed by the Minister at Madrid of the outbreak, of which accounts have appeared in the newspapers, in the South of Spain towards the Portuguese Frontier. It appears also that there is a military movement in the extreme North of Spain on the Frontier of France; but beyond that little is known.

Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice

MADAGASCAR — ACTION OF THE FRENCH AT TAMATAVE — ISSUE OF PROCLAMATION PROHIBITING LANDING OF FOREIGNERS.

MR. BOURKE asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, If his attention has been called to a telegram in *The Standard* of to-day, which purports to contain the words of a Proclamation from the Superior Commandant at Tamatave, signed Billard, and to the following effect:—

“Considering the attempts of certain officers of Her Majesty's corvette *Dryad* to impede the course of justice, and to obstruct the action of the authorities by substituting themselves for private persons in questions which do not concern them personally; considering the interference which Commander Johnstone, of Her Majesty's corvette *Dryad*, believed himself authorized to exercise in requiring the military authorities to render an account of the execution of their orders—Decrees that access to Tamatave is forbidden to all foreign sailors, soldiers, and officers.”

He further asked, with reference to the appointment of a successor to Consul Pakenham at Tamatave, to what Power that Consul would be accredited, and from whom he would receive his *exequatur*?

MR. ARTHUR ARNOLD asked, If any further information could be given with reference to the important despatches which arrived at the Admiralty yesterday?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: No, Sir; it is not in my power to make any addition to the short statement I made yesterday upon the subject of the despatches. With regard to the Question of the right hon. Gentleman, I may remind him that, so far as I recollect, yesterday I undertook, upon Notice from the hon. Member for Eye (Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett), that I would give an answer on an early day as to the appointment of a successor to Consul Pakenham. I propose to answer that Question when the hon. Member puts it down. But I must remind the right hon. Gentleman that a Consul is never accredited. He is not like a diplomatist, he receives an *exequatur*, but he is not accredited; and therefore the successor of Consul Pakenham will have a Consular and not a diplomatic position, and will not be accredited to anybody. A more important Question which the right hon. Gentleman asks me is whether we have observed this Proclamation

by a gentleman named Billard. In the first place, there is some uncertainty as to this, because *The Times* contains two Proclamations by some Commandant or gentleman occupying some position in Tamatave, and relating to entirely different matters; and this question is so mixed up with the question mentioned by the hon. Member for Salford (Mr. Arnold) that I think it would be better to reserve any answer to it until the Prime Minister, myself, or someone else on behalf of the Foreign Office, gives a reply.

PARLIAMENT—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL appealed to the Prime Minister to say whether he could give any indication when time was likely to be found for the Local Government Board (Scotland) Bill, and especially whether any Irish Bills were to be given precedence over it; because he knew that the Representatives from Ireland had been bad boys, while the Scotch Members had been on their good behaviour.

MR. GLADSTONE said, he was very sorry that comparisons of that kind, which tended to provoke feelings of retaliation, should be introduced into a Question of this sort with regard to the order of Public Business. He could not at that moment say anything about the Local Government Board (Scotland) Bill; but he hoped on Monday some arrangement would be made with reference to it. With regard to the Evening Sitting, he hoped they might be allowed to take it, and make all the progress possible with the Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) Bill, and the Parliamentary Registration (Ireland) Bill. Yesterday there was only one Motion down on the Paper—that of the hon. Member for Salford (Mr. Arnold), who kindly offered to withdraw it in favour of Government Business. Since then, however, a crop of five others had sprung up; and he would appeal to hon. Members in whose names those Motions stood to give way in deference to the general sense of the House and the necessities of the case. Should they not be able to finish the Parliamentary Registration (Ireland) Bill to-night they would be precluded from taking it to-morrow, other Business having been appointed. On Monday

they were bound to apply themselves to the Business of Supply, and the first day at disposal would be Tuesday, when it would be made the first Order.

MR. HEALY announced that he should not proceed with his Motion, which stood second on the Paper.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE appealed to the hon. Members for Eye (Mr. Ashmead - Bartlett), for Westminster (Lord Algernon Percy), and for Preston (Mr. Tomlinson), who had Motions on the Paper for the Evening Sitting, to withdraw them.

MR. ARTHUR ARNOLD, MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT, MR. TOMLINSON, LORD ALGERNON PERCY, and MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR agreed not to proceed with their Motions.

EGYPT—INLAND NAVIGATION AND DRAINAGE.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, if his attention had been called to the serious news published in *The Standard* of that morning, to the effect that the Canal system in Lower Egypt having been allowed to fall into a ruinous state, it was doubly difficult to combat the inroads of the Nile; and, further, that the utter worthlessness of the whole Governmental machinery in Egypt was fully known?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: I have already answered this Question. I have reminded the House that the Egyptian Government had at its disposal the skill of a distinguished engineering officer, Colonel Moncrieff, who was specially charged with this matter.

BANKRUPTCY BILL—THE IRISH CLAUSES.

MR. GREGORY asked the President of the Board of Trade, What were his intentions with regard to the Bankruptcy Bill, which was set down for Saturday? If the clauses relating to Ireland were not added the course of the Bill would be perfectly simple; but if they were introduced they would unquestionably lead to controversy. They would hardly get through it at the Saturday Sitting, and a day next week—perhaps more than one—would have to be devoted to it. He expressed a hope that the Bill would be relieved from the incubus now placed upon it.

MR. GIBSON said, he had heard a rumour that it was under the consideration of the President of the Board of Trade to make some modification in the Irish clauses to the extent of applying the local bankruptcy system to Ireland, and of not going on with the other Irish clauses. He mentioned the matter in case the right hon. Gentleman might wish to say something about it.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN: It will be in the recollection of the House that originally we proposed that the clauses relating to Ireland should be taken on the Report stage. But objection, deserving of weight, was taken to that, on the ground that it would be a strong measure to ask the House to extend the scope of the Bill in an important respect without having those clauses considered in Committee. Yielding to that objection, what I propose to do is, when the Bill is called on to-morrow, immediately to move that it be re-committed for the purpose of receiving the Irish clauses; and, no doubt, upon that Motion it would be perfectly legitimate for any Gentleman who objects to the extension of the Bill to Ireland to discuss that as a question of principle. I would venture, with the permission of the House, to go a step further, and to make an appeal to hon. Members who take that view, while they should state fully, as they are entitled to do, their objections to the principle, yet, if the decision of the House is against them, and if it should appear, as I think it will, that there is an almost universal concurrence of opinion amongst the representatives of commercial classes in Ireland that this Bill should be extended as proposed, that, at all events, their subsequent opposition on the stage of Committee will be confined to as narrow statement as is consistent with anything like fair discussion. [MR. HEALY: Hear, hear!] I find to-day that there are 30 pages of Amendments on the Paper, and that 255 of these Amendments stand in the names of six Members from Ireland. Now, there is no doubt, if these Amendments are to be pressed with all the pertinacity of which hon. Members from Ireland are capable, at this stage of the Session, it clearly will be almost impossible for the Government to do what they are anxious to do—namely, to give effect to what they believe to be the wishes of the people of Ireland. If so, the whole responsibility must rest

with the hon. Members who bring about that result. I hope there is no such intention; and that, the principle having once been decided, the discussion of the details will be confined within very moderate limits.

EGYPT—THE DEBATE ON THURSDAY. EXPLANATION.

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: MR. Speaker, in one of the morning papers to-day I observe the statement put into my mouth that I had pledged the Government to withdraw from Egypt at a definite time—namely, in the month of November next; and on turning to the report of my words contained in that newspaper, I find a sentence upon which the misrepresentation of my words is based. I need hardly say, in the presence of many who heard my statement, that I used no words of the kind. The sentence, which has been mis-reported in two newspapers, but which in all the other newspapers I have seen is correctly reported, is as follows:—I said—

"That Sir Evelyn Wood had expressed the opinion that in the month of November next he would, with one regiment of Cavalry, one battery of Artillery, and eight battalions of Infantry, be able to answer for the tranquillity of the capital."

The word "capital" has been mis-reported "country," and it is upon that mistake that the misrepresentation has been based.

WATER SUPPLY (METROPOLIS).

In reply to MR. WARTON,

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE said, that he had at hand no detailed figures respecting the quality of the London water supply; but there was no doubt that the analysis had shown different degrees of purity in the water of the different Companies.

PUBLIC HEALTH (METROPOLIS)—THE REGENT'S CANAL.

In reply to MR. MONK,

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE said, that the Chairman of Committees had, at the instance partly of the Local Government Board and partly of the local authorities of the districts through which this Canal passes, induced the Canal Company, he believed, either to introduce a clause in this Bill, or to make independent provision with regard to the purity of the Canal.

PARLIAMENT — BUSINESS OF THE
HOUSE — MEDICAL ACT AMEND-
MENT BILL.

DR. LYONS said, there was a semi-official statement in *The Daily News* of this morning that the Government intended to proceed with this Bill on Saturday. It would be interesting to the Medical Bodies in Ireland if the Vice President of the Council would state whether that was correct?

MR. MUNDELLA, in reply, said, that the paragraph spoken of was not semi-official, and he knew nothing of it. The Government, he added, should require to see their way before they proceeded with any of the Bills that had come down from the House of Lords.

EGYPT—INLAND NAVIGATION AND
DRAINAGE.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT, referring to the statement of the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs that he had already answered the Question respecting the state of the Canals in Egypt, said, that the noble Lord had not done so; and he wished, therefore, to repeat the Question.

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: I have answered the Question.

ORDER OF THE DAY.

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS (COR-
RUPT AND ILLEGAL PRACTICES)
BILL.—[BILL 265.]

(*Mr. Attorney General, Sir William Harcourt,
Mr. Chamberlain, Sir Charles Dilke,
Mr. Solicitor General.*)

CONSIDERATION.

Further Proceeding on Consideration,
as amended, resumed.

Clause 8 (Procurement of voting by unqualified voters to be illegal practice).

Amendment proposed,

In page 4, line 97, after the word "practice," to insert the words "Any person who before or during an election knowingly publishes any false statement of the withdrawal of a candidate at such election for the purpose of promoting or procuring the election of another candidate shall be guilty of an illegal practice."—(*Mr. Gibson.*)

Question again proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. HEALY thought it should be a candidate who had been "put in nomination."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (SIR HENRY JAMES) said, that would leave the door open to false representations before the nomination.

MR. TOMLINSON said, the clause would not reach the issue of forged placards by one Party recommending the voters of the other Party to plump to the disadvantage of their own candidates.

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE said, there were many reprehensible practices which it was difficult to reach by legislation.

MR. GORST thought the Amendment a dangerous one, and one that certainly should not be needlessly or thoughtlessly inserted in the Bill. It would lay the candidate open to the charge of an illegal practice through the verbal statement of an enthusiastic supporter. He hoped the Amendment would be withdrawn.

MR. H. H. FOWLER pointed out that the Ballot Act provided how a candidate might be withdrawn, and this must take place several days before the election. The Amendment was therefore unnecessary, and he thought it was dangerous. If the Attorney General inserted words providing that an offence under the clause should be summarily punishable before a magistrate he would not object so strongly to it; but he would prefer that it were withdrawn.

MR. GIBSON said, he had no dogmatic opinion as to the phraseology of the Amendment; but he thought it would be wiser to let it stand in its present shape. It was calculated to meet a real grievance, because they all knew that one of the greatest abuses and scandals of their Parliamentary electoral system was the publishing and circulation of false statements. The question was not thoughtlessly brought forward, as it was fully considered in Committee, and the Amendment had been on the Paper for three weeks.

MR. RYLANDS said, the Amendment was very immature, and the more he heard of it the less he liked it.

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (SIR FARRER HERSHELL) pointed out that the Amendment was simply to meet the case of a man who made the statement that there was to be a withdrawal, he

knowing full well that the statement was false.

MR. LEWIS said, the rumour might be spread upon the day of the election, when it would be too late to contradict it, or it would have to be done at an expense that would carry the candidate beyond the amount allowed under the Bill. He thought the Bill would open up all the avenues of political chicanery, which were as bad as all the forms of political corruption which could be devised.

MR. CALLAN said, he was surprised the purists in the House objected to the Amendment, because its object was simply to penalize the conduct of any person who knowingly published a false statement.

BARON DE FERRIERES supported the Amendment.

Amendment agreed to.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (SIR HENRY JAMES) proposed to add to the clause the following Proviso:—

"Provided that a candidate shall not be liable, nor shall his election be voided, for any illegal practice under this section committed by his agent other than his election agent."

The consequence of an illegal practice by any other person would be a fine upon such person.

Amendment agreed to.

Amendment proposed, to the said proposed Amendment, as amended, after the word "candidate," to insert the words "who had been put in nomination."—(*Mr. Healy.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Amendment to Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn.*

Amendment, as amended, *agreed to.*

Clause, as amended, *agreed to.*

Clause 10 (Report of election court respecting illegal practice, and punishment of candidate found guilty by such report. 31 & 32 Vict. c. 125).

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS moved, in page 5, line 35, to leave out "agents," and insert "election agent." He said, that if somebody or other should pay a small sum to take a voter to the poll the candidate ought not to be subjected to the severer penalties. He should be

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content that the candidate should lose his seat.

Amendment proposed, in page 5, line 35, to leave out the word "agents," and insert the words "election agent,"—(*Sir R. Assheton Cross*)—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the word 'agent' stand part of the Bill."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (SIR HENRY JAMES) said, he was sorry he could not accept the Amendment, because if it were accepted the maximum penalty was gone. The chairman of the candidate's committee might spend a large sum corruptly, and the candidate might go down at the next election and get the benefit of the corrupt expenditure.

Question put, and *agreed to.*

Clause 13 (Employment of hackney carriages, or of carriages and horses kept for hire).

On Motion of The ATTORNEY GENERAL, the following Amendments were made:—Page 6, line 40, leave out "provided that nothing in this section," and insert "nothing in this Act;" page 7, line 1, leave out "by;" page 7, line 2, at end of clause insert as a new subsection:—

"No person shall be liable to pay any duty or to take out a licence for any carriage by reason only of such carriage being used without payment or promise of payment for the conveyance of electors to or from the poll at an election."

Clause, as amended, *agreed to.*

Clause 15 (Certain expenditure to be illegal payment).

MR. WARTON moved to leave out the clause. He asked what was the use of making things serious which were not really serious? Every man liked to show that he was not ashamed of his Party, and therefore he liked to display a bit of ribbon or a cockade; and what harm was there in that?

Amendment proposed, in page 7, line 9, to leave out the Clause.—(*Mr. Warton.*)

Question proposed, "That the words 'No payment or' stand part of the Bill."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (SIR HENRY JAMES) said, that the clause had been fully discussed before.

Question put, and *agreed to.*

Amendment proposed, in page 7, line 11, after the word "torches," to insert the word "fireworks."—(*Mr. Tomlinson.*)

Question proposed, "That the word 'fireworks' be there inserted."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, he would not go further than "torches."

Question put, and *negatived*.

Amendment proposed,

In page 7, line 19, after the word "law," to insert the words—"No payment or contract for payment shall be made to or with any returning officer in excess of the amounts claimable as security in Schedule Three to the Act thirty-eight and thirty-nine Victoria, chapter eighty-four. Any payment made to a returning officer in excess of the amounts set out in the said Schedule shall, if such payment be made in pursuance of any claim or demand made by such returning officer, be an illegal practice on the part of such returning officer, but shall not affect the validity of the election."—(*Mr. Labouchere.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) resisted the Amendment, pointing out the injustice of preventing a Returning Officer from being repaid for excess of expenditure where a candidate was willing to repay.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS supported the Amendment, which he thought would be useful in keeping down election expenses. He would like to know why a candidate should ever be asked to pay more than the law allowed?

MR. RYLANDS thought the Returning Officer should be kept within strict limits in his expenditure.

MR. WHITLEY defended Returning Officers as a most honourable class of men. They had to find the money with which the polling booths were provided, and they ought to be sure that their expenditure would be repaid.

MR. T. D. SULLIVAN said, he would be in favour of the Amendment; but he could not find who was to put the law in motion.

SIR HENRY HOLLAND said, that the Returning Officer could, before the election, calculate to a nicety his expenses, and could take care to keep within the Schedule; and he would do so if the candidate was forbidden to pay. Returning Officers were, no doubt,

honourable men; but there were cases in which they might be tempted to favour candidates from whom they knew they could get their money. It would, however, be better to make the receipt of money in excess of the Schedule by the Returning Officer the offence, instead of the payment by the candidate. He proposed to amend the Amendment by substituting "the receipt by" the Returning Officer in lieu of "any payment made to."

Amendment proposed to the said proposed Amendment, to leave out the words "any payment made to," and insert the words "the receipt by."—(*Sir Henry Holland.*)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the said proposed Amendment."

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (Sir FARRER HERSHELL) said, the question was this—Were they going to forbid payments which were not excessive? If they were satisfied that the Returning Officer had done his duty, and had done no more than the law required, and if the payments were in excess of what was allowed by the Schedule, were they going to say that that Returning Officer was not to get back that money? The Amendment did not do that. His objection was that the Amendment would prove an utter sham.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, that the Amendment would make Returning Officers get the work done as cheaply as possible, whereas now there was no motive for economy.

MR. H. H. FOWLER, in supporting the Amendment, said, the expenses of the Returning Officer were practically four. These consisted of the cost of printing and issuing notices, of obtaining polling booths, of employing the officers under him, and of his own professional charges for the trouble he was put to in the matter. The Schedule to the Act of 1875 was, he thought, sufficient to meet all expenses. With reference to the cost of polling booths, it was not the case, as had been suggested by an hon. Member, that a Returning Officer could be called upon to provide a house; because there was now in every parish in England such an institution as an elementary school, and such schools were, by Act of Parliament, placed at the disposal of the Returning

Officer. If a Returning Officer were, by some extraordinary concatenation of circumstances, driven to put up one of the old-fashioned polling booths, the Schedule was amply sufficient to cover the cost. Where the shoe pinched was really in regard to the Returning Officer. The latter might say, before an election commenced—"I cannot carry on this election for the figure allowed by the Act of Parliament. Will you (the candidate) object to pay me so much more?" It was all very well to say that a candidate was weak-kneed if he acceded to this request; but he was placed in a very awkward position; and he would generally say—"Spend £200 or £300 more, and be very pleasant and agreeable with the Returning Officer," because it was very important, on the election day, to be on good terms with the Returning Officer. It was always an important question as to how the election was fixed with regard to the position of the working men, for it might be arranged for such a day that a large number of the working men electors would be practically disfranchised. The Returning Officer had, therefore, very great power with the candidates, and had no right to place any of them at a disadvantage. The scale on which the Returning Officer was allowed to make his charges was most liberal; and he could not see why the Attorney General should object to the proposal, especially with the Amendment which had been proposed by the hon. Member for Midhurst (Sir Henry Holland). If necessary, he was prepared to move an Amendment himself, in order to make it quite plain that the clause was only to refer to money received by the Returning Officer in excess of that granted under the Schedule. He did hope the Attorney General would reconsider the matter, and would admit that they were bound to prevent any pressure being put upon a candidate with respect to the expenses of the Returning Officer.

MR. GORST said, the Amendment before the House was one which would fail, and, in fact, spoil the Bill. He suggested that the discussion would arise more conveniently on the Schedule.

MR. MITCHELL HENRY said, they ought to take care that the Returning

Officer could not make charges as he pleased. Good things were put in the way of the friends of the Returning Officer, and the Amendment would only facilitate corruption.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, they had already discussed the principle of the Bill. If the House allowed the Amendment to be withdrawn, they could then discuss the proposal of the hon. and learned Member for Chatham (Mr. Gorst) to insert it in the Schedule. If the House was in earnest, any illegal practice on the part of others should be an illegal practice on the part of the candidate also.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS complained of the tendency to scatter "illegal practices" all over the Bill instead of grouping them together.

MR. LABOUCHERE said, he was prepared to withdraw his Amendment, on the understanding that the Attorney General would not oppose it when they came to the Schedule. Although he had the greatest confidence in the hon. and learned Gentleman, he could not forget that he was a lawyer; and he did not want the matter adjourned merely until such time as the Government had a majority. At present he (Mr. Labouchere) had a majority, and, if necessary, he would press for a Division in favour of the Amendment of the hon. Baronet (Sir Henry Holland).

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (Sir FARRER HERSCHELL) remarked, that the desire of the Government to bring the proposal into a Schedule limiting the Returning Officer's charges was a proof of their sincerity; for the Amendment, as it stood, would, in practice, come to nothing.

Question put, and *negatived*.

Words *inserted* in proposed Amendment.

MR. CALLAN moved further to amend the Amendment by omitting the words—

"If such payment be made in pursuance of any claim or demand made by such returning officer."

Amendment *agreed to*.

Question put,

"That the words 'No payment or contract for payment shall be made to or with any returning officer in excess of the amounts claimable as security in Schedule Three to the Act

thirty-eight and thirty-nine Victoria chapter eighty-four. The receipt by a returning officer of any payment in excess of the amounts set out in the said Schedule shall be an illegal practice on the part of such returning officer, but shall not affect the validity of the election, be there inserted."

The House divided:—Ayes 71; Noes 93; Majority 22.—(Div. List, No. 272.)

Clause 16 (Certain employment to be illegal).

Amendment proposed,

In page 7, line 23, after the word "what-ever," to insert the words "except for any purposes or capacities mentioned in the first or second parts of the First Schedule to this Act or."—(Mr. Gorst.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, he would accept the Amendment.

MR. LEWIS objected to the Amendments on the ground that it would produce the most dire confusion in reference to the duties of clerks at elections. The hon. and learned Member for Chatham seemed to be running a heat with the Attorney General in endeavouring to make the Bill as obnoxious and perilous as possible. He supposed it was the revulsion from his former occupation that had driven him completely to the other pole; and he was following this course to show how horrified he was at what he had endured when he managed the elections of his Party.

Question put.

The House divided:—Ayes 124; Noes 32; Majority 92.—(Div. List, No. 273.)

MR. HEALY moved to add at the end of the clause—

"Every bill, placard, or poster having reference to an election shall bear upon the face thereof the name and address of the printer and publisher thereof; and any person printing, publishing, or posting, or causing to be printed, published, or posted, any such bill, placard, or poster as aforesaid, which fails to bear upon the face thereof the name and address of the printer and publisher, shall, if he is the candidate, or the election agent of the candidate, be guilty of an illegal practice, and if he is not the candidate, or the election agent of a candidate, shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) accepted the sub-section, and undertook to put the Proviso in its

proper place before the Bill went to the other House.

Amendment agreed to.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 17 (Use of committee room in house for sale of intoxicating liquor or refreshment, or in elementary school, to be illegal hiring).

Amendment proposed, to leave out the Clause.—(Mr. Tomlinson.)

Question proposed, "That the words 'Any premises on which' stand part of the Bill."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, the clause was discussed for three days, and was carried by large majorities. He therefore hoped the House would not strike it out now.

Question put, and agreed to.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS (for Lord GEORGE HAMILTON) moved the following Proviso to the clause:—

"Provided, That nothing in this section shall apply to any part of such premises which is ordinarily let for the purpose of chambers or offices or the holding of public meetings or of arbitrations, if such part has a separate entrance and no direct communication with any part of the premises on which any intoxicating liquor or refreshment is sold or supplied as aforesaid."

Amendment agreed to.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 19 (Report exonerating candidate in certain cases of corrupt and illegal practice by agents).

Amendment proposed,

In page 8, line 35, to leave out from the word "shall," to the word "Act," inclusive, and insert the words "by reason of the offences mentioned in such further report be void, but the candidate shall not be subject to any incapacity under this Act,"—(Mr. Jesse Collings.)

—instead thereof.

Question, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Bill," put, and agreed to.

Clause 22 (Nomination of deputy election agent as sub-agent).

Amendment proposed, in page 10, line 23, after the word "shall," to insert the words "send or."—(Mr. Healy.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. HEALY moved, in page 10, at end, to add—

"Nothing in this section shall be taken to restrict the existing power of any candidate to appoint volunteer unpaid agents in any polling booth."

In Ireland they found the sheriff obstructing them in every case where they had not chapter and verse to confront him with. In Ireland they never paid anybody at elections now; but if it was not plainly stated in the Act, the Irish sheriffs might insist that they should pay these men.

Amendment proposed,

In page 10, line 33, after the word "same," to insert the words "Nothing in this section shall be taken to restrict the existing power of any candidate to appoint volunteer unpaid agents in any polling booth."—(*Mr. Healy.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, he did not think the hon. Member for Monaghan might be afraid of the consequences stated, as the matter was clearly in the Bill already.

MR. HEALY remarked, that the Bill would only last for a year, and if they found any difficulty with Irish sheriffs, he hoped that the Attorney General would remember the point. He begged to withdraw the Amendment.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, he would bear the point in mind.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause 23 (Office of election agent and sub-agent).

Amendment proposed,

In page 10, line 35, to leave out all the words from the end of the last Amendment to the word "district," in line 36.—(*Mr. Healy.*)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Bill."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause 24 (Making of contracts through election agent).

Amendment proposed,

In page 11, line 8, after the word "election," to insert the words "but no such polling agent, clerk, or messenger shall, because of any such appointment, be deemed to be an agent of the candidate for any other purpose than that declared in the said appointment."—(*Mr. Callan.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Amendment proposed, in page 11, line 9, "That Clause 24 be divided into two Clauses."—(*Mr. Warton.*)

Question proposed, "That the said Clause be divided into two Clauses."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause 25 (Payment of expenses through election agent).

Amendment proposed,

In page 11, line 23, after the word "election," to insert the words "or for the purpose during such election of promoting or procuring the election of any candidate."—(*Sir R. Assheton Cross.*)

Question, "That those words be there inserted," put, and *negatived*.

MR. HEALY moved, in page 11, line 25, to leave out from "sub-agent" to "candidate," in line 28, the effect of which was that the agent of a candidate should hand to the sheriff the necessary election expenses at the time of nomination. Now, if the agent lost his train that day the candidate would be done for; and he, therefore, moved to omit the provision.

Amendment proposed, in page 11, line 25, to leave out from the words "sub-agent" to the word "candidate," in line 28.—(*Mr. Healy.*)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Bill."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, he would accept the Amendment, as, from what the hon. Member for Monaghan said, the provision might give rise to considerable inconvenience under certain circumstances.

Amendment *agreed to*.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS moved, in page 11, line 40, after the word "practice," to insert the words—

"Any person making any payment for the purpose during such election of promoting or procuring the election of any candidate otherwise than through the election agent shall personally be guilty of an illegal payment."

The object of his Amendment was to prevent outside associations from interfering in the electoral rights of a con-

(b) If it appears to an election court or election commissioners that a licensed person has knowingly suffered any bribery or treating in reference to any election to take place upon his licensed premises, such court or commissioners (subject to the provisions of this Act as to a person having an opportunity of being heard by himself and producing evidence before being reported) shall report the same, and whether such person obtained a certificate of indemnity or not it shall be the duty of the Director of Public Prosecutions to bring such report before the licensing justices from whom or on whose certificate the licensed person obtained his licence, and such licensing justices shall cause such report to be entered in the proper register of licences.

(c) Where an entry is made in the register of licences of any such conviction or report respecting any licensed person as above in this section mentioned, it shall be taken into consideration by the licensing justices in determining whether they will or will not grant to such person the renewal of his licence or certificate, and may be a ground, if the justices think fit, for refusing such renewal."

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Amendment proposed to proposed Amendment, in sub-section (b), line 3, before the word "election," to insert the word "Parliamentary."—(*Mr. War-ton.*)

Question proposed, "That the word 'Parliamentary' be there inserted."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Words *inserted*.

Amendment proposed, in page 19, line 28, after the word "to," to insert the words "the insertion of any name in."—(*Mr. Gorst.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 35 (List in register of voters of persons incapacitated for voting by corrupt or illegal practices, &c.)

MR. GIBSON (for Mr. W. H. SMITH) moved, in page 20, line 11, after the word "published," to insert the words—

"(b.) The registration officer shall immediately after such report as been made, put a mark against every such person so convicted in the register of voters, and any per-

name such a mark shall have been placed shall not be allowed to vote at any election taking place on the same register."

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, that the Amendment would give the Registration Officer judicial power, without calling upon the elector to show cause or even identifying him. That proposition was contrary to all law.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause *agreed to*.

Clause 37 (Withdrawal of election petition).

MR. RAIKES moved, in page 22, line 2, after "petition," to insert—

"And shall have power to examine upon oath any person or persons whose evidence the Public Prosecutor or his assistant, or other representative, may consider material."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) accepted the Amendment.

Amendment *agreed to*.

MR. RAIKES moved, in page 22, line 3, to leave out Sub-section (6), and insert—

"In every case of the withdrawal of an election petition the security shall, subject to any order made by the Court for the payment of the costs, or of any part of the costs, of the sitting Member or Members, become and be absolutely forfeited to the Crown."

The clause as it stood only proposed forfeiture where the Court was satisfied that the withdrawal was the result of an improper contract. The Amendment would be a protection against vexatious Petitions; and he believed that owing to the ambiguity of the law Petitions would be more numerous than they had ever been before.

Question proposed, "That Sub-section (6) stand part of the Bill."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, he could not accept the Amendment. He thought it would be rather hard that a person who had presented a Petition *bond fide*, and afterwards found that he had been misinformed, should, on withdrawing it, have to forfeit the deposit.

MR. WARTON hoped that, in the interests of purity of election, the Amendment would be pressed to a Division.

MR. NEWDEGATE considered that the Attorney General's resistance to the Amendment was in direct contravention of his declarations regarding the object of the Bill.

Question put.

The House *divided*:—Ayes 100; Noes 21: Majority 79.—(Div. List, No. 274.)

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

It being ten minutes before Seven of the clock, the Further Consideration, as amended, stood adjourned till *this day*.

The House suspended its Sitting at Seven of the clock.

The House resumed its Sitting at Nine of the clock.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS (CORRUPT AND ILLEGAL PRACTICES) BILL.—[BILL 265.]

(*Mr. Attorney General, Sir William Harcourt,
Mr. Chamberlain, Sir Charles Dilke,
Mr. Solicitor General.*)

CONSIDERATION. THIRD READING.

Further Proceeding on Consideration, as amended, *resumed*.

Clause 38 (Continuation of trial of election petition).

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) moved, in page 22, line 28, to leave out from "trial" to the end of the clause, and insert—

"Or of all the proceedings in relation or incidental to the petition, the authority of the said judges shall continue for the purpose of the said trial and proceedings."

Amendment *agreed to*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 40 (Power to election court to order payment by county or borough or individual of costs of election petition).

On Motion of The ATTORNEY GENERAL, the following Amendments were made:—Page 25, line 26, leave out from beginning of line to "the High," and insert "in;" page 25, line 26, after "shall," insert "in principle, and so far as practicable;" page 25, line 29, leave out from "expenses" to end of line 30, and insert "on a higher scale than

would be allowed in any action; cause, or matter in the High Court."

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 42 (Removal of incapacity on proof that it was procured by perjury. 31 and 32 Vict. c. 125. s. 47).

On Motion of The ATTORNEY GENERAL, the following Amendment was made:—Page 26, line 9, leave out from "accordingly" to the end of the clause.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 43 (Amendment of law as to polling districts and polling places).

MR. H. H. FOWLER moved, in page 26, line 25, to leave out Sub-section (3), and insert—

"The power of dividing a borough into polling districts vested in a local authority by the Representation of the People Act, 1867, and the enactments amending the same may be exercised by such local authority from time to time, and as often as the authority think fit, and the said power shall be deemed to include the power of altering any polling district, and the said local authority shall from time to time, where necessary for the purpose of carrying this section into effect, divide the borough into polling districts in such manner that—

(a.) Every elector resident in the borough, if other than one hereinafter mentioned, shall be enabled to poll within a distance not exceeding one mile from his residence, so nevertheless that a polling district need not be constituted containing less than three hundred electors; and

(b.) Every elector resident in the boroughs of East Retford, Shoreham, Cricklade, Much Wenlock, and Aylesbury, shall be enabled to poll within a distance not exceeding three miles from his residence, so nevertheless that a polling district need not be constituted containing less than one hundred electors.

So much of section five of the Ballot Act, 1872, and the enactments amending the same as in force and is not repealed by this Act shall apply as if the same were incorporated in this section."

Amendment *agreed to*.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR moved, in page 26, line 28, after "county," to insert—

"In the county of the town of Galway there shall be a polling station at Barna, and at such other places within the Parliamentary borough of Galway as the town commissioners may appoint."

Galway had always been treated exceptionally under the electoral law, because there were no wards in it, and a large part of the constituency was rural. Barna was four miles outside the town, and contained a few hundred voters.

For many generations the candidates had been allowed to supply cars. For these reasons, he hoped the Attorney General would accept the Amendment.

Amendment proposed,

In page 26, line 28, after the word "county," to insert the words "In the county of the town of Galway there shall be a polling station at Barna, and at such other places within the Parliamentary borough of Galway as the town commissioners may appoint." — (*Mr. T. P. O'Connor.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) expressed his readiness to accept the Amendment; but invited objections, if there were any, to the proposal from Irish Members. Galway had always been treated as being in a peculiar position. It was not divided into wards, nor into district polling places.

MR. LEWIS said, his borough—Londonderry—was in precisely the same position, because a large part of it was rural. He trusted the Attorney General would be consistent, and allow the principle of this proposal to be applied to the various constituencies generally. Otherwise, he hoped the Amendment would not be passed.

MR. GIBSON said, he did not object to every facility being given to the voters of the county of the town of Galway; but, unquestionably, the conduct of the Attorney General was remarkable. The principle was equally applicable to Waterford and Cork. He objected to one isolated provision relating to one Irish borough being inserted in the middle of the English section of the Bill.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES), while holding that Galway had always been an exception amongst all the other Irish boroughs, requested the hon. Member for Galway to bring up the Amendment on the Irish section of the Bill.

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 44 (Election commissioners not to inquire into elections before the passing of this Act).

MR. RAIKES moved to leave out the clause, on the ground that, as amended, it proposed to grant an amnesty for all

electoral offences committed before the passing of the Bill. Had the Bill contained this clause when originally introduced it would not have reached the Committee stage; and if the clause were allowed to remain in it the title of the Bill should be "A Bill for the absolute condonation of corrupt practices." The Government seemed anxious to screen some of their Colleagues.

Amendment proposed, in page 26, to leave out the Clause.—(*Mr. Raikes.*)

Question proposed, "That the words 'notwithstanding the provisions of the Act' stand part of the Bill."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) regretted the spirit in which the right hon. Gentleman had dealt with this clause. He imputed to the Government that they wished it passed to screen their Colleague. The clause was not inserted by the Government; it was brought up at the suggestion of the hon. and learned Member for Plymouth (Mr. E. Clarke). It was for weeks on the Paper—it was acquiesced in by the right hon. Member for South-West Lancashire (Sir R. Assheton Cross), and was read a second time without challenge. It was, therefore, wholly unjust of the right hon. Gentleman to charge the Government with introducing the clause in their own interests. The fact was that in some cases the defeated party in an election dared not petition; and if they were successful in the next election, their opponents were in the same position. Thus a vicious continuity of corruption was established, which the clause was intended to break.

MR. EDWARD CLARKE confessed that he looked upon the clause as one of the most valuable parts of the Bill; and he was sorry that his right hon. Friend should have moved his Amendment in the temper which he had displayed. He (Mr. E. Clarke) cared not for corruption in the past. All he aimed at was to prevent corruption in the future. There were many boroughs which were not only corrupt in themselves, but were the cause of corruption in others. In them corruption was kept alive by the reluctance of men to petition, as they knew their conduct in the past would be inquired into. The Attorney General was right in saying that the suggestion first came from him — although the final terms were settled by an hon. Member

opposite. The clause would do more to establish purity of election than all the pains and penalties which the Bill contained. The Bill would be grievously impaired if the clause were omitted, and he hoped that the Government would stand fast by it.

MR. R. N. FOWLER denied that the clause had been accepted unanimously, because he had never assented to it, having said "No" when it was put from the Chair, and only abstained from pressing his objection on account of the lateness of the hour. They all knew there were certain boroughs which were notoriously corrupt. At the last General Election those boroughs returned 11 Liberal and only three Conservative Members, so that the supporters of the Government had the predominance in corruption; and hence the desire of the Attorney General to procure for those boroughs an act of indemnity in regard to the past.

SIR HARDINGE GIFFARD considered that when on the Report of the Judges the House voted the appointment of a Commission to inquire into the electoral history of a borough the inquiry would be incomplete unless they examined into the circumstances attending the elections previous to that one which was the original subject of inquiry by the Judges. The impression abroad was that the object of hon. Members was not so much to secure purity of election in the future, as to protect themselves and their pockets. The clause would prevent the whole truth being ascertained, and therefore he should oppose it.

MR. LEWIS said, he hoped the hon. and learned Member for Plymouth (Mr. E. Clarke) would allow him to say—as he seemed disposed to lay down the law—that his experience of elections, both as a Member of that House and of the Bar was slight. While they laid down the most rigid restrictions with regard to the use of ribbons or torches, they were folding themselves in a cloak of virtue, and declaring that there should be no inquiry into the past. The argument of the Attorney General that the liability to such inquiry would prevent the presentation of Petitions was disproved by the cases of Gloucester, Boston, and Canterbury. The clause meant that every Member of the House would whitewash himself in respect of the

past. He believed in the professed object of the Bill, but not in its structure. The Bill was not unconnected with Party purposes, and would have been framed on different lines if it had been simply designed for effecting purity of election.

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (Sir FARRER HERSCHELL) said, he trusted that many hon. Members opposite would share with him the regret with which he listened to the closing observations of the hon. Member for Londonderry (Mr. Lewis). He confessed that, for his part, he did not give the greatest credit for a desire for purity of election to those who were always insulting others with respect to their motives. When the hon. Member said this Bill was not unconnected with Party objects he forgot that his insinuation was made in reference to a proposal which originally came from the other side of the House, and was supported by the hon. and learned Member for Plymouth (Mr. E. Clarke); and he did not hesitate to tell the hon. Member that he insulted them when he said that, by accepting an Amendment from the Opposition, which they professed to believe would advance the object of purity of election, they did so from Party motives, and to screen themselves. ["Oh!"] If the hon. Member would not feel insulted by such an accusation, he did not envy him the bluntness of his moral feelings. It was an intentional insult, and one which they had a right to resent. If the hon. Member did not consider it an insult to be called a hypocrite, a humbug, an impostor, and false to the professions he made, he did not care much for his notions on such matters. [*A laugh.*] It might be a matter of laughter to him; but it could not be so to anybody who took an honourable view of the proceedings of life. When the hon. Member said this clause was passed for Party objects, did he remember that it passed without a single objection from the other side, except a solitary "No" from the hon. Member for the City of London (Mr. R. N. Fowler)? The hon. Member had spoken of boroughs like Gloucester, in which both Parties had never been slow to petition against each other, undeterred by the fear of exposing the corruptness of the constituency. But did not the hon. Member know of many other instances where the converse prevailed? Whether he knew it or not, it

Mr. Edward Clarke

was well known to others that there was many a case of the kind in which electoral corruption had been allowed to go scot-free. The Government believed that this Bill would give a new chance to electoral purity, and that many boroughs which had not been pure heretofore would endeavour to be pure in future. They said to the boroughs—“Here is a new system introduced, a new effort made in favour of purity. If you carry out the spirit of this Act, you will be pure, and you will be in a position, whatever may be your past record, to petition against those who may be guilty of corrupt practices.”

Mr. GIBSON observed, that the Solicitor General had argued the case with his usual clearness, though he had, perhaps, infused into it rather more warmth than was necessary. He should support the Amendment, because he considered it was a rank absurdity to appoint Commissioners to inquire into the electoral history of a borough, and, at the same time, to tell them they must limit their inquiry to what happened at the very last election. If the ascertainment of truth was the object of the Bill, he could not understand how the clause could be defended. If, in the case of witnesses, it was necessary to give an amnesty as to the past, Parliament would be required to pass a fresh Amnesty Bill after every General Election. If they could not get rid of the clause altogether, he should seek, by two Amendments, to bring it into harmony with his arguments—namely, to give the right to the Royal Commissioners to inquire into the history of every election, if they thought fit to do so; but providing, at the same time, that any witnesses who were examined as to corrupt practices in which they might have been engaged in the past should be freed from the consequences of such corrupt practices. The House was not entitled to consider the Bill independently of the trivial discussion which took place on this point in Committee, and he should be glad if, when the Bill left the House, this clause were not found in it.

Mr. ANDERSON said, the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for the University of Dublin, Mr. Gibson, seemed to think it was sufficient if the witnesses examined as to corrupt practices in the past were freed only from the consequences of any corrupt practices in

which they might have taken a part. He (Mr. Anderson) thought it was necessary to exempt the witnesses from the publicity of any inquiry into past circumstances. If Election Commissioners had the right to inquire into the past electoral history of the constituency previous to the passing of the Act, the result would be that many Petitions that ought to be brought would not be brought, owing to dread of the exposure which might ensue, and thus the purpose of the Act might in many cases be defeated.

Sir R. ASSHETON CROSS believed that, as a matter of fact, he did suggest that he and his hon. Friends should not divide the Committee when the clause was proposed by the hon. Member for Glasgow (Mr. Anderson). The clause did not appear in the original Bill; the Government had merely taken it up, and, therefore, they were not bound to defend it to the utmost. Since the Committee stage he had carefully studied this matter, and he had come to the conclusion that it would be better to leave the clause out altogether.

Mr. BULWER considered that, in this matter, some discretion ought to be vested in the Election Commissioners. The clause enacted that no witness called before the Commissioners should be liable to be asked any question relating to any corrupt practices committed prior to the passing of the Act. There never was anything more absurd. The Tory “man in the moon” might come forward and give evidence against the Radical candidate, and the counsel of the latter could not put a question to him as to his previous career.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES): There are Amendments to meet that case.

Mr. BULWER: Yes; but Amendments might, or might not, be accepted, and he was speaking of the clause, and he would give his hearty support to the Motion of his right hon. Friend.

Sir GEORGE CAMPBELL said, that the clause had been made part of the Bill by a great surprise. His breath was almost taken away when he heard that the clause was accepted by Her Majesty's Government, and he was so dumbfounded that he was not able to say a word. If, after the Bill, they were sure of entering upon a political millennium, he would be ready to wipe off

the past; but since he could not believe that such was likely to be the case, he thought they would not act wisely if they were to begin by condoning the past. He should, therefore, decidedly vote against the clause.

MR. CALLAN said, the Attorney General exercised a wise discretion when, at a late hour at night in Committee, he accepted this clause, for it would prevent the corrupt practices of Taunton, the borough which he represented, from ever coming before the public. In his (Mr. Callan's) opinion it would be most injurious to allow this clause to remain in the Bill, and he would illustrate its effect by two or three cases from Ireland. Take, for instance, Dublin City. Up to the time when Commissions of Inquiry were sent out corruption prevailed most extensively amongst the freemen of Dublin. It was exposed, however, by one of these Commissions, and since then Dublin was a model to the Kingdom for the purity and independence of its elections. Then see what was the result in Sligo, which was Conservative, and in which corruption prevailed so extensively that the borough was disfranchised; and Cashel also, which belonged to the great, free, and independent Liberal Party, which, too, was disfranchised for corruption. Then look at Bandon—Orange Bandon—where on whose gates were inscribed the words—"Turk, Jew, or Atheist may enter here, but not a Papist." There corruption always prevailed. At the last election the Hon. Percy Bernard took a consignment of the free and independent electors of that town to Plymouth, regaled them magnificently, and presented them with £20 each, and, of course, the electors were too late to take part in the election when they returned home. A Petition was presented, but by arrangement it was withdrawn, and Mr. Bernard retired; and although that House of Liberal purists were well aware of the facts they did not issue a Commission. A Liberal was elected at the next election; but, of course, he could not say that the hon. Member was guilty of corrupt practices, as he was now a Member of the House. It was the same thing in Portarlington and Athlone; and as for Dundalk, it was so thoroughly corrupt that if this clause was withdrawn a Liberal candidate could never face that constituency again. He was not,

therefore, surprised that the Conservative Member for Plymouth (Mr. E. Clarke) and the Liberal Member for Glasgow (Mr. Anderson) should have come to an agreement on this question, following the good old Scotch proverb—"You scratch me and I'll scratch you."

Question put.

The House divided:—Ayes 97; Noes 33: Majority 64.—(Div. List, No. 275.)

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) moved, in page 27, line 6, to leave out from "question," to "prior," in line 7, and insert—

"For the purpose of proving the commission of any corrupt practice at or in relation to any election."

Amendment agreed to.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 54 (Obligation of witness to answer, and certificate of indemnity).

MR. GREGORY moved, in page 31, after sub-section (4), to insert—

"Where a solicitor or person lawfully acting as agent for any party to an election petition respecting any election for a county or borough has not taken any part or been concerned in such election, the election commissioners inquiring into such election shall not be entitled to examine such solicitor or agent respecting matters which come to his knowledge by reason only of his being concerned as solicitor or agent for a party to such petition."

Amendment agreed to.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 58 (Definition of candidate, and saving for persons nominated without consent. 21 & 22 Vict. c. 87, s. 3.).

MR. GORST moved the omission of certain words, the effect of which would be that it would be for the Judge to determine when was the commencement of an election. A candidate, as the clause stood, might spend any amount of money on a constituency for a considerable period up to the commencement of the election, as defined by the Bill, and escape all penalty.

Amendment proposed,

In page 32, line 14, to leave out all the words after the word "candidate," to the word "and," in line 16.—(Mr. Gorst.)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Bill."

Sir George Campbell

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, he hoped the hon. and learned Member would not press his Amendment, as he had sufficiently met the case put by his hon. and learned Friend.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

Amendment proposed,

In page 32, line 16, to leave out from the word "issued," to the word "accordingly," in line 18, and insert the words "but nothing in this section shall prevent such person from being responsible for any act done for the purpose of promoting or procuring his election, although done before he was so nominated as or declared to be a candidate,"—(*Mr. Attorney General*),

—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Bill."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES), remarking that he had drawn up the Amendment at the request of the right hon. Member for South-West Lancashire (Sir R. Assheton Cross), offered to withdraw it.

MR. H. H. FOWLER said, there was a good deal of "nursing" of constituencies going on at this time, and objected to the Amendment being withdrawn.

MR. LEWIS said, he should oppose it, unless it were restricted to acts done by the candidate personally.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

Clause *agreed to*.

Clause 59 (General interpretation of terms).

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) moved, in page 33, line 29, at the end of line, insert as fresh paragraph—

"The expression 'committee room' shall not include any house or room occupied by a candidate at an election as a dwelling, by reason only of the candidate there transacting business with his agents in relation to such election; nor shall any room or building be deemed to be a committee room for the purposes of this Act by reason only of the candidate or any agent of the candidate addressing therein electors, committeemen, or others."

Amendment *agreed to*.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS moved, in page 33, line 29, at end, insert—

"The expression 'person' includes an association or body of persons, corporate or unincorporate, and where any act is done by any such association or body, the members of such association or body who have taken part in the commission of such act shall be liable to any fine or punishment imposed for the same by this Act."

corporate, and where any act is done by any such association or body, the members of such association or body who have taken part in the commission of such act shall be liable to any fine or punishment imposed for the same by this Act."

Amendment *agreed to*.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) moved in page 34, line 11, at end of line, to insert as fresh paragraph—

"The expression 'personal expenses' as used with respect to the expenditure of any candidate in relation to any election includes the reasonable travelling expenses of such candidate, and the reasonable expenses of his living at hotels or elsewhere for the purposes of and in relation to such election."

Amendment *agreed to*.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) moved, in page 34, line 18, at end of line, insert as fresh paragraph—"The expression 'Licensing Acts' means the Licensing Acts 1872 to 1874."

Amendment *agreed to*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Amendment proposed,

In page 34, line 20, after the word "Acts," to insert the words "and time shall be reckoned as in those Acts."—(*Mr. Attorney General*).

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause 62 (Commencement of Act).

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he desired to take the opinion of the Committee upon the question of the commencement of the Act. He understood it was not very likely there was to be a General Election in the course of the coming autumn—the Prime Minister was the only person who could inform them upon that head. Now, this was a very complicated Bill, and it would take some time to realize its provisions. To admit of the constituencies having time to understand the Bill, he intended to propose that the Act should not come into operation until the 1st day of January, 1884. Certainly, the 1st of September next was too soon for the Act to come into operation, and he trusted some later day would be fixed upon. The 1st of January next would be a very convenient date; but he would not be adverse to it being provided that the Act should come into operation on the 1st of November next.

Amendment proposed,

In page 35, line 4, to leave out the words "September, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-three," and insert the words "January, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four,"—(Sir R. Assheton Cross,)

—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Bill."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, he was desirous that the country should fully understand the provisions of the Act; but he did not think that its operation should be delayed so long as the right hon. Gentleman suggested. He (the Attorney General) was particularly anxious that the Act should come into operation before the next municipal elections. If the 15th of October would meet the views of the right hon. Gentleman, he would be quite willing to so far delay the operation of the Bill. That date would afford the constituencies plenty of opportunity for studying the provisions of the Act.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he thought the time suggested by the hon. and learned Gentleman was too short. The Act would probably not obtain the Royal Assent until the end of this month, and after that it would have to be printed and circulated.

MR. GIBSON said, he could not understand, if there was not to be a General Election within the next two months, why the Bill should be hurried on at this break-neck pace. It was not yet clear that Parliament would be prorogued by the 1st of September, and therefore it was absolutely absurd to suggest that the Act should come into force on that day. The country ought, at least, to be given two or three months in which they might become familiar with the provisions of the Act. This was a new Act, which would require to be printed and circulated, and very carefully studied indeed. He ventured to say that even the professional classes in the country would have little or no knowledge of the provisions of the Act before November next; and, in his opinion, it was a thoroughly reasonable proposal that the Act should come into operation on the 1st of January. The Bill was brought in on the 15th of February, 1883, and therefore it might have

been reasonable at that period to have fixed the 1st of September as the day upon which the Act should come into operation. The month of August was now pretty well advanced, so that even the 15th of October was too early a date upon which the Act should come into operation. He hoped his right hon. Friend would not be satisfied with the concession of the hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General.

MR. GORST reminded the Committee that the Ballot Act, which was very much more complicated than this Act, came into operation directly it was passed. The Ballot Act was full of most novel and difficult provisions, and it was necessary that the Returning Officers throughout the country should at once make themselves masters of those provisions. He believed that, as a matter of fact, the Bill became law on the very day it was passed, and that within a week or two of its passing there was an election at Pontefract, and a few days later one at Preston. Both those elections were conducted by the Returning Officers without a single hitch or mistake. Now, if the people of this country could make themselves masters of the Ballot Act in short a time, why should they not do the same in this case? The right hon. and learned Gentleman who had just sat down knew perfectly well that people did not sit down and study for months Acts of this kind. If anyone wished to make himself master of this Act, he could do so in a very few days, and there was not the slightest necessity to postpone the operation of the Act, so long as the right hon. Gentleman (Sir R. Assheton Cross) desired.

MR. CROPPER said, the hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General had spoken about municipal elections. Was it clearly understood that this Bill was to apply to municipal elections?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, the Definition Clause provided that corrupt practices should affect municipal elections.

MR. LEWIS said, that the hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for Chatham (Mr. Gorst) had actually made a comparison between this Act and the Ballot Act. Was the hon. and learned Gentleman aware what people had to study in this Act of Parliament? Was the hon. and learned Gentleman aware

that the Act contained a succession of enactments of a highly penal character, which the electors, and candidates, and agents had to understand at the risk of their liberty, their character, their credit, and at the risk of their seats? He (Mr. Lewis) was not at all surprised at the peculiar course the hon. and learned Member for Chatham had pursued in regard to this Bill, when he found at the end of their deliberations that he looked upon this Act as an analogous measure to the Ballot Act. He supposed they would have the privilege and pleasure of welcoming the hon. and learned Gentleman in the next Parliament—he hoped they would. But suppose there should be a General Election this autumn, was the hon. and learned Gentleman in favour of an opportunity being afforded to candidates, and agents, and electors, to understand the complications of this measure, and of ascertaining what were the crimes which were now, for the first time, to be visited with such extraordinary penalties as the Bill provided? There was only one condition on which he (Mr. Lewis) would assent to the operation of the Bill being fixed for the 15th of October, and that was [that the hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General, who certainly had conducted the Bill with remarkable courtesy, would give up his recess to the preparation of a treatise upon the Act, and issue it on the 1st of October. He had no doubt that a treatise prepared by the hon. and learned Gentleman would be so valuable and complete, that anyone, after its perusal, would be enabled to go through an election with safety to themselves. The principle of the law of this country was that everyone was presumed to know the law. Could any candidate, agent, or elector, be presumed to know this Act unless he had an opportunity of studying it and understanding it? They knew that one of the results would be that many lawyers would set to work to make explanations of the Act which would be most useful; but how could that be done in the middle of the Long Vacation, when people were away shooting? There were certainly some 60 or 70 Members of the House of Commons—those who had taken part in the discussions upon the Bill—who understood a little of its provisions; but what could the great mass of the people of the

country be expected to know about the measure? He hoped his right hon. Friend (Sir R. Assheton Cross), if he could not succeed in obtaining the postponement of the operation of this Bill until the 1st of November, at least would persist in his Amendment.

MR. MACFARLANE said, that if there was not to be an Election before the 1st of November, why should the Bill be brought into operation before that date?

MR. GREGORY said, it was very necessary some time should be given for the consideration of the provisions of the Act. It was impossible for any layman to understand the Act in a moment. He did not object to the Act on account of its penal character; but he contended that, inasmuch as it was an Act of that character, it was absolutely necessary the public should have an opportunity of understanding it. Having regard to the Long Vacation, he had some doubt as to whether it would be sufficient to postpone the operation of the Act to the 1st of November even. Personally, he should prefer to see the 30th of November fixed upon. He did not think the municipal elections ought to enter into their consideration at all. The real question was, that inasmuch as under this Act people would be exposed to very severe penalties they should be able to obtain full knowledge of those penalties; that they should know in what way they were affected by the Act.

MR. STUART-WORTLEY pointed out that they had already passed the words "first of," so that they had no option but to fix upon the 1st of some month or other.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, he was willing to adopt the 15th of October; but if the right hon. Gentleman (Sir R. Assheton Cross) insisted upon the 1st of a month, he (the Attorney General) should be obliged to take the 1st of October.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, his Amendment ought to be to leave out the words the "first day of September." He would, therefore, ask leave to withdraw his present Amendment.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS then moved to leave out the words "first day of September."

Amendment proposed, Clause 62, page 35, line 4, to leave out the words "first day of September."—(*Sir R. Assheton Cross.*)

Question put, and *negatived*.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) moved to insert, in the place of the words just omitted, the words "fifteenth of October."

Amendment proposed, in page 35, line 8, to insert, after the word "the," the words "fifteenth of October."—(*Mr. Attorney General.*)

Question proposed, "That the words 'fifteenth day of October' be there inserted."

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS pointed out, in reference to what had fallen from the hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for Chatham (Mr. Gorst), that this was a totally different Act to the Ballot Act. The Ballot Act affected the Returning Officers; but this Act affected the whole country.

MR. GORST said, he never drew an analogy between the Ballot Act and this Act. What he said was, that if the people could get up the Ballot Act in a short time, they could also get up this Act, if they wished to do so, in a short time; and the hon. Gentleman who had attacked him knew that perfectly well. The hon. Member for Londonderry (Mr. Lewis) knew as well as he (Mr. Gorst) did, that if anyone wished to get up an Act of Parliament he could do so easily enough, and the right hon. Gentleman (Sir R. Assheton Cross) also knew well enough the truth of what he (Mr. Gorst) had said.

MR. LEWIS said, he had only one other word to say. This was a thoroughly practical question, and one which ought not to be evaded. He would put a practical case to the House. Supposing a vacancy occurred in a county, and the election was to take place in the third week in September, he wanted to know what opportunity the electors would have of informing themselves of the provisions of the Act, which probably would not have been printed until the first or second week in September. It seemed to him they were really endeavouring to prevent those who were to be affected by the Act from having an opportunity of considering it.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he should prefer the 31st of October to the 15th of October.

Amendment proposed to said proposed Amendment, to leave out "fifteenth," and insert "thirty-first,"—(*Sir R. Assheton Cross.*)—instead thereof.

Question put, "That the word 'fifteenth' stand part of the proposed Amendment."

The House *divided*:—Ayes 109; Noes 29: Majority 80. — (Div. List, No. 276.)

MR. J. A. CAMPBELL (for Mr. DALRYMPLE) proposed to leave out Sub-section (2). He moved this Amendment to elicit from the Lord Advocate the reason why the provisions of the Act should not apply to Scotland.

Amendment proposed, in page 35, line 32, to leave out Sub-section (2) of the Clause.—(*Mr. J. A. Campbell.*)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Bill."

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, the reason why the provisions of the clause did not apply to Scotland was that, under the Act of 1853, very efficient provision was made for the matter dealt with by the clause. It was thought that the present law had worked exceedingly well.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES), in page 36, line 23, after "Act," proposed to add as new sub-section:—

"(5.) Court of Oyer and Terminer shall mean a Circuit Court of Justiciary, and the High Court of Justiciary shall have powers to make Acts of Adjournal regulating the procedure in Appeals to the Circuit Court under this Act."

Amendment *agreed to*.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) proposed, in page 36, line 32, to leave out Sub-section (7), and insert—

(25 and 26 Vic. c. 35; 39 and 40 Vic. c. 26.)

"The expression 'Licensing Acts' shall mean 'The Public Houses Acts Amendment (Scotland) Act, 1862,' and 'The Publicans' Certificates (Scotland) Act, 1876,' and the Acts thereby amended and therein recited;

"The expression 'register of licences' shall mean the register kept in pursuance of section twelve of the Act of the ninth year of the reign of King George the Fourth, chapter fifty-eight."

Amendment *agreed to*.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) proposed, in page 37, line 5, to leave out Sub-section (11).

Amendment agreed to.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) proposed, in page 37, line 13, after "Court," to insert "or to the trial of cases at the Royal Courts of Justice."

Amendment agreed to.

Clause 64 (Application of Act to Ireland).

Clause, as amended, *agreed to.*

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) proposed, in page 37, to leave out Sub-section (2).

Amendment agreed to.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) proposed, in page 37, line 17, after "Act," to insert—

"(16.) The provision of this Act, with regard to costs, shall not apply to Scotland, and, instead thereof, the following provision shall have effect:—

"The costs of petitions and other proceedings under 'The Parliamentary Elections Act, 1868,' and under this Act, shall, subject to any regulations which the Court of Session may make by Act of Sederunt, be taxed as nearly as possible according to the same principles as costs between agent and client are taxed in a cause in that court, and the auditor shall not allow any costs, charges, or expenses on a higher scale."

Amendment agreed to.

FIRST SCHEDULE.

PART I.

PERSONS LEGALLY EMPLOYED FOR PAYMENT.

MR. EVANS WILLIAMS said, he had an Amendment to propose to the 2nd sub-section of the Schedule, Part I.—namely, in page 39, line 7, to substitute the words "for every two thousand electors" for the words "to act within each polling district." This Amendment, which was not moved in Committee, but deferred to the present stage of the Bill, owing to the somewhat hasty manner in which the Schedule had been passed through, was intended to limit the large number of sub-agents which the candidates, in the case of some counties, would be allowed to employ. He had not heard from the hon. and learned Attorney General how far he

was disposed to go in the direction of this proposal; but he hoped he would see his way to imposing some restriction upon the number of sub-agents which the Bill proposed to allow. It was the 21st clause of the Bill which let in sub-agents for the first time. The clause provided that the election agent of a candidate by himself or by his sub-agents should appoint polling agents, clerks, and messengers for payment on behalf of a candidate at an election, and hire committee rooms on behalf of the candidate. He would remind the House that this matter of sub-agents was an entirely new importation since the Bill of last year was introduced, in which Bill only one agent was allowed in counties, as in boroughs; whereas the sub-section he now proposed to amend affected counties only. He had no doubt that with regard to counties, or, at any rate, some of them, a certain number of sub-agents were necessary, and it was, therefore, quite right that they should be employed; but this sub-section would allow one sub-agent for every polling district in the county, and that, he submitted, was altogether in excess of the requirements of the case. Now, there were many counties in Wales, and he believed in Scotland also, which, although they had, comparatively speaking, a very large number of polling stations, had, notwithstanding, a small number of electors in proportion thereto. Again, he apprehended that by this Bill the number of polling stations would be largely increased, which would, therefore, probably increase the number of sub-agents. He voted in one county that, with but a small number of electors, had 15 polling stations, and the effect of the Bill, in its present form, would be to allow to each candidate for election that number of sub-agents. He confessed to some astonishment that such a provision should have found its way into the Bill since last year; because although it had, undoubtedly, been the habit of some candidates to employ as many agents as possible, yet he believed that no one had ever thought of employing so large a number as that which he had just mentioned. He observed that his hon. Friend the Member for Aberdeenshire (Dr. Farquharson) had an Amendment which went in the same direction, with this difference—that instead of substituting, as he proposed to

do, the words "for every two thousand electors," his hon. Friend would simply strike out the words of the sub-section which allowed one sub-agent for each polling district, the effect of which would be that only one sub-agent would be allowed. He (Mr. Evans Williams) went on the basis of the number of electors in each constituency; and he contended that if it was necessary to restrict the number of sub-agents at all, that principle ought to be the guide as to the number of sub-agents which candidates for counties might be expected to employ. Unless, therefore, that principle was embodied in the Bill, he thought it would be better that the provision as to sub-agents should be left out of it altogether. In proposing this Amendment he was aware that he should be met by two arguments, neither of which he considered to be of sufficient weight to remove his objection to the Bill in its present form; and the first was that the appointment of sub-agents was purely optional on the part of the candidate. He very much regretted that the noble Lord the Member for Woodstock (Lord Randolph Churchill) was not then present, because he had understood the noble Lord to say that it was his intention to move an Amendment practically to the same effect as that on which he was about to take the sense of the House; and when Clause 21, which brought in these sub-agents, was under discussion, the noble Lord protested against it, and said that, although he wished Woodstock to be treated as a county, he was opposed to the employment of so many sub-agents. He (Mr. Evans Williams) thought that the objection to his Amendment, founded upon the fact that the employment of sub-agents was optional, fell to the ground, because the Bill ought to save candidates from undue pressure being put upon them to appoint sub-agents. The second probable objection that would be urged to the Amendment was that the candidate would be restrained from employing too many sub-agents by the maximum of expenditure allowed by the Bill; but, surely, those who used that argument did not suppose that gentlemen could be always referring to the maximum to see that they were not exceeding it. His own fear would absorb

Mr. Evans

their proper share of the amount; he believed that the effect of the maximum would be to lead people, who had hitherto carried on elections at a lower expense than that set forth in the Schedule, to bring their expenditure up to the maximum in future; and he thought the Attorney General would find that his anticipation of cutting down election expenses to one-third of their former amount, would be in that way counter-balanced. He trusted the Attorney General would be able to see his way to the adoption of the Amendment, which he now begged to move.

Amendment proposed,

In page 39, line 7, to leave out the words "to act within each polling district," and insert the words "for every two thousand electors,"—(*Mr. Evans Williams*),—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Bill."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) regretted that he was unable to accept the Amendment of the hon. Member for New Radnor. He pointed out that the area of some of the counties was so large that the polling districts were at a considerable distance from the central district, in which cases assistance was necessary to the principal election agent. It seemed to him better not to depart from the principle which had been over and over again acquiesced in; and, therefore, he trusted his hon. Friend would not think it necessary to divide the House upon his Amendment.

Dr. FARQUHARSON said, as the hon. Member for New Radnor had stated, it had been his intention to move an Amendment to the 1st Part of the Schedule, to strike out all the words after "sub-agent" down to "district" inclusive; but he should now be satisfied with supporting the Amendment before the House, without taking a Division upon his own. He objected to sub-agents being appointed by the candidate for every polling district in the county on two grounds—first, because sub-agents were altogether unnecessary; and, secondly, because their employment would lead inevitably to increased expenditure at elections. If the Bill remained in its present form, they would have the old state of things re-occurring

—namely, that a network of sub-agents would be spread over the country, and produce the demoralization which was inseparable from an arrangement of that kind. It had been said, and he understood the hon. and learned Attorney General to say, that a large county election could not be fought without a correspondingly large number of sub-agents; but that was certainly not the invariable rule, because he himself had fought one of the largest constituencies in Scotland (West Aberdeenshire) with only one agent, and he did not believe the work could have been better done. Further, he believed that the electors themselves very much preferred that mode of doing business to the old system.

Question put.

The House divided:—Ayes 91; Noes 29: Majority 62. — (Div. List, No. 277.)

Amendment proposed,

In page 39, line 28, after the word "Aylesbury," to insert the words "and in the case of any district borough within the meaning of 'The Ballot Act, 1872,'"—(Sir R. Assheton Cross.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

MR. GORST said, he proposed to insert words limiting the amount to that fixed by the 38 & 39 *Vict.*, so that it should be impossible for more to be paid than the Returning Officer had allowed for the candidate's expenditure.

Amendment proposed, in page 39, line 32, after the word "charges," to insert the words "not exceeding the amount authorized by 38 and 39 *Vict. c. 84.*"—(Mr. Gorst.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, the result of this Amendment would be that if an agent came to another professional man and said—"I have spent £30 more than the candidate is allowed," the candidate might be unseated, although he repudiated the expenditure. The House had already come to a decision upon this point, and he could not assent to the Amendment.

MR. JESSE COLLINGS said, he hoped the House would adopt the

Amendment. It was quite true that there had been a decision on a similar question, but that decision was come to under a misapprehension; and he believed the real sense of the House was in favour of some such proposition as this earlier in the Sitting; and it was only through a misunderstanding as to what Members were discussing that the decision was arrived at. What were they asked to do? The Returning Officer, under the present law, could spend so much money; but they now practically said that that Officer was at liberty to spend more, and trust to the candidate to repay him. If there was one portion of election matters more loose and ill-considered than another it was the expenses entered into by the Returning Officer. If the expenses were paid by the borough, or county, or local authority, instead of by the candidate, a great deal more care would be exercised by the Returning Officer than at present was exercised; and he wondered that the Attorney General, in a Bill which had for its primary object the reducing of expenditure, should refuse to accept such a reasonable Amendment, and one which would have great effect in reducing expenditure in directions in which unnecessary expenditure was made. If the Amendment was adopted, the Returning Officer would have to be very careful to keep himself within the limit of the Schedule of expenses laid down by the law. Those expenses were ample for everything, and some of them were, in fact, excessive; and yet he found that a Returning Officer, being assured that there would be no difficulty in getting the money back from the candidate, would be altogether careless as to the expenditure. In fact, the money paid by the Returning Officer in excess of the scale often went really in the direction of a corrupt influence; for a candidate who would spend any amount of money on the Returning Officer's expenses was very often looked upon with more favour than one who was not inclined to do so. Nothing could be more reasonable than this proposal. The Attorney General almost accepted it that afternoon; and it was only because a number of hon. Members flocked in from another part of the House, and then heard the Government Tellers declare against the Amendment, that it was not adopted by a large majority.

do, the words "for every two thousand electors," his hon. Friend would simply strike out the words of the sub-section which allowed one sub-agent for each polling district, the effect of which would be that only one sub-agent would be allowed. He (Mr. Evans Williams) went on the basis of the number of electors in each constituency; and he contended that if it was necessary to restrict the number of sub-agents at all, that principle ought to be the guide as to the number of sub-agents which candidates for counties might be expected to employ. Unless, therefore, that principle was embodied in the Bill, he thought it would be better that the provision as to sub-agents should be left out of it altogether. In proposing this Amendment he was aware that he should be met by two arguments, neither of which he considered to be of sufficient weight to remove his objection to the Bill in its present form; and the first was that the appointment of sub-agents was purely optional on the part of the candidate. He very much regretted that the noble Lord the Member for Woodstock (Lord Randolph Churchill) was not then present, because he had understood the noble Lord to say that it was his intention to move an Amendment practically to the same effect as that on which he was about to take the sense of the House; and when Clause 21, which brought in these sub-agents, was under discussion, the noble Lord protested against it, and said that, although he wished Woodstock to be treated as a county, he was opposed to the employment of so many sub-agents. He (Mr. Evans Williams) thought that the objection to his Amendment, founded upon the fact that the employment of sub-agents was optional, fell to the ground, because the Bill ought to save candidates from undue pressure being put upon them to appoint sub-agents. The second probable objection that would be urged to the Amendment was that the candidate would be restrained from employing too many sub-agents by the maximum of expenditure allowed by the Bill; but, surely, those who used that argument did not suppose that gentlemen could be always referring to the maximum to see that they were not exceeding the prescribed amount. His own fear was that these sub-agents would absorb a great deal more than

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Mr. Evans Williams

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Question put.

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Amendment. It was quite true that there had been a decision on a similar question, but that decision was come to under a misapprehension; and he believed the real sense of the House was in favour of some such proposition as this earlier in the Sitting; and it was only through a misunderstanding as to what Members were discussing that the decision was arrived at. What were they asked to do? The Returning Officer, under the present law, could spend so much money; but they now practically said that that Officer was at liberty to spend more, and trust to the candidate to repay him. If there was one portion of election matters more loose and ill-considered than another it was the expenses entered into by the Returning Officer. If the expenses were paid by the borough, or county, or local authority, instead of by the candidate, a great deal more care would be exercised by the Returning Officer than at present was exercised; and he wondered that the Attorney General, in a Bill which had for its primary object the reducing of expenditure, should refuse to accept such a reasonable Amendment, and one which would have great effect in reducing expenditure in directions in which unnecessary expenditure was made. If the Amendment was adopted, the Returning Officer would have to be very careful to keep himself within the limit of the Schedule of expenses laid down by the law. Those expenses were ample for everything, and some of them were, in fact, excessive; and yet he found that a Returning Officer, being assured that there would be no difficulty in getting the money back from the candidate, would be altogether careless as to the expenditure. In fact, the money paid by the Returning Officer in excess of the scale often went really in the direction of a corrupt influence; for a candidate who would spend any amount of money on the Returning Officer's expenses was very often looked upon with more favour than one who was not inclined to do so. Nothing could be more reasonable than this proposal. The Attorney General almost accepted it that afternoon; and it was only because a number of hon. Members flocked in from another part of the House, and then heard the Government Tellers declare against the Amendment, that it was not adopted by a large majority.

He hoped, now that the House had the issue fairly before it, and they really knew what it was, they would accept it. It was reasonable and just; and he had no hesitation in saying that it commended itself to the good sense of every Member.

Mr. LEWIS rose to Order, and asked whether, this matter having been substantially decided that afternoon, it could be re-opened?

Mr. EVANS WILLIAMS pointed out that by the Amendment passed in the afternoon the Returning Officer would be held responsible; but by this Amendment the candidate would be liable.

Mr. T. D. SULLIVAN said, he was surprised that the Government refused to accept this Amendment. The whole principle of the Bill was to reduce expenses, and to prevent extravagant and corrupt expenditure; but, while that was carried out with regard to others, the Returning Officer was made an exception. Why should that be so? It was true the Returning Officer could not recover from the candidate anything beyond the amount fixed in the Schedule; but a candidate was free to make a gift. Why should not all other people taking part in an election be as free as the Returning Officer to ask whatever they chose, provided they were not able to recover by law? This was only an excuse for extortion from the candidate, such as had been practised in the past, and which would be practised again, if the opportunity was given, especially after this debate. A proclamation was now made by the House to all Returning Officers that, if they chose, they might ask as much as they chose from the candidate, although, at the same time, they could only legally recover the amount fixed in the Schedule. There would be pressure put upon the candidate to accede to these larger demands; and he would have to accede in the future as he had done in the past. If the principle and object of this Bill was that there should be cheap, and pure, and honest elections, why should this exception be made on behalf of the Returning Officers? It was within the knowledge of many hon. Members that they had had to pay demands largely in excess of the Returning Officer's expenses, and that was still more certain to occur in the future; because, as

he took it, this was a plain direction to the Returning Officers that they had free trade, and could exact from candidates just as much as by moral pressure they could be made to pay. It was inconsistent with the scope of the Bill; and he could not understand why the Government refused to accept the Amendment.

Mr. T. P. O'CONNOR said, he was reluctant to intervene in this discussion, because he knew the House was anxious to get through with the Bill; but he must strongly appeal to the Government to accept this Amendment. He could speak with a certain amount of personal knowledge and experience in these matters. Everybody who had had experience of Returning Officers, and Irish Members especially, knew that the Returning Officer was generally a pluralist, and what in Ireland was called a "Shoneen"—a sort of half-landlord—one part of the time getting as much rent as he could, and another part of the time getting as much money as he could out of taxation. Just before an election began this officer would send a polite message to all the candidates, if there was a nice young barrister in the town who had no practice, saying it would be a nice thing if they would allow that young man to be his assistant; and so he got, perhaps, £150—£50 from each of three candidates, while, however, his charge did not amount to £30. What he would impress upon the Government so strongly was this—that as the Bill was in its present shape, and as the elections were conducted in Ireland at the present time, and as they had been conducted for some years past, this Bill, instead of reducing, would increase expenditure. Nothing could be further from the hon. and learned Gentleman's mind than to add 1*d.* of expenditure to the already large sums that elections cost. The Government should bind down the Returning Officers, who were robbers by profession. ["Oh, oh!"] Yes, that was so, for they all regarded the candidates as persons whom everybody had a right to rob. The hon. and learned Gentleman should bind down the Returning Officers in this matter.

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (Sir FARRER HERSCHELL) said, he thought they could decide this matter without further discussion at the present moment. It was fully discussed that after-

Mr. Jesse Collings

noon, when the Attorney General pointed out it was not a matter about which he had any very strong feeling. His hon. and learned Friend had said that he was quite willing to leave the matter to the decision of the House, and the House had decided against the view of hon. Members opposite. ["No, no!"] There must always be upon Government measures Amendments proposed which were not acceptable, but upon which the Government might have no strong feeling. [Mr. JESSE COLLINGS said, he did not accept the Amendment.] He begged the hon. Gentleman's pardon—the Amendment had not been accepted; the Attorney General had declined to accept it, but had stated it was a matter on which he had no strong feeling, and one upon which he was willing to be guided by the opinion of the House. He (the Solicitor General) did not think it right to accept the Amendment; the question was one for the decision of the House.

MR. HEALY: Who does the hon. and learned Gentleman call the House? Does he mean those who are now in it, or those who will come in presently when summoned by the Bell, and who will vote without having heard a word of the discussion?

Question put.

The House divided:—Ayes 65; Noes 56: Majority 9.—(Div. List, No. 278.)

MR. CHEETHAM said, he had intended to move an Amendment to Schedule I, Part II., line 12—namely, to leave out Section 7. That Amendment, however, had been put upon the Paper under an erroneous impression, for it appeared that its effect would be not, as he desired, to do away with the restriction upon the number of committee rooms in counties, but actually to disallow the expenses of such rooms. He proposed, therefore, leaving the section as it stood, to move a series of Amendments, the effect of which would be to increase the ratio of committee rooms in counties from the proportion of one to every 500 electors to that of one to every 300 electors. He thought that if it was considered proper and necessary to allow one committee room to every 500 electors in boroughs, it could hardly be deemed excessive to allow one committee room to every 300 electors in the scattered constituencies of counties. The constituency he represented, for

instance, contained 7,000 electors, in a population of 100,000, scattered over an area of 400 square miles; and it was obvious that a larger proportion of centres for political organization would be required for such a constituency than for a compact borough with the same number of electors crowded upon a few hundred acres. If the counties were deprived, as they would be under the Bill, of the legitimate convenience of authorized committee rooms, those interested in elections would be compelled to congregate for election purposes in public-houses, where they would be exposed to many of the influence from which it was the object of the Bill to protect them. The restriction placed upon the total expenditure was a sufficient safeguard against abuse; and he trusted the hon. and learned Gentleman who had charge of the Bill would, therefore, see his way to making some concession on this point, which concession, he was sure, would be well appreciated in many constituencies.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, he must say "no" to the hon. Member's proposal; the Government had conceded a great deal in the way of increasing committee rooms, clerks, and messengers, and he was afraid he could not go any further.

Amendment proposed, in page 40, line 15, to leave out "5," and insert "3,"—(Mr. Cheetham,)—instead thereof.

Question, "That '5' stand part of the Bill," put, and agreed to.

MR. WARTON said, he wished to move an Amendment to leave out, in page 40, line 31, the words "and III." He trusted the hon. and learned Gentleman (the Attorney General) would see his way to accepting this Amendment. The effect of it would be to exclude Part III. from the maximum Schedule. That which ought to be an allowance for every extraordinary expenditure—that was to say, any unforeseen or unlooked for outlay—was included in the maximum scale. They had heard of a placard being published through a borough requiring immediate answer, and, consequently, immediate expenditure. Accidents would happen, and they might find unexpected occurrences taking place rendering it absolutely necessary, in justice, to exceed the maximum allowed in the Schedule. It was no use giving the

£200 with one hand and taking it away with the other. This matter had seemed to him to be so important that he had taken the liberty of moving the re-committal of the Bill with respect to this section. Part III. was entirely delusive and absurd, and he, therefore, moved the Amendment standing in his name.

Motion proposed, in page 40, line 31, to leave out the words "and III."—(*Mr. Warton.*)

Question proposed, "That the words 'and III.' stand part of the Bill."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, they had agreed to a large increase in the maximum sum; but the hon. and learned Member would now add on £200 to every borough and county expenditure in the country, and that was a proposition he (the Attorney General) could not for a moment accept. It would be entirely departing from the Schedule.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

MR. R. N. FOWLER proposed to insert, after "charges," in Part IV., line 32, "and the expenses of advertising." He said that "advertising" was not a corrupt expenditure, and it was admitted to be very desirable in the interest of candidates. Advertising was not an electoral abuse; yet the effect of the Bill would be that it would be quite impossible for a candidate in future to spend much money in advertising. He was particularly interested in this matter, because the constituency he represented was a large and populous one, and advertising necessarily led to considerable expenditure. Probably, the hon. and learned Attorney General only inserted his election address in some local paper. He (Mr. R. N. Fowler) and his Colleagues in the representation of the City of London, had, however, to advertise in *The Times*, and all the other morning papers, and likewise in the evening papers. If the Bill passed in its present form, they would have very small means, indeed, of bringing their views before the public. The amount allowed for advertising in the Bill was exceedingly small; but his advertising expenses were much larger than those of hon. Gentlemen representing smaller constituencies. Moreover, he was required to pay a considerable sum for committee

rooms, and in future committee rooms would be more difficult to obtain, because candidates would not be allowed to take public-houses for committee purposes. He maintained that advertising was not a corrupt expenditure, and therefore he urged the Attorney General to assent to this Amendment.

Amendment proposed, in page 40, line 32, after the word "charges," to insert the words "and the expenses of advertising."—(*Mr. R. N. Fowler.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, it was true that advertising was not a corrupt expenditure; but it was, nevertheless, a most objectionable expenditure. It was unnecessary and very capable of being overcharged. He did not believe it ever did anyone any good; and of this he was certain—that if what the hon. Gentleman said was true—namely, that advertising was a very large item in his electoral expenses—he ought to be very grateful for the relief this Bill would give him. He would be able in future, if he chose, to devote to any charitable purpose what hitherto he had been obliged to expend on advertising.

MR. CALLAN said, he was surprised that the hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General had made such material alterations in the Bill as compared with the measure brought in last year. He agreed with the Attorney General that, although advertising was not a corrupt expenditure, it was a most demoralizing expenditure in the case of many patriotic newspapers which he knew. In the Bill of last year it was very wisely provided that the expenditure for advertising should only amount to a certain proportion of the maximum expenditure. As the Bill now stood, a candidate, if he chose, could spend the whole of the maximum upon advertising. The hon. and learned Gentleman admitted that advertising was a most objectionable form of expenditure; and, therefore, he appealed to the hon. and learned Gentleman to revert to the plan which he proposed in the Bill of last year. Under last year's Bill, if a candidate were allowed to spend £350, he was also allowed to spend on advertising and printing, and the like, £100.

Question put, and *negatived*.

Mr. Warton

Mr. LEWIS proposed, in page 40, line 35, to leave out after the word "be," to "2,000," and insert the words—

" Does not exceed	£500	. . .	200
"	1,000	. . .	325
"	1,500	. . .	375
"	2,000	. . .	400,

and an additional £40 for every 1,000 electors above 2,000."

He said, the object he had in view in dealing with the item of expenditure, was to draw the attention of the House to the arrangements which were proposed to be made in the event of a single election taking place in a constituency which returned two Members. He desired to accentuate this point, in order that, before they parted with this Bill, they might have some Amendment carried with regard to a difficulty which presented itself to many minds. The reason why he proposed to increase the scale relating to boroughs was that no provision was made for a single election in a double constituency. He maintained that the present scale was altogether insufficient. As the Bill now stood, a single candidate for a double constituency of 20,000 electors could spend £820, and no more. If the Amendment of which the hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General had given Notice was not carried, two candidates standing in the same interest could spend £1,640. If the Amendment were carried, those candidates could, however, spend £1,230. As an example, the hon. and learned Gentleman the Solicitor General (Sir Farrer Herschell) and his Colleague (Mr. Thompson) in the representation of the City of Durham could, at the next General Election, if the Attorney General's Amendment were carried, only spend three-fourths of what they would be able to spend if they stood separately. He asked the House, as a matter of experience, what was the difference between a single election and a double election? There would be a little more advertising and placarding; but, taking it as a whole, the same ground would be covered, the same work done, and the same number of electors would have to be communicated with. In fact, the same amount of electoral labour would have to be gone through in the one case as in the other. This difficulty had never been attempted to be met by the Government. In fact, there were only two ways of meet-

ing it—namely, either by increasing the amount which each candidate could spend, or by adopting such an Amendment as that which he now submitted to the House. Personally, he was not interested in the matter; but it was a practical question of the greatest possible importance. It was far graver than many hon. Gentleman seemed to imagine. At half-past 1 o'clock in the morning it would be perfectly idle for him to attempt to elaborate his case. He was content to say that, while he thought the scale was too liberal with regard to the smaller boroughs, it was not large enough in the case of the larger boroughs. It was for the purpose of placing before the House, in a definite form, an alternative proposition, which he hoped the Government might see their way to adopt, and to provide against a great anomaly which presented itself in the case of a single election, that he put his Amendment before the House. That anomaly could only be met in one or two ways—namely, by increasing the expenditure, or by providing that where there was a single election in a double constituency the one candidate might spend so much *plus* the ordinary expenditure of a single candidate.

Amendment proposed,

In page 40, line 35, to leave out after the word "be," to "2,000," and insert the words—

" Does not exceed	500	. . .	£200
"	1,000	. . .	325
"	1,500	. . .	375
"	2,000	. . .	400,

and an additional £40 for every 1,000 electors above 2,000,"—(*Mr. Lewis.*)

Question proposed, "That 'Does not exceed 2,000 . . . £350' stand part of the Bill."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, that the object of the hon. Gentleman was simply to increase the expenditure on elections, and therefore he would not follow the observations of the hon. Gentleman. He (the Attorney General) wished to adhere to the maximum expenditure in the Bill.

Question put, and agreed to.

Mr. HEALY proposed, in page 40, line 36, after "£350," to insert the words in England and Scotland, and £150 in Ireland." He pointed out that by the Bill the cost of elections in Ireland would be very largely increased. He desired to give the hon. and learned Attorney

General every credit for a wish to cheapen electoral expenses; but this would be the second Bill which had increased election expenses in Ireland. A clause was put in the Act of 1875, at a late hour in the morning, in spite of the protests of the Irish Members, which had increased election expenses in Irish constituencies. The circumstances of this country were altogether different from those of Ireland. Here there was household suffrage; but in Ireland there was a £4 franchise, and there were only three boroughs—namely, Belfast, Dublin, and Cork—which had more than 2,000 electors. All the Irish constituencies had, on the average, about 500 electors. Why, therefore, should this enormous maximum be thrust upon Irish constituencies? As a matter of fact, candidates in Ireland were not required to expend £30 on an election, as a rule, so that by his Amendment he allowed an ample margin. If, as the Bill provided, they allowed a candidate to spend £100 on personal expenses, £100 for the Sheriff, and an additional £350, it was clear that in Ireland most of the money could only be spent in corruption. The hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General did not profess to know anything about electoral circumstances in Ireland, and the whole of this Bill was directed against a state of things which did not exist in Ireland. He would not argue the question over again; but he could not help pointing out that this was one of the evils of dealing with Ireland as if the state of circumstances there was the same as in England. To treat Ireland in this matter as they would treat England was just the same as putting a little boy into his father's clothes. In Ireland they had not the franchise which obtained in England, and, that being so, there were not the same number of voters to take to the poll. Even if they had the same number of voters, there were hundreds of willing and loyal volunteers only too anxious to work in the popular cause. He would give the House his experiences of three elections which had recently come under his notice. He had no desire to be egotistical; but he wished to say that his first election did not cost £20. The recent election, in Wexford, would not have cost £50, and the expenses of the three weeks' contest in Monaghan, including the Sheriff's

expenses, would not have cost the national candidate £350. Now, what would this Bill allow to be spent in Monaghan? Why, £350, £100 personal expenses and £100 for the Sheriff—in all, £550, or, in other words, £300 too much. In whose favour was this Schedule brought in? Why, in favour of such Gentlemen as the hon. Member who sat for Portarlington (Mr. French-Brewster), where every vote cost as much as £15. Portarlington was one of those rotten constituencies which ought to be swept off the face of the earth. He appealed to the hon. and learned Gentleman to take the proposal into his consideration. So far as the part taken by Irish Members in the discussions on the Bill was concerned, he did not think that a single unnecessary objection had been raised, although they considered the measure, in the case of Ireland, to be uncalled for, irritating, and costly. There were, of course, one or two points to which they had felt it their duty to call attention. For these reasons, he trusted the Attorney General would meet them in the matter, and that he would not impose upon them an increased expenditure of the kind he was now objecting to.

Amendment proposed,

In page 40, line 36, after “£350,” to insert the words “in England and Scotland, and £150 in Ireland.”—(*Mr. Healy.*)

Question proposed, “That those words be there inserted.”

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, there had been full opportunity, when the Bill was in Committee, of considering and moving Amendments to this part of the measure; but he would point out that not a single objection had been raised to the maximum sum fixed in the Schedule. Moreover, no Notice had been given of this Amendment, and the great bulk of the Members for Ireland were then absent from the House. What would be said by Gentlemen opposite if an Amendment proposed that night for the first time, and upon which they had not had an opportunity of voting, were agreed to in their absence? Under the circumstances, he must decline to accept the Amendment. He pointed out to the hon. Member for Monaghan that, at any rate, the opponent of the poor candidate would not be able to spend more

Mr. Healy

than he had spent before; and, therefore, he did not think that they were fairly open to the accusation of the hon. Member that they were increasing expenditure by this Bill.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR said, it was clear to him that, by the refusal of the Attorney General to adopt a reasonable and proper Amendment like this, Irish Members on those Benches were being made to suffer for their own virtues. Not only had they maintained an extreme reserve with regard to the Bill; but, having made their protest against its application to Ireland at the very beginning of these discussions, they had since adopted towards it a course of almost absolute silence. He had, from the first, entertained the idea that the Bill would increase expenditure. He would remind the hon. and learned Gentleman that one of the arguments which Irish Members most strongly urged, and which appeared in their speeches on the Motion for going into Committee, was that the scale would increase electoral expenditure in Ireland. The hon. and learned Gentleman said that the sum fixed by the Schedule was the maximum, and that candidates need not go in for the maximum unless they liked to do so. But how could they guard against the misuse of money by wealthy candidates against poor candidates? The hon. and learned Gentleman had more electoral experience than he possessed; but he would ask him, with his knowledge of the circumstances of electoral matters, whether it was not a fact that a rich candidate coming down to fight a poor one would not spend in the contest every farthing that the law allowed him to spend? He had in his own constituency an opponent who, in his opinion, did not contest that constituency on the ground of right; and as there were always persons who thought they must get money by some means or other, what would that candidate probably do? He would adopt the most expensive mode of proceeding, insert as many advertisements in the papers as possible, and, in short, do everything that would bring to the minds of the electors the knowledge that he was a man with money, and that his opponent was a man without it. With regard to the Amendment, the Government was, of course, bound by its own measures; but the House had perfect liberty of action

in this and in all other matters, and it was only a few minutes ago that it took up a position antagonistic to the Government, who he did not think regretted that their judgment had been overruled. The House had got into the habit of overruling the Government lately; and he trusted that if they were convinced by the argument of his hon. Friend that this Bill would increase the expenditure on electoral contests in Ireland, they would not be deterred by the argument of the hon. and learned Attorney General from voting for the proposed Amendment. He hoped no weight would be attached to the argument that a number of Irish Members were absent. The only safe principle they could go upon in such cases was that each Member of the House was supposed to be in his place whenever questions relating to his constituency were brought forward. They should have little regard for the political views of hon. Members, who were so fond of their beds that they could not remain at the House to pass important measures.

MR. JESSE COLLINGS said, he thought the wishes of hon. Gentlemen opposite should be met by the Attorney General, because they had shown that the conditions in Ireland were altogether different from those which existed in England. He would not enter into that question, farther than to say that, in his opinion, the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) had made out a case. Now, the hon. and learned Attorney General had not treated the Amendment before the House as a matter of principle; and, therefore, he thought the best thing for the Government to do would be to consider what were the wishes of Irish Members. Moreover, it would be a graceful thing for English and Scotch Members to yield to those wishes. The argument that the maximum sum need not be spent had no force; because if any sum were mentioned, say, £200 or £300, that amount would always be uppermost in the minds of those who were able to spend the money. Moreover, it tended to weaken the morals of volunteers, who would say—"So much money is to be spent; I may as well have some of it." Seeing that the volunteer system obtained in Ireland, he believed that this Schedule would tend to weaken the

sound and healthy feeling which existed. He believed that if English and Scotch Members yielded, in this instance, to the wishes of Irish Representatives, their action would not be blamed, because it would be seen that its effect would be to keep down expenses at Irish elections; and he thought the Government should give way, on the principle that the Representatives of Ireland knew best what concerned the Irish people.

Mr. LEWIS remarked, that the hon. Member for Galway (Mr. T. P. O'Connor) had expressed a hope that Her Majesty's Government would consider the opinions of Irish Members; but he would point out that not more than about one-third of those Members were then present in the House, and that until that evening no Notice of this Amendment had been placed upon the Paper. He believed that the House would not, for one moment, think of taking advantage of the absence of more than two-thirds of those interested in this most important question; and he could not conceive that the Government should not use the utmost influence in their power in order to prevent the proposed alteration being made at that hour, without Notice, to the vast majority of persons interested in the Bill. The hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) had been Member for a very small constituency (Wexford), and he (Mr. Lewis) was ready to admit that £350 was too large a sum to be spent in that borough, and it was for that reason he had placed an Amendment on the Paper to limit the expenditure at elections in the case of small boroughs. But this Amendment proposed that in a constituency of 2,000 electors, or, in other words, of 30,000 inhabitants, there should only be an expenditure of £150, with regard to which he would say that anyone who suggested it as a practical proceeding could know nothing of the facts of electoral life. He did not believe there were 30 Members in the House when this most serious Amendment was proposed; and having regard to that fact, and the lateness of the hour, it appeared that the only way in which he could protect his Colleagues in the representation of Ireland who were absent was by moving the adjournment of the House. If he did take that course, it would be because he felt most strongly, when an important question

like this was brought forward under the circumstances described, that, in accordance with the ordinary courtesies of legislation, it should not be pressed to a Division.

Mr. DAWSON said, the hon. Member who had just spoken had himself a Notice on the Paper similar to that to which he then objected. Whether the Amendment of the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) was on the Paper or not, was not the point. They had to consider what was right to be done—whether the Amendment was one which the House should pass or reject. So far as the placing of an Amendment on the Paper was concerned, he was under the impression that the hon. and learned Member for Chatham (Mr. Gorst) had that evening proposed one that was not on the Paper. Why, then, had not the Attorney General and the hon. Member for Londonderry put in their objection to that *à fortiori*, because its principle had been refuted in a former debate in the House? The hon. Member was inconsistent in his objection, because his own Amendment was placed on the Paper in the same way as that of the hon. Member for Monaghan. His hon. Friend said that some of the boroughs in Ireland should be treated differently to English and Scotch boroughs on account of the small number of electors which they contained, and it appeared to him that that was a most reasonable proposal. He (Mr. Dawson) represented the borough of Carlow, which had 8,000 inhabitants and only 300 electors; the number of electors was so small that to require him to expend in contesting the constituency the same amount as would be spent on an English borough of 2,000 electors was out of all proportion to the necessities of the case. The amount spent on the Carlow Election ought not to exceed £50; and yet, as the hon. Member for Monaghan had pointed out, a rich candidate could go there and spend the maximum sum allowed by the Bill—namely, £350. He trusted the hon. and learned Attorney General would withdraw his objection to the Amendment of his hon. Friend, who had simply asked the House to do what was just in fixing the amount of expenditure in the case of Irish boroughs at £150.

Dr. LYONS was understood to say there was some force in the argument of

he hon. Member for Londonderry (Mr. Lewis), that two-thirds of the Irish Members were absent, and that, in those circumstances, the Amendment ought not to be pressed. There had been ample opportunities of raising this question before, which had not been availed of. He suggested that £200 should be substituted for £150.

Mr. HEALY consented to this alteration.

Mr. ONSLOW said, that, before a Division was taken, the House ought to have the opinion of the Irish Attorney General on this purely Irish question. The right hon. and learned Gentleman had had a large experience, not only in regard to his own election, but in other elections; and the House had been told by the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) that in the borough he previously represented the cost was £500, and in his present seat it was only £350. The Attorney General for England said he knew nothing about the matter, and he had had no time to consult anybody; but surely he had had time to consult the right hon. and learned Attorney General for Ireland. There had been no opinion given by the responsible officials, and he thought that before a Division was taken that opinion ought to be given.

Sir CHARLES W. DILKE said, the Government could not accept the Amendment. They did not believe the effect of the clause would be to increase expenses; and what they desired was not to produce uniformity, but to fix a maximum for future expenses.

Mr. FINDLATER said, nobody was more desirous than he was to reduce expenditure in elections. He had to pay a great deal for his own election; but he did not see his way to fixing £200 as a sufficient amount for a candidate's expenses.

Mr. HEALY said, his Amendment only referred to boroughs.

Mr. T. D. SULLIVAN said, the purpose and object of this Bill was to reduce the expenditure at elections, and, unquestionably, it would have that effect in England; but there was good reason to believe that it would have the contrary effect in Ireland, and this was just another proof of the truth of the statement that had often been made, that mere identity of legislation for the two countries would not act equally, but unfairly. In

this matter, as also in the matter of taxation, the even disposition of burdens on the two countries would act disproportionately and unequally. It was unconstitutional to enter into the question of how many Members there were in the House if there were a quorum; and a quorum was sufficient to legislate. There was now a sufficient House, and he appealed to the House to consent to what was a clear act of justice. This clause would act unequally; it would give relief to England, but not to Ireland; but in Ireland it would increase the burden in this particular matter. He therefore appealed to the House, and to its sense of fair play, if this was likely to be the result, to give Ireland the benefit of the Bill, not by imposing on Ireland the same terms as on England, but by giving it the principle and purpose of the Bill, which was to reduce the expense of elections, and contribute to their purity. It seemed to him that the case for the Amendment was unanswerable, and he hoped the Government would so regard it.

Mr. BLENNERHASSETT said, he intended to vote for the Amendment which was suggested by the hon. Member for the City of Dublin (Dr. Lyons), and, as he understood, was accepted by the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy). It was, he thought, quite desirable that the House should hear the opinion of the Attorney General for Ireland.

Mr. HEALY said, he was willing to substitute £200 for £250.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, he would willingly accept any suggestion for consideration.

Mr. HARRINGTON said, the only opposition to this Amendment from Irish Members came from the hon. Member for Londonderry (Mr. Lewis); and it would be in the recollection of the House that the hon. Member had been that evening very loud in his protestations of the purity of his borough. He stated that he was not afraid of the result of the Bill, and twitted other hon. Members insultingly. The speech of the hon. Member, he thought, made it clear that the hon. Member, at all events, could not be affected by the Amendment; and, considering that no opposition to it came from any other Irish Members, he thought the Attorney Ge-

neral was not justified in maintaining his opposition.

MR. WARTON wished to point out that the difficulty the House was now in arose entirely from the coarse and clumsy way in which this scale had been drawn. The idea of drawing a line at £2,000 and making no gradations was perfectly absurd and ridiculous. If there had been a graduated scale, there would have been something like common sense in the Schedule.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Amendment proposed,

In page 40, line 36, after "£350," to insert the words "in England and Scotland, and £200 in Ireland."—(*Mr. Healy*.)

Question put, "That those words be there inserted."

The House *divided*:—Ayes 43; Noes 72: Majority 29.—(Div. List, No. 279.)

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, the ground taken by the hon. and learned Gentleman had been against altering the Schedule, therefore he would not touch Ireland at all. The maximum would be £600 in England and Scotland, and in Ireland £500.

Amendment proposed,

In page 41, line 6, after the word "be," to insert the words "£650 in England or Scotland, and in Ireland."—(*Sir R. Assheton Cross*.)

Question put, "That those words be there inserted."

The House *divided*:—Ayes 72; Noes 40: Majority 32.—(Div. List, No. 280.)

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, his next Motion would be to amend the Bill, so as to bring up the scale as nearly as possible to what it was when the Bill was first introduced, a quarter having been taken off by the Attorney General's proposal.

Amendment proposed, in page 41, line 8, to leave out "£540," and insert "£710."—(*Sir R. Assheton Cross*.)

Amendment *agreed to*.

Amendment proposed, in page 41, line 8, after "2,000," to insert the words "in England, Scotland, and in Ireland."—(*Sir R. Assheton Cross*.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Mr. Harrington

MR. BUCHANAN said, the right hon. Gentleman opposite (*Sir R. Assheton Cross*) said he did not wish to increase expenditure. Well, there was no county in Scotland which returned two Members, all the county constituencies returning only one Member; therefore this Amendment would very largely increase the expenditure in every county in Scotland. They had heard what the Irish Members wanted—namely, a diminution of these expenses; but there was not a single Scotch county Member who desired this Amendment. If they were to be expected to vote on this proposal without hearing a word of explanation from the Attorney General, he thought they would have a very good reason to complain.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (*Sir HENRY JAMES*) said, that if hon. Gentlemen knew the difficulty there was in meeting the views of all Members, they would be more prepared to make allowances for the Government. He could not make a concession in the case of a two candidate constituency, unless he did it also in that of a one candidate constituency. The county Members had thought the amount somewhat small; but there would be, even with that, far less expenditure than had occurred in nearly every county election. He thought the hon. Member had mentioned one case where the expenditure was less than it would be under the Bill; but as he was familiar with the opinions of Scotch Members, he would ask the right hon. Gentleman opposite (*Sir R. Assheton Cross*) whether he would put Scotland in the same position as Ireland? If any hon. Member would rise to move that, no doubt the House would consider it. It was mentioned in Committee that the Government were prepared to accept this Amendment; and he, for one, would vote with the right hon. Gentleman.

MR. JESSE COLLINGS said, he was present when that arrangement was made, and he had understood that 25 per cent was to be taken off when two Members stood together. The expenses of the two, if each candidate stood singly, might amount to £1,000; but where they stood together they would only be allowed to spend £750. As far as his understanding went, it certainly was not intended that when a man stood alone he might spend 50 per cent more than was put down in the Schedule.

He did not know whether the feeling was shared by hon. Members around him; but he certainly felt that they had a right to complain that, without Notice, such a large percentage had been put upon the possible expenditure of a single candidate. He must say that this proposal was quite new to him. He understood the argument as to hon. Members standing together; and, as far as he recollected, there was an understanding at that time as to the Schedule.

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (Sir FARRER HERSCHELL) said, a proposal was put upon the Paper by the right hon. Gentleman opposite to increase the expenditure to £500; and when the right hon. Gentleman brought it forward, he stated that he did so in consequence of a proposal that he had made, or was about to make, relating to the case of the election of one candidate. It was in connection with this that increase took place, and some discussion had occurred with regard to it, the hon. and learned Gentleman (the Attorney General) stating that he was prepared to accept that increase. No Division was, therefore, taken upon it. Later on the Amendment was withdrawn, and the Attorney General was asked by the right hon. Gentleman if he was prepared to stand by what he had said, and he had replied that he was. It was impossible to depart from the line taken in Committee.

DR. FARQUHARSON said, that this increasing expenditure in counties would be very unpopular in Scotland in at least three counties, of which Linlithgowshire was one. It would very largely increase expenditure, and would increase his own expenditure, for instance, by at least £140 at the next election if this Amendment were carried.

MR. DICK-PEDDIE: I move to alter the proposed Amendment by the omission of the words "and Scotland."

Amendment proposed to amend the said proposed Amendment, by leaving out the words "and Scotland."—(*Mr. Dick-Peddie.*)

MR. SPEAKER: That Amendment will not apply, as moved by the hon. Member. To carry out the hon. Member's intention the following should be the Motion:—To amend the said proposed

Amendment by inserting, before "Scotland," the word "in."

MR. DICK-PEDDIE said, he should be happy to adopt the suggestion of Mr. Speaker.

Amendment proposed to the said proposed Amendment, before the word "Scotland," to insert the word "in."—(*Mr. Dick-Peddie.*)

Question proposed, "That the word 'in' be there inserted."

MR. EVANS WILLIAMS said, he thought the Amendment was an extremely objectionable one. It seemed to him that the same objection applied to this Amendment as to the Amendment that had been moved just now by the Irish Members. Many hon. Members had left the House knowing that this proposal was to be made, and that this concession was to be granted. The Attorney General had said that he did not know of any county in Scotland which spent less money than this maximum. Well; but the hon. and learned Gentleman knew a county in England where the expenditure was only £500. True, this figure did not include the cost of conveyances; but these were not to be paid for under this Bill. The fact was that the House was taken by surprise in the Division which had just been taken. He himself attached no importance to the fact that a conversation had taken place in Committee across the Table between the right hon. Gentleman the Member for South-West Lancashire (Sir R. Assheton Cross) and the Attorney General. He had heard all that had been said with regard to the Schedules in Committee; and he was quite sure that the House would not endorse this proposal of raising the scale in counties. As he protested against the measure being converted into one for the promotion of corrupt practices, instead of one for their prevention, he begged to move to add to the proposed Amendment "and in Wales," the greater number of Welsh counties being in the position described by the hon. Member for Edinburgh (Mr. Buchanan).

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, there was a great distinction to be drawn between Irish and English constituencies. That which was in the Bill had been adhered to with regard to Ireland.

Question put.

The House *divided*:—Ayes 45; Noes 58: Majority 13.—(Div. List, No. 281.)

Words inserted.

MR. HEALY said, it was an extremely unsatisfactory state of things that the House of Commons, at that hour of the morning (2.50), should be engaged in the consideration of such an important Bill as this. He thought it would be wise if the Bill were re-committed in respect of the Schedule, so that it might be discussed reasonably. The Scotch Members were not satisfied, the Welsh Members were not satisfied, and certainly the Irish Members were not satisfied.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) proposed, in page 45, line 15, at end of Schedule, to insert as a fresh sub-section—

"For the purposes of this Schedule the number of electors shall be taken according to the enumeration of the electors in the register of electors."

Amendment agreed to.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) proposed, in page 41, line 15, at end of Schedule, to add—

"Where there are two or more joint candidates at an election the maximum amount of expenses mentioned in Parts Three or Four of this Schedule shall, for each of such joint candidates, be reduced by one-fourth, or, if there are more than two joint candidates, by one-third.

"Where the same election agent is appointed by or on behalf of two or more candidates at an election, or where two or more candidates by themselves or any agent or agents, hire or use the same committee rooms for such election, or employ or use the services of the same sub-agents, clerks, messengers, or polling agents, at such election, or publish a joint address or joint circular or notice at such election, those candidates shall be deemed for the purposes of this enactment to be joint candidates at such election.

"Provided that—

- (a.) The employment and use of the same committee room, sub-agent, clerk, messenger, or polling agent, if accidental or casual, or of a trivial and unimportant character, shall not be deemed of itself to constitute persons joint candidates.
- (b.) Nothing in this enactment shall prevent candidates from ceasing to be joint candidates.
- (c.) Where any excess of expenses above the maximum allowed for one of two or more joint candidates has arisen owing to his having ceased to be a joint candidate, or to his having become a joint candidate after having begun his election as a

separate candidate, and such ceasing or beginning was in good faith, and such excess is not more than under the circumstances is reasonable, and the total expenses of such candidate do not exceed the maximum amount allowed for a separate candidate, such excess shall be deemed to have arisen from a reasonable cause within the meaning of the enactments respecting the allowance by the High Court or election court of an exception from the provisions of this Act which would otherwise make an act an illegal practice, and the candidate and his election agent may be relieved accordingly from the consequences of having incurred such excess of expenses."

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. WHITLEY said, he was satisfied it would have been much better if the Schedule had been left as it originally stood. He was satisfied that the Maximum Schedule was not more than would be required in the case of his own city. The new proposition of the hon. and learned Attorney General was to decrease the amount one-fourth for a double candidature. Now, the effect of that would be different from what the hon. and learned Gentleman supposed—there would not be any joint candidatures. He did not, at that time of the morning, mean to divide the House upon this matter, but would simply content himself by protesting against the proposition of the hon. and learned Attorney General. As a matter of fact, he (Mr. Whitley) believed that the expenses of elections in boroughs would be greatly increased, as every candidate would fight separately, in order to get the higher scale.

Amendment agreed to.

SECOND SCHEDULE.

On the Motion of Sir R. ASSHETON CROSS (for Mr. W. H. SMITH), the following consequential Amendments were agreed to:—Page 41, line 30, leave out "on my behalf," and insert "by my authority, or with my knowledge or consent;" line 30, after "person," insert "nor any club, society, or association has;" line 30, leave out "has;" page 42, line 34, after "person," insert "nor any club, society, or association has;" line 34, leave out "has;" page 43, line 32, after "person," insert "club, society, or association;" line 37, after "person," insert "club, society, or association;" page 46, line 12, after "person," insert "club, society, or association;" line 20,

after "person," insert "club, society, or association."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, he had to make a request to the House in respect of a technical matter in relation to the Bill—namely, that it should be re-committed in respect of Clause 34, in order to take power to charge certain expenses upon the Imperial Fund in cases where the Election Judge sat as an Appeal Court from the decision of the Commissioner. He would point out to the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) that having gone through the Schedules very fully in Committee, they could not be expected to go through them again. At the same time, there was a disposition to deal with some of the smaller Irish boroughs—Portarlington, for instance—which did not contain more than about 150 electors, in the sense indicated by the hon. Member.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Bill be re-committed in respect of Clause 34."—(*Mr. Attorney General.*)

MR. BUCHANAN asked the Attorney General to take into consideration the case of the Scotch counties, which were very materially affected by the Amendments of the right hon. Gentleman the Member for South-West Lancashire (Sir R. Assheton Cross). The hon. and learned Gentleman, in the course of the few remarks which he made, had simply repeated the statement of the right hon. Gentleman; but there was no reference to any Scotch county.

MR. HEALY said, he thought the statement of the hon. and learned Gentleman was a very fair one, and he thanked him for having made it. Of course, he should offer no objection of the kind suggested; but the Attorney General having spoken of consulting the feeling of Members from Ireland, he trusted he would be guided by the numerical strength of those present. He pointed out that they had just had a large body on their side—namely, 23, the Government numbering only three in the Lobby.

COLONEL ALEXANDER said, he hoped the Attorney General would not follow the advice of the hon. Member for Edinburgh (Mr. Buchanan). Seeing

that the hon. Member was a borough Member, he was unable to understand why he was so interested in respect of the Scotch counties.

Motion agreed to.

Bill re-committed in respect of Clause 34.

Bill considered in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

Amendment proposed, Clause 34, page 17, to insert, in Sub-section 4, after the word "Court," the words "and the expenses of the Election Court, and of receiving and accommodating the Election Court."—(*Mr. Attorney General.*)

Amendment agreed to.

Bill reported; as amended, considered.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES): Sir, I have to congratulate hon. Members on having reached this stage of the Bill, the discussion of which has engaged our attention for a very long period. I have also to make a particular request—namely, that the House will now consent to the Bill being read the third time.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Bill be now read the third time."—(*Mr. Attorney General.*)

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS: Sir, I concur with the remarks of the hon. and learned Attorney General, and also express my hope that the House will agree to the Motion for the third reading.

Motion agreed to.

Bill read the third time, and passed.

EDUCATION (SCOTLAND) BILL.

(*Mr. Mundella, The Lord Advocate, Mr. Solicitor General for Scotland.*)

[BILL 226.] COMMITTEE.

Order for Committee read.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair."—(*Mr. Mundella.*)

COLONEL ALEXANDER said, he had no objection to this Bill, which he believed to be a good one; but he did object to its being considered in Committee at a quarter past 3 o'clock in the morning. He thought, when the House had sat for 11 hours, it might fairly be said that the limit of human endurance had

been reached. He might, perhaps, have yielded his assent to the Motion, had the House not been going to sit again until Monday; but seeing that they were to meet again to-morrow at 12 o'clock, and that Mr. Speaker and the officers of the House must be worn out, he begged to move that the House do adjourn.

Motion made, and Question proposed,
"That this House do now adjourn."—
(*Colonel Alexander.*)

MR. MUNDELLA regretted that the consideration of the preceding Business of the day had occupied so long; and, for his own part, he was loth to make any further demand upon the time of hon. Members than was absolutely necessary. He had only brought on the Bill at that late hour, because he was aware that several of the Scotch Members had remained in town on purpose to pass it. Those Gentlemen had urged him to bring on the Bill that evening; and as he believed its provisions were agreed to on all sides, and that it would be passed through Committee in a very short time, he would appeal to the House to allow this stage to be taken *pro forma*, on the understanding that Progress would be at once reported, and the Bill considered again in Committee on Monday next.

SIR WALTER B. BARTELOT said, that, notwithstanding the New Rules that had been passed for the purpose of facilitating the Business of the House, they had been harder worked during that Session than in any previous year. Hon. Members had sat with so much patience that the Government were inclined, if they were allowed, to keep the House sitting all night. He protested that it was not right to allow the Government to take a single Order after the present had been disposed of. Out of deference to their Speaker they ought not to prolong the Sitting one moment beyond that.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he hoped the Motion of his hon. and gallant Friend would not be pressed. The remaining Motions ought to be very quickly disposed of; and with regard to the Education (Scotland) Bill he pointed out that unless it was taken then it could not be put down on Monday.

Motion, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Original Question again proposed.

Colonel Alexander

MR. HENDERSON said, he had protested against the second reading of the Bill being taken at a late hour, and he protested against the Committee stage being taken after 3 o'clock in the morning; but as he was anxious not to throw any obstacle in the way of the Bill at that period of the Session, and as the measure contained many valuable provisions, he supposed they must allow it to go into Committee. He understood the right hon. Gentleman the Vice President of the Council of Education to say that if that stage were taken he would put down the Bill for Monday for further consideration in Committee. That being so, he should not oppose the Motion that the Speaker leave the Chair.

Original Question put, and *agreed to*.

Bill *considered* in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

Motion made, and Question proposed,
"That the Chairman do report Progress, and ask leave to sit again."—(*Mr. Mundella.*)

Motion *agreed to*.

Committee report Progress; to sit again upon *Monday* next.

ISLE OF WIGHT HIGHWAYS (*re-committed*) BILL.—[BILL 268.]

(*Mr. Hibbert, Mr. George Russell, Mr. Ashley, Sir Charles W. Dilke.*)

COMMITTEE.

Order for Committee read.

MR. HIBBERT appealed to the House to allow this Bill to be considered in Committee. It was necessary that the Bill should go to the House of Lords on Monday; and he regretted to state that, owing to a misunderstanding which had occurred in connection with it, a considerable amount of time had been lost. The Bill had been before a Select Committee; and as its provisions had been accepted by all parties interested in it, he believed it would be disposed of in five minutes.

Motion made, and Question proposed,
"That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair."—(*Mr. Hibbert.*)

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he coincided with the suggestion made by his hon. and gallant Friend (Sir Walter B.

Barthelet) that no more Business should be taken at that Sitting.

Question put.

The House divided:—Ayes 60; Noes 26: Majority 34.—(Div. List, No. 282.)

Bill considered in Committee, and reported, without Amendment; read the third time, and passed.

LEASEHOLDERS (FACILITIES FOR PURCHASE OF FEE SIMPLE) BILL.

(Mr. Broadhurst, Mr. Burt, Mr. R. T. Reid, Mr. Passmore Edwards.)

[BILL 134.] SECOND READING.

Order for Second Reading read.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Bill be read a second time To-morrow."

Amendment proposed, to leave out the word "To-morrow," in order to insert the words "upon Monday next,"—(Sir R. Assheton Cross,)—instead thereof.

Question put, "That the word 'To-morrow' stand part of the Question."

The House divided:—Ayes 28; Noes 59: Majority 31.—(Div. List, No. 283.)

Main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to.

Second Reading deferred till Monday next.

SALE OF INTOXICATING LIQUORS ON SUNDAY (DURHAM) BILL.

(Mr. Theodore Fry, Mr. Walter James, Mr. Lambton, Mr. Dodds, Mr. Thomas Richardson, Mr. Gourley, Mr. James Thompson.)

[BILL 21.] COMMITTEE.

Order for Committee read.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That this House will, To-morrow, resolve itself into the said Committee."—(Mr. Theodore Fry.)

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he should propose to substitute Monday for to-morrow.

Amendment proposed, to leave out the word "To-morrow," in order to insert the words "Monday next,"—(Sir R. Assheton Cross,)—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the word 'To-morrow' stand part of the Question."

MR. ANDERSON said, it used to be the admitted privilege of an hon. Member to put down his Bill for the next day, or any other day he pleased, on which the House was to sit, and when the Order was called it rested with the House to decide whether it should be proceeded with then or not; but the system now was to endeavour to make it an absolute rule that private Members should not be allowed, without opposition, to name the day for their Bills; and the Government had, in this case, given a most improper pledge, and it would be absolutely necessary for private Members to unite against this practice. By the Rules of the House it was practically impossible for a private Member to get a place for any stage beyond the second reading of a Bill.

Question put.

The House divided:—Ayes 35; Noes 47: Majority 12.—(Div. List, No. 284.)

MR. THEODORE FRY said, that after this vote of the House he begged to move that the Order be discharged.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Order for Committee be read and discharged."—(Mr. Theodore Fry.)

Motion agreed to.

Order discharged; Bill withdrawn.

CHOLERA HOSPITALS (IRELAND) BILL.

(Colonel Nolan, Mr. O'Kelly, Mr. Findlater, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Macfarlane.)

[BILL 282.] COMMITTEE.

Order for Committee read.

COLONEL NOLAN said, he hoped the House would allow this Bill to go into Committee. It would not take a minute to dispose of it, because there was no difference of opinion with regard to it amongst the Irish Members, and he did not think that opposition was likely to come from any other quarter.

Bill considered in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1 (Sanitary authority may take possession of site).

MR. TOTTENHAM said, he had an Amendment to propose; but the hon. and gallant Gentleman would not have any difficulty in accepting it.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 5, after the word "officer," to insert the words "of a Union."—(Mr. Tottenham.)

Question, "That those words be there inserted," put, and *agreed to*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Remaining clauses *agreed to*.

Bill *reported*; as amended, to be considered upon *Monday* next.

MOTION.

SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE (NEW RULES).—RESOLUTION.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that the Rules of the Supreme Court of Judicature, 1883, may be annulled."—(*Sir. R Assheton Cross.*)

Debate arising.

Debate *adjourned* till *To-morrow*.

House adjourned at a quarter
before Four o'clock in
the morning.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Saturday, 11th August, 1883.

The House met at Twelve of the clock.

MINUTES.]—PUBLIC BILL—Committee—Bankruptcy [243].

PARLIAMENTARY REGISTRATION IRELAND) BILL.

POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER.

MR. GLADSTONE: I am anxious to take the earliest opportunity to say that the Parliamentary Registration (Ireland) Bill is put down on the Votes to-day in error—an error I am very sorry for. Understand that it does not come on to-day.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS: Will the Bill be put down on Monday?

MR. GLADSTONE: Yes, for the chance; but if it does not come on on Monday, then it will be taken on Tuesday. I move, therefore, to postpone the Order till Monday.

Motion made, and Question, "That the said Order be deferred till Monday next,"—(*Mr. Gladstone.*)—put, and *agreed to*.

QUESTIONS.

COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEAL BILL.

MR. MORGAN LLOYD asked Mr. Attorney General, On what day he proposes to take the Criminal Appeal Bill; and if there is any truth in the report that it is proposed to abandon the latter part of the Bill dealing with non-capital cases?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, he must answer the latter Question in the negative. He could not mention the day on which the Bill would be taken; but it would be taken at the earliest opportunity. The Bill would be restored to its original condition as introduced into the House.

PARLIAMENT—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—BANKRUPTCY BILL.

MR. CALLAN asked Mr. Attorney General for Ireland, Whether, in the event of his proceeding with the Clauses of which he has given Notice for the purpose of extending the Bankruptcy Bill to Ireland, he will be prepared to introduce further Clauses expressly re-enacting the several Clauses of "The Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act, 1857," and "The Bankruptcy Amendment (Ireland) Act, 1872," which it is proposed not to repeal, so as to make the present Bill as complete a Code for Ireland as it will be for England; and, whether, in the event of his not doing so, he will be prepared to accept and adopt the Amendments requisite to expressly introduce such Clauses, instead of leaving it to the Irish Courts hereafter to determine how far these Acts of 1857 and 1872 are consistent or inconsistent with the present Bill, as is contemplated by the Clauses of which he has given Notice?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER), in reply, said, he could answer the Question in a sentence. It was not the intention of the Government to make any alteration of the Irish clauses in the Bankruptcy Bill. Just as the Bill in reference to England did not repeal the sections constituting the existing Courts, so with reference to Ireland the clauses were not repealed which constituted the Irish Court of Bankruptcy and the County Courts.

MR. CALLAN asked, whether the clauses extending the Bankruptcy Bill

to Ireland which appeared on the Paper were the same, and, except in principle, identical with those clauses placed before the Grand Committee?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER), in reply, said, that the clauses had been revised and considerably altered; but in substance they were the same.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

—o—o—

SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE (NEW RULES).

RESOLUTION. [ADJOURNED DEBATE.]

Order read, for resuming Adjourned Debate on Question [10th August],

"That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that the Rules of the Supreme Court of Judicature, 1883, may be annulled."—(*Sir R. Assheton Cross*.)

Question again proposed.

Debate resumed.

SIR HARDINGE GIFFARD said, that he held in his hand two Petitions, which he begged to present to the House—one signed on behalf of the Committee of the Bar, and the other from the Law Society of Yorkshire—and he should have to refer to both those Petitions in the course of his observations. Before doing so, however, he wished at once to get rid of the impression that this Motion was, in the smallest degree, adverse to Her Majesty's Government; and, indeed, if he had not possessed the somewhat doubtful advantage of seniority, this Motion would have proceeded from the other side of the House. He knew no reason why Her Majesty's Government should regard themselves as being implicated in the matter. Her Majesty's Government were doubtless right in supporting the Executive to a certain extent; but, as a matter of fact, they had had no more to do with the actual framing of these Rules, and had incurred no more responsibility in respect of them, than he had. The Rules, which had been drawn up by the Rule Committee of the Judges, if not at once challenged, would soon have the force of a Statute; and the only mode in which they could be amended or altered afterwards was by a special Act of Parliament. They became law on the lapse of 40 days after being laid on the Table of Parliament. He hoped that since these Rules had been published hon.

Members had taken the trouble to ascertain for themselves what was the character of this new Code of Law—for such it actually was—which was rapidly becoming a Statute, and which would shortly be binding upon all Her Majesty's subjects, subject only to the possibility of alteration by Act of Parliament. The Rules had been published in the form of a bulky volume. It was true that the Attorney General had been pleased to say facetiously that he saw no good reason why a bulky volume should not become an Act of Parliament; but it was to the fact that it was becoming an Act of Parliament almost without anyone having seen it, or, at all events, without anyone having had time for carefully studying it, that he desired to draw attention to. There was a great deal in this volume—as far as he had been able to master its contents—of which he himself heartily approved; but Rules of such bulk, and involving such important and numerous alterations of the existing law, should not be allowed to become law without full and careful consideration. One or two of his Friends, who thought with him on this subject, had asked why he had not, in that event, moved to postpone the consideration of the Rules. There was no such power. If there had been, he should have been glad to adopt that recommendation. The only mode in which the question could be raised was by such Motion as was before the House, for an Address, under the powers of the Statute, to annul the Rules. There could not be the smallest objection to the Rules being annulled for this Session. They could be re-introduced in February next, and could come into operation on the following Easter, and to that he failed to see the smallest objection. It would only be a form of postponement, and that was all he at present asked for. Let him call the attention of the House to the nature of the power that had been exercised in framing these Rules, and to the extraordinary manner in which that power had been exercised. He said nothing at present as to the limitation of the power which had been given by Parliament to the Rule Committee of the Judges, although he should have to ask, later on, whether these Rules were such as it was really within the power of the Judges to make? At present he was assuming that they were entirely within the power of the Judges. The power

that had been given to the Judges—originally to all, and now, by an Amendment Act, to a select body of them, chosen for the purpose by the Lord Chancellor—was to frame Rules for the regulation of the practice and procedure of the Courts; and it was declared, as he had said, that if the Rules so drawn up by them should remain unchallenged upon the Table of the House for 40 days they should have the force of a Statute—the only mode of challenging them being an Address to Her Majesty praying that they might be annulled. The Rules which had been framed by the Rule Committee of the Judges, under the authority of the Statute, with their Appendices, formed a volume of 417 pages, and the volume comprehended a great variety of matters. It was laid upon the Table of the House—whatever that might mean, because those who took an interest in the Rules could not see them until they were published—on the 10th of July, and no one could get a copy of them until the 25th of July; and it was only on the 11th of August, on a Saturday afternoon, which the Prime Minister had been good enough to set apart for their consideration, that they had come before the House for discussion. What full and careful consideration these Rules would receive at this late period of the Session might be judged from the empty state of the Benches of the House on that occasion. Such was the state of things, notwithstanding that the Rules had reference to matters most vitally affecting not merely practice—as the popular world would understand it—and whether it was strictly within the meaning of the word he would say hereafter—of the Courts, but matters vitally affecting important political rights. That being the nature of the case, he would ask the House what opportunity was there, or had there been, to examine this bulky Act of Parliament—for such it was—unless they agreed to the Motion? The volume comprehended a great deal which he quite admitted might be valuable; but he would ask those hon. Members who had got it in their hands to turn to the last page of it. They would there find there were 22 sets of Rules—many of them themselves Acts of Parliament in effect, because they had already been published, and the 40 days had gone by—which were repealed by this Act. The form in which the volume had

been presented was not such as was calculated to enable anybody to follow at once what was being done by it. It was usual, when they were called upon in that House to repeal Acts of Parliament, to have those Acts carefully set out in a Schedule; but unless a person took the trouble—as he had done—to go through the whole of this volume, it was impossible to know what “Appendix O,” which repealed the 22 sets of Rules, meant. When they took the necessary trouble they found that by these Rules our whole existing Code of Legal Procedure, dating from 1852 downward, was to be repealed. This was a much more important matter than at first sight it appeared, because every change in our legal procedure involved vast expense to the suitor; and, indeed, Baron Martin had once observed that every set of new Rules of Procedure cost the country some £3,000,000 sterling in litigation. The moment there was a new Code of Law or Procedure established decisions were engrafted upon it; and, after a time, it became a part of the known law, and people were able to advise, and save expense. Any new alteration or change in procedure involved an enormous amount of expense to the suitors; because the moment they had something new, and not governed by decisions, that moment they had a fruitful source of fresh litigation and consequent expense. Was it reasonable, he asked, that they should have this body of altered law presented to them at this period? Hon. and learned Gentlemen opposite suggested across the Table that these Rules were simply a re-enactment; but that matter was much more serious than they seemed to think, for it was not a re-enactment *simpliciter*, but a re-enactment with alterations; and if there was one thing more difficult than another, and more dangerous, it was to find a section which at first sight appeared to be a re-enactment of the same law which existed before, but which, on careful examination, was found to contain important and material changes, which, in some instances, gave an entirely new effect to the Rule. He foresaw that great danger would result from this mode of proceeding. But, after all, what was the great hurry for passing these New Rules? Why not have waited until next Session before laying them upon the Table of the House? Presenting them

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this to be extremely undesirable, for if people were not alive to their rights they would allow the opportunity of trial by jury to go by. These special applications were things which would be found scattered all through the Rules. Special application might be made to the Judge, and the Judge would have discretion to make orders; but every step in that procedure meant costs. Of course, it was extremely easy to sneer at the lawyers about this, and say that they would be disposed to acquiesce in anything which would magnify costs. He did not believe any such thing; but if the necessity for visiting a solicitor arose for the purpose of defeating the Rule, the object of which was really to deprive parties of their right of trial by jury, no lawyer, any more than anyone else, could be expected to give up his time without payment. It appeared to him that the change brought about by the Rule to which he referred was not a question of procedure at all, and that it was only within the right of Parliament to effect it. The Judges might decide the point, if it went before them for decision, how they liked. That was their affair; but he believed that the selection of cases made on the Rule was a bad one, for they were not cases in which the right of trial by a Judge was much needed. Take cases of fraud, and those things which were the subjects of angry and bitter discussions in these days. Let them, for instance, take the case of an action against the Directors of a Company for issuing a fraudulent prospectus. They might have a man's character tainted for life by the action of a single Judge. It seemed to him that if there was one particular class of case more than another where it was essential to preserve the absolute right to have recourse to trial by jury it was that class where a man's character was at stake. Take the case of an action on a bill of exchange, and the question turned on whether it was a forgery or not. They could not bring into a definite proportion those cases where Constitutional right ought to be the rule, and they ought only to have exception from that in cases where the parties were agreed that no question as to character would arise. Then there was the question of discovery. Under our new system the right of discovery had been one of the most valuable

changes ever effected in the law; but they were now to have a serious limit put upon it—that they should have no discovery unless a deposit of £5 was made, but the additional sums of £10, according to circumstances, until the maximum of £20 was reached. To a rich man that would be immaterial; but to a poor man it might amount to an absolute deprivation of the right he might otherwise possess. Then the Rules tampered with the Laws of Evidence. He did not believe the Judges had any power to alter the Laws of Evidence. That was not procedure—it was part of the Common Law of the Kingdom.

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (SIR FARRER HERSCHELL): By express enactment the Judges have no power to interfere with the Law of Evidence.

SIR HARDINGE GIFFARD said, that whether they had power or not, they had done it. It was a question of the absolute despotism of the Judges. In Rule 38, Order 36, page 105, the Judge might in all cases disallow any question put in cross-examination of either party, or any witness, which question might appear vexatious, and not relevant to any matter to be inquired into. Was that only declaratory of the Common Law? If so, what was the use of putting it in a Rule? If it was not, it was a dangerous innovation, and altogether *ultra vires*. But was that the meaning of it—was it declaratory? For his own part, he did not believe it was. It appeared to him to limit the power of appeal from the Judge in the most serious way. If a Judge disallowed a question they had a right to put—a question as to credit and so on—it was a matter for a new trial.

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (SIR FARRER HERSCHELL): So it is now.

SIR HARDINGE GIFFARD asked, what, then, would be the use of the Rule? They did not want a re-enactment of all the Laws of Evidence. But he did not agree with the Solicitor General that this was merely declaratory, and in future the question argued would not be the old question. It was at present whether such a question was admissible; but in the future it would be whether it appeared to the Judge to be vexatious and not relevant. That would be the question to be determined, and the Judge before whom it was argued would naturally be inclined to say—"It appeared

to my learned brother, and he, having all the facts before him, was much better able to determine the point than I am." If the matter was one for appeal at all, it was only so to this extent—that the Judge in the Court of Appeal might say—"It is a matter which, stated in the Act of Parliament, is a question in the Judge's discretion with which we cannot interfere." That limited the powers of an advocate in a manner which appeared to him to be most serious to the public. In works of fiction it was the fashion to speak of the right of cross-examination being abused, and perhaps it was sometimes; but it was a much more serious matter whether, when important questions were at stake, the right of cross-examination should be interfered with by the Judge. Here was another case. Of course, he did not wish to mention names; but he desired to give the case, as it was a fair illustration of his argument. A young woman brought an action, and in cross-examination she was asked whether 18 years before she had not had an illegitimate child. Until the whole circumstances were disclosed that appeared to be an exceedingly cruel question; and if these Rules had been passed no doubt the Judge would have disallowed the question as being irrelevant and vexatious; but when the whole details of the case were brought to light it appeared that she had been passing off this child as her brother in order to establish an identity, and the answer to that question was the cause of an indictment for perjury. They could not tell the Judge all that was in their briefs, and it was undesirable that they should be called upon to state the object with which a question was asked, as the explanation would probably defeat the whole object of the question. Such matters as these must be left to the good taste and discretion of the counsel. Then there was a great extension of the power, under Order 14, of the Rules of 1875 to obtain summary judgment in cases where there was no defence. That Order was intended to be limited to demands for liquidated sums of money. But now that power was extended to actions for the recovery of land. So important a change in the law ought not to be made in a body of Rules of Procedure, but if, at all, only by express enactment after debate. He expressed no opinion as to the de-

Sir Hardinge Giffard

sirability of the change; but he thought that was a reason why time should be given for the further discussion of the Rules. He could not, however, affect to discuss the Rules in detail at this late period of the Session, which rendered it necessary that they should not be passed in a hurry. Then, in what was called third party proceedings, the Rules gave the Judge despotic power. Under Rule 16, Orders 48, 49, and 52, a third party might, on receiving notice, be absolutely precluded from appearing on the trial. He felt that he must be brief; but the abundance of material really formed his difficulty. He was only able, under the circumstances, however, to point to those matters which seemed to be pressing matters of principle, and ask the House if they would allow these Rules to become law without further inquiry. Another matter which he must refer to, however, was this—An effort had been made from time to time to menace the jurisdiction of the County Courts, and decrease that of the Superior Courts. Over and over again Parliament had refused to do this; but now he found in these Rules a proposal that, if a suitor went to the Superior Courts with a case where there was a concurrent jurisdiction, he should have no more costs than he would obtain in the County Courts. Was that a desirable thing? If it was desirable to get rid of the jurisdiction of the Superior Courts in County Court cases, they ought to do so by express enactment, and not by Rules of this sort. He asked, moreover, was it desirable, when both branches of the Legal Profession asked for further inquiry, that so reasonable a request should be refused. He understood that a Petition had been presented in this matter by the Incorporated Law Society; but he had two others to present to the House. One was from the Yorkshire Law Society, and set out that the Rules which had been issued effected very great changes with which the Legal Profession was deeply interested. The Petition represented the solicitors of Yorkshire, and regretted that they were not afforded an opportunity of offering suggestions before the Rules were passed; and they were of opinion that the fullest opportunity should be given for the consideration of the Rules. He had another Petition from the Bar Committee, which had been recently formed, which set

forth that the Rules could not fail to create momentous results in the administration of justice, one of which was that a great increase would be caused in the Chamber work of the Judges, without any proviso being made for its despatch. They conceived that in many respects changes which the Rules involved were such as to demand careful consideration. No opportunity had been afforded the Bar to consider the Rules before they were presented to Parliament, and the Petitioners were of the opinion that this was to be regretted. He had only one word to say as to the mode in which these Rules had been secreted by the Judges. Instead of being discussed openly, as they would have been if they had been an Act of Parliament, they had been discussed in secret. They had been intentionally concealed, moreover. He did not mean to say that in any disrespect to the learned Judges, because he supposed they thought it right that they should not be made public. The Benchers of Lincoln's Inn—a body which he feared enjoyed no great popularity—and the Bar Committee had each applied to the Lord Chancellor for a copy of the Rules; but they had been courteously but firmly refused. They had, therefore, been intentionally kept back—he did not say with a sinister intention; but they had been kept back, and had only been laid on the Table in the month of July, when, if they did not present an Address praying that they should be annulled, they would become an Act of Parliament. He ventured to think that the House would never have permitted its functions to be handed over to the Committee of Judges had they known what the result would be. First of all, the power of making Rules was given to the entire body of Judges; but they had not even that safeguard now. He saw the Solicitor General taking a note, possibly because it was the late Government who were responsible for the change in 1875; but that did not affect his case. He was considering this question apart from Party motives. He was glad to admit that the Act of 1873, which was the work of a Liberal Government, did not give such wide powers to a Committee of the Bench; and, for his part, he thought the change of 1875 was most injurious, and they were seeing the result of it at the present time. If great changes of this

sort were to be made they ought to be effected by Act of Parliament, and not by a small body of Judges selected by one particular Officer of the Government. He therefore hoped that the House would not at once give its sanction to the Rules.

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (Sir FARRER HERSCHELL) said, that this was not a Party matter, and he had taken no notes in any Party spirit; but he thought it essential to point out that a great deal of which the hon. and learned Gentleman complained had been done under the very auspices of the hon. and learned Member himself. The hon. and learned Gentleman had read Petitions to the effect that the Legal Profession ought to have been consulted; but he (the Solicitor General) did not think that the manner in which the Rules affected the Legal Profession ought to be put in the foreground. What they had to consider first of all were the interests of the suitors, and the interests of the Profession were a secondary consideration. These Rules had been framed in accordance with the provisions of an Act of Parliament, which cast upon the Judges the duty of framing Rules of Procedure. The Judges had spent a considerable amount of time and care in the framing of them; and he could not help thinking that his hon. and learned Friend had treated them with scant courtesy after all the trouble they had taken in the interests of suitors. The hon. and learned Gentleman suggested that Her Majesty should annul these Rules, so that they might be brought forward again next year; but he (the Solicitor General) was not quite so sure that it would be possible to reproduce them after they had been annulled. The hon. and learned Gentleman said it would be possible for the Judges to make the same Rules again the very day after the annulment; but he was not quite so sure as to that. It would raise a very serious Constitutional question. [Mr. WILLIS: But they could be annulled again.] That was true; but they could not go on in that way; and it might be difficult to bring into effect at once Rules which had already been annulled by Her Majesty. It was a serious thing to say that the Judges could re-enact Rules which Her Majesty had said should not be enforced. For his part, he regarded

the Rules as a very beneficial reform in the interests of the suitors. They would very greatly reduce litigation, and cheapen the cost of it to the suitor; and the proposal of his hon. and learned Friend was that they should abandon these reforms for another year. He thought the fact that the Rules would very much cheapen litigation—of course, he did not refer to his hon. and learned Friend opposite—might be one of the reasons why so strong an objection was taken to them in some directions. He would not deal with the details of the Rules, and his hon. and learned Friend had dealt with only three or four Rules, which were, doubtless, those to which exception might most easily be taken. The attack of the hon. and learned Gentleman was really directed more against the Act of Parliament than against the New Rules; but he would point out that the hon. and learned Gentleman was a party—indeed, he was personally responsible, by being Solicitor General at the time—to the passing of the Act of 1876, which made the Rule Committee of the Judges as it existed at the present time. There had been no less than 213 New Rules made under the power of the Act of 1876; and all these were made between 1875 and 1880, when the hon. and learned Gentleman was in Office. If the system was such a vicious one, surely his hon. and learned Friend should have objected then. He was a very strange person to come forward at that late period and object to the system. Of those 213 Rules, not one had been submitted to the Benchers of the Inns of Court, or to the Incorporated Law Society; and why was it that the hon. and learned Member did not complain of the Judges keeping them concealed at that time; and why did he wait until he was relieved of responsibility in order to make a complaint of a system which had been universally followed? There were of all these Rules only 125 new ones, or Rules which had been materially altered; and all the rest were simply the re-enactment of existing Rules, it having been thought desirable to consolidate them into one Code. His hon. and learned Friend need not have flourished the large Book of Rules before them therefore, for in 1880 there were as many as 68 New Rules made under his own auspices. In regard to the complaint of the Incorporated Law Society not having been consulted, he would

point out that one of the very Rules which the hon. and learned Gentleman objected to had been framed upon a suggestion thrown out in a resolution passed by the Society itself. He thought it would be much better that those who were interested should lay their objections before the Judges—and he was sure they would have the most careful consideration—than that the Rules should be annulled altogether. If Amendments were required they could be made; and surely it was much better to endeavour to amend the Rules than deprive the public of a great and much-needed reform for another year. The hon. and learned Gentleman also complained that great political rights in connection with trial by jury were interfered with in these Rules; but he could not have read the Rules when he made such a suggestion. With respect to trial by jury, at present, in all cases, the practice was for the party desiring a jury to give notice to the other. In certain cases that practice was still preserved. In other cases an application had to be made to the Judge or Master. The expenses of such an application would only be a few shillings. But what was prevented? There were many cases now in which all the expense of a jury trial was incurred, and which had afterwards to be sent to a Referee. The New Rule prevented that great scandal, and cases which were obviously cases for reference would at once be sent to an arbitrator. Then his hon. and learned Friend had referred to discovery. There was hardly a more valuable right in existence than that of discovery. But it was liable to great abuse. Until he had recently had occasion to make inquiry into the subject, he had no idea how far the costs of litigation had been increased under the Judicature Acts in respect of the right of discovery. Then the application of Order 14 to actions for the recovery of land was a most beneficial change; and there was little danger of abuse, as it only applied after notice to quit had been given. Then, with respect to Order 38, he agreed that it might be questionable whether it was expedient to enact a Rule which in any way altered the law. But there was no warrant for suggesting that there would be no right of appeal against a Judge's refusal to allow a question to be put. The Judge had that power already, and con-

stantly rejected irrelevant evidence, and in that respect his hon. and learned Friend had certainly not made out his case. Could his hon. and learned Friend deny that many of those Rules were beneficial to suitors, and saved great expense? He assured his hon. and learned Friend that even if these Rules were not annulled, those who had framed them would most carefully and anxiously consider any suggestions for improving them; and he could not help thinking that, if the Bar Committee and the Incorporated Law Society would give their services, any blemishes that might be contained in the Rules would be at once removed, without depriving the public of the benefit of these great reforms for the best part of another year. He, therefore, earnestly hoped that the House would reject the Motion now before it.

MR. GREGORY said, that the Solicitor General had naturally laid great stress on the terms of the Motion, which was, in fact, to annul these Rules altogether. But they had been driven to adopt such a form of Resolution. They could deal with the case in no other way. If that Motion were not carried, the Rules became absolute, and there was no other way of protesting against them than by bringing forward such a Resolution. The Petitions which had been presented that day were all in the same terms, and they all asked for time for the consideration of these Rules. In bringing forward a Motion for annulling the Rules, all that was intended was that farther time should be given. It could not have been contemplated that, under the Act of 1875, a body of Rules, making so important an alteration in the law, would be issued. They were, in fact, a New Code of Law. It was true that the extension of Order XIV. was made at the suggestion of the Incorporated Law Society, to which he (Mr. Gregory) belonged; but his hon. and learned Friend (Sir Hardinge Giffard) was not responsible for that suggestion, and it was quite open to him to object to it with reference to the action of the Law Society generally. A somewhat different course had been taken with reference to the Rules and the communication of them to the Society to that which had been taken on previous occasions. It was quite true that a copy of them had been sent to the President of that Society; but it was sent with an invitation not

to make the Rules public, although he might show them to a few friends. The copy sent to him was, therefore, absolutely useless, and only placed him in a false position with respect to the Society and the members of the Profession. The President had not had the opportunity of consulting those interested in the matter; he had had no opportunity of laying the Rules before the representative body of the Profession; and he had had no authority to offer any observations or suggestions upon them. The result had been that so far as the Profession generally was concerned, and so far as he as an individual and a member of the Profession was concerned, they had not had the opportunity of looking into the Rules until they were published under the authority of the House. The Rules came into operation in October, and they required careful consideration in their operation on the public, and also on the Profession of which he was a member, to a very considerable extent. For instance, as regarded the public, one of the provisions of the Rules was that on an application being made for the production of any document, or on the filing of interrogatories, a man should pay £5 into Court. Everybody who had conducted cases knew that a suitor had to apply from time to time for documents, and to administer interrogatories. For a rich suitor this might be immaterial. In the case of a Railway Company, or any undertaking of the kind, this would be a mere nothing; but if a poor man were called upon to make constant payments of £5, the result would be the discouragement of applications, however necessary they might be. With reference to admissions, any person who refused to admit anything had to pay the costs of an application to the Court, unless the Judge at the trial should say that he was quite right in so refusing. Therefore, a suitor would have to pay the costs at once if he refused to admit anything, and he would have to get it back when he could. A man might be called upon to admit the whole case—to admit himself out of Court altogether—and if he refused to do so he must pay the costs. [The SOLICITOR GENERAL dissented.] The hon. and learned Gentleman might not be aware of it, but, as a matter of fact, however right the suitor might be in refusing to make the admis-

sion, he must pay the costs in the first instance. There was another point in connection with the Rules which received the most careful consideration—namely, the question of the delegation of certain duties by the Judges to the officers under them. He admitted that, in the Chancery Division, the duties of the chief clerks were very efficiently performed; but the powers given under the New Rules seemed to be very large indeed. The Judges' officers would be able to do almost everything the Judge himself could do. The present arrangement of business in Chambers, where the Judge attended generally only twice a-week, after a hard day's work in Court, was not satisfactory; and he did not see that the Rules effected any improvement in that respect. With regard to the manner in which the New Rules affected his own Profession, he would venture to say that he did not think the position in which a solicitor stood was generally understood, or that his responsibility and liability were fully recognized. A solicitor was an officer of the Court. As the Court admitted him to practice, so it could deprive him of his practice, and it could make him liable to any penalty it pleased. A solicitor was responsible for negligence or ignorance. He was bound to carry out his duties with due skill and knowledge; and if a client was able to prove that he had not conducted himself properly, he could make him pay any loss incurred by him in consequence of such misconduct. More than this, the Incorporated Law Society had been at work for about 50 years. That Society was formed for the purpose of regulating the practice of the Profession, of elevating their character, of educating them, of taking notice of any misconduct or error or malpractice which they could lay their hands upon. They assisted the Court as far as they could in drawing attention to cases which required to be dealt with by the Court. They devoted their time and their funds to this task; and he thought it would be seen by any Member that in cases where a solicitor's conduct was brought in question action was almost always taken by the Incorporated Law Society. It was on their application that these charges, of which they heard from time to time, were brought against solicitors; and there were many cases of misconduct which

would escape attention were it not for the exertions of the Society and its 4,000 members. The Society also examined young men, and elevated their characters. It had certainly always been willing to co-operate with the Judges in effecting any reforms in the practice of the Courts. The Society felt aggrieved by many of these New Rules, as personally affecting the solicitors as a body. There was almost a series of Orders which specially mentioned the solicitor as being liable, at the discretion of the Judge, for matters of the most trivial character—for any little slip, any little miscarriage, any little delay, any non-delivery of papers—to pay the costs, not only of his own client, but of the other side too. He quite agreed that full jurisdiction over solicitors should be given to the Judges; he quite agreed that if a solicitor should neglect his duty, or be guilty of gross ignorance or gross negligence, he should be liable to his client. But the House was asked to pass a series of New Orders, which really required solicitors to be infallible, not only in their relations with their own clients, but also as regarded the parties on the other side. If they were guilty of the slightest act of negligence, or of the slightest omission, it would be heavily visited on them; and the Orders gave special directions to the Judge on that point. He did not think the Profession had altogether deserved any such treatment, and they felt it deeply. As regarded himself, the matter was comparatively light, because his professional career was practically drawing to a close, and he should probably not have to work very long under the New Code of Regulations; but with the views of his Profession as a body the case was different. They had for years been trying to raise themselves in public estimation. They had educated themselves for the professional duties which devolved upon them. They had the interests of their clients at heart in all they did; and, although, no doubt, there were instances of defalcations—instances similar to those which occurred in all trades and professions—he would appeal to Members of the House who had consulted solicitors—and there were few who had not—to say whether they had not always received honest and disinterested advice, and whether they had ever had their confidence in their solicitors.

Mr. Gregory

tors betrayed? Such being the position of solicitors, they were pained and grieved at the odium which was cast upon them by these Rules. He confessed that he personally felt hurt to the last degree. After exerting himself, in conjunction with others, for 40 years in endeavouring to elevate the Profession, and to improve it in the public regard, when he was on the point of leaving it, he found it placed under the stigma and the odium imposed upon it by the reference made to it in these Rules. He therefore thought they might reasonably ask for some delay, in order to consider the Rules, and make whatever representations in respect of them which might appear necessary. The Solicitor General had said that any representations would be attended to. He (Mr. Gregory) hoped they would; but, in the meantime, the Orders would be in operation, and, when that was so, representations might not have the same effect as they otherwise would have. On these grounds, he begged to support the Motion now before the House.

Mn. BRYCE said, that whatever new powers these Rules might give to Judges in respect to solicitors, they were insignificant as compared with the powers concerning solicitors which Judges already possessed. The most cordial relations existed between the Judges and the solicitors; and he believed that the solicitors were well satisfied with the manner in which Judges had hitherto acted in regard to them. There were no reasons to think that the Judges would behave any worse in the future under the New Rules than they had done in the past under the Old Rules. He did not intend to defend the New Rules in every particular. They contained something which some of them might have preferred to see omitted. But, on the whole, he was of opinion the good Rules outweighed the bad. Apart from the advantage which a more codification and consolidation brought about, the changes which the Rules made were nearly all changes for the better. It seemed to have been forgotten in some quarters that it was upon the Report of a Committee which sat a few years ago that these changes were based, and that, so far from the changes being bold and sweeping, they really fell short of the recommendations of that Committee. The Committee of Judges, in fact,

seemed to have been actuated by the most Conservative spirit. Although the hon. and learned Gentleman (Sir Hardinge Giffard) talked of the Judges as despots, the truth was that the fault of the Judges, if a fault they had, was that they were too timid; they were unwilling to deal boldly with the existing law, even when they were sitting on the Bench; and the same spirit characterized them in the framing of these New Rules. He did not blame them; because it was always better that legal reforms should proceed slowly. In these things it did not do to outrun the opinion of the country, or even of the Profession. With respect to jury trials, the Solicitor General had shown how small the changes were; and he believed the experience of those best acquainted with the subject would have warranted the Judges in going much further. In Scotland, where people were very democratic, things were more advanced, and in the United States, where people also were very democratic, the tendency of legislation had been growing more and more against jury trials and in favour of increasing the power of the Judges, so that the Judges had some precedent for the action they had taken. Although a great number of Rules had been made since the Judicature Act of 1875, there had never been an occasion on which they had been discussed in the House. The Judges might have brought these Rules into operation immediately; but they had chosen to give the House a larger opportunity of considering the changes in Legal Procedure than it had enjoyed before. It would be, therefore, unfortunate if the House were to take a course which it had on previous occasions abstained from taking. Did hon. Members, or did they not, wish to see the procedure of the Courts codified? That procedure, at present, was extremely complex and confused, and needed change. In point of fact, there were few of the 1,045 Rules which were new; he believed the absolutely New Rules only numbered 125; and the 1,045 had been cut down from 1,803. He did not deny there was certain defects in the Rules; but the defects were such that no amount of discussion would enable the House to get rid of them. The Rules raised questions of policy on which hon. Members could not be expected to agree. The hon. and learned Member for Lanu-

ceston (Sir Hardinge Giffard) would say that between this time and February the Judges might take back the Rules and alter them; but so they might at any time, and how much more forward would they be in February than they were now? The policy they were asked to reverse was the policy which Parliament had already sanctioned in the Judicature Acts, when the principle was laid down that it was impossible for Committees of that House to deal effectually with such matters, and that that could be done only by experts. The whole speech of the hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for Launceston was an impeachment of the policy of the Judicature Acts. He (Mr. Bryce) hoped the House would come to the conclusion that the policy of those Acts was just and wise. If they were to wait until they got a perfect set of Rules they might wait for ever. The only way they could make an advance was by experience, and by trusting to the good feeling of the Judges to amend the Code accordingly. If they were to take the strong measure of annulling the Rules now, it would be a slap in the face for the Judges, and would only make them more timid.

Mr. BULWER said, that since these Rules had been published on the 25th of July, he, in common with other members of his Profession, had been a good deal out of town, and it was only last night he had been able to get a copy and to give the Rules a very cursory examination. He, therefore, declined to enter into their merits or demerits. What his hon. and learned Friend asked was not to abrogate the Rules altogether, but to give the public time to consider them. He regretted that the discussion to-day had been confined so much to Professional Members. The interest of the Profession was not the first thing that ought to be considered, but the interest of the public. The worse the Rules were the better for the Profession, because more legal business would be the result. Did the House know that every set of Rules promulgated by the Judges cost the public thousands upon thousands of pounds before they were settled; and then, when they were settled, they had another set of Rules to take their place, which again would cost the public thousands upon thousands? Therefore, this was emphatically a question for the public. There was no such

urgent haste that these Rules should be carried into effect, as they might work very great changes, not merely in procedure and the carrying on of trials, but in the laws of evidence and other matters. The hon. Member (Mr. Bryce) asked how much more forward should we be in February than we were now if delay were given? Well, we should be in this position—that we should know more about the Rules, just as we did about the merit of the claims of M. de Lesseps, which at first were rather rashly sanctioned by the Government. The time would not be lost; the Rules now in force would still operate, and we should only be deprived for a time of the benefit of 125 Rules, which, no doubt, were most important, and would effect great changes; but the public mind would be instructed, and so, too, would the four or five Common Law and four or five Chancery Judges who had dealt with the matter, and who were not infallible. The Solicitor General had relied upon the advantage to the public of sending a case for reference instead of having a trial. A case came under his own notice lately which, if these New Rules had been in operation, would certainly have been sent to a Referee, and would probably have cost the parties thousands of pounds; but it was heard by the Judge and disposed of in half-an-hour, and so saved the parties that expense.

Mr. H. H. FOWLER said, he quite agreed with the hon. Member who had just spoken that they ought to approach this question from the point of view of the public and not of the Profession; and he thought it right to say here what was being said elsewhere, and what was known to be the feeling outside, that there was increasing dissatisfaction throughout the country with the present system of the administration of justice. The Judicature Act had, in one sense, proved a great failure. It had increased the cost of litigation, and it had increased the delay in the administration of justice. And the difficulty they had to grapple with was that at the *fat-end* of a Saturday afternoon in the middle of August they were discussing one of the most serious and important questions that had arisen in this Parliament. The administration of justice was producing great and just dissatisfaction; and what they had to ask themselves was whether the Rules now submitted would tend to

Mr. Bryce

remove one or both of those great sources of complaint—cost and delay? The Solicitor General had said that since the Judicature Act came into operation the cost of litigation had increased from 40 to 50 per cent; he would have been nearer the mark if he had said 70 or 80 per cent. But there was one commodity which was even more valuable to an Englishman than his money, and that was his time; and at this moment in the Chancery Division the arrears were greater than they were in the days of Lord Eldon. As to the Queen's Bench Division a statement had appeared in *The Times* that when the Courts opened in November something like 1,100 causes would be awaiting trial. This was a state of things which demanded the immediate attention of the Government and of Parliament. It had often been said that the only way to meet the difficulty was to appoint new Judges. He thought there was no necessity to appoint new Judges. The present Judicial Staff, if properly applied, was amply sufficient to do all it had to do. He knew that in saying that he was touching upon very delicate ground. And while he thought it a right and proper thing to abstain from criticism of the great Officers of Justice who presided over our Courts there was the danger that men in that position were apt to regard themselves as exempt from criticism. The Prime Minister was freely open to criticism, and things were said of him that no one would think of saying of the Lord Chancellor, or the Lord Chief Justice. Still there were ways in which they might convey to those personages their sense of the existing grievance, and he believed he was within the mark when he said there was an impression pervading the public mind and both branches of the Profession that there was not the same amount of judicial time now appropriated to the public service as was appropriated in the days of the Judges who had passed away. There was no doubt an absurd waste of judicial strength on the Circuits, and the present Government had endeavoured in vain to prevent that waste. But there was another evil, and, in his opinion, the greatest evil of all, and that was the modern practice of sending Judges of the Chancery Division on Circuit. They did not send a colonel of the Guards to command an iron-clad, or

an Admiral of the Fleet to lead a Cavalry brigade. And it was no disrespect to the eminent lawyers who lived in the seclusion of chambers, or in the Equity Courts, to say that they had not received the training which qualified them for the administration of criminal justice. Yet the Courts of the Chancery Division were shut when they ought to be dealing with suits in which large properties were involved, while the Chancery Judges were sent to try men who were charged with stealing pocket-handkerchiefs, or sheep, or ducks and geese—offences which might perfectly well be disposed of by a Chairman of Quarter Sessions or a Recorder. The result of this system was that the Courts became congested, and then came the cry for more Judges. The real reason of this anomaly arose from the throwing upon the Judges their travelling and other expenses while going Circuit. When they selected for Circuit a number of Judges of the Queen's Bench Division they were required to pay their own expenses; but the Chancery Judges, who got precisely the same salary, were not called on to pay their Circuit expenses. The result of this was that the Chancery Judges, if they did not take their share of Circuit work, got so many hundreds a-year more than the others. The true remedy for that was to treat all alike, to pay all travelling expenses, and not to allow the element of pounds, shillings, and pence to enter into consideration of the best mode of administering justice on Circuit. One of the most beneficial of the Rules which had been alluded to by the hon. and learned Member for Launceston (Sir Hardinge Giffard) was that which practically restricted the jurisdiction of the Superior Courts to cases of above £50. If they could take out of the Superior Courts all cases relating to amounts of under £50, much relief would be experienced, and two more Judges would be available for general business. The Rules, as a whole, were not all that was wanted. They might, however, be regarded as an instalment, and as a step in the right direction of Law Reform. They were not perfect, and they might, no doubt, be open to criticism; but no Act of Parliament and no Code of Rules was perfect. The principle Parliament had adopted in relation to these matters was that it was incapable, as was certainly

the case, of legislating upon them. On the whole, the present Rules formed a very decided step in the right direction. Judges were not law reformers as a rule. [Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT: Hear, hear!] They never had been and they never would be. When, therefore, Parliament got for them so large an instalment as this, he thought they ought to take it thankfully, and then ask for more. Therefore, he was unable to support the suggestion of the hon. and learned Member for Launceston, because he could not see anything practical in the proposal to postpone them till February or April. The delay would lead to no real progress. Parliament would decide then, as it had decided before, that it was not competent to deal with the question. He hoped, therefore, the Motion would not be agreed to. He would, however, himself move an Amendment which he believed was practical. He desired that the Government should ask the Crown to annul Order 63 which perpetuated the flagrant and glaring abuse of vacations in the administration of justice in this country. This was the 11th of August, and the Royal Courts of Justice would be open just as Windsor Castle was, when Her Majesty was not there, for the inspection of an admiring public who wished to see their architectural beauties; but from this day until the 2nd of November, the building would be practically closed for the administration of justice. It would be difficult to find a parallel of such denial of justice in any other country. The Vacations which this Rule proposed to perpetuate were four in number. At Christmas there were 20 days; at Easter, 12 days; at Whitsuntide, 10 days; and the Long Vacation, 85 days—in all, 127 days out of the 365, or 18 weeks and one day during which Her Majesty's subjects were denied justice while the Judges were drawing their full remuneration. In what Department of the State was there as much as 18 weeks' holiday? He saw the Home Secretary on the Treasury Bench. Had he had 18 weeks' holiday since he had been in Office? Had the Prime Minister had as much as 18 weeks' holiday? Such a state of things existed in no other Profession under the sun, and yet those belonging to trades and other professions had to pay for it. He had brought this question before the notice of the House on a

previous occasion, and the Attorney General then said he would bring what he described as the unanimous opinion of the House under the consideration of the Judges, but deprecated any action being taken at that time (August, 1881), because it would not be respectful to the Judges to interfere without giving them an opportunity of expressing their opinion. But so far as the principle of shortening the Vacation was concerned, the House and the Government unanimously accepted it. That representation was submitted to the Judges, and the Home Secretary, in the course of some wise and weighty words, said—

“One of the greatest difficulties of getting the law administered in this country was the block of business and the loss of judicial power consequent upon the fact that, with reference to a great portion of the business, it was altogether suspended for a third or a fourth of the whole year.”

And the Home Secretary added—

“That the judicial and administrative staff of the country was more expensive than all the Public Departments of the State put together.”
—(3 *Hansard*, [216] 1891.)

He could see no excuse for the present system; but if there was to be no alteration in the Vacation except upon the report or recommendation of the Judges, it would never be shortened by a day or by an hour. [Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT: Hear, hear!] The Home Secretary was right. The Judges had met to consider the question. It was known that there had been a division of opinion among them, and that notwithstanding the protest of the Lord Chief Justice and some of his colleagues, the majority decided to remain as they were, and that these Vacations of which the public complained, and which were a public scandal, should be continued. And they were asked to stereotype an Order which perpetuated this evil. Parliament would be false to the interests of the public, and the Government would be false to the attitude they had assumed as law reformers, if they permitted legislative sanction to be given to such an Order. He was not going to ask the House to specify what should be the length of the Long Vacation, or what would be the best way of promoting facilities in the way of the administration of justice. He simply asked them to decline to sanction the present system, leaving it to the Judges to reconsider the matter before the 24th

of October, and to submit to Parliament another and a better scheme for readjusting judicial time and the Judicial Vacations. There was nothing in that that could be said to be in any way disrespectful to the Judges. Although the Long Vacation might have the plea of antiquity, the present Bench had added a fortnight to it. The hon. and learned Member for Colchester (Mr. Willis) remembered having sat in Court as late as the 29th of August; but when the Judicature Act was passed, the Judges interpreted it as requiring that all judicial business should terminate on the 8th of August. That statement was controverted in *The Times*, and a learned Judge, under the well-known signature of "B.," disputed it. But the evidence which he had put before the House had never been set aside, and he had the highest authority for saying that prior to the passing of the Judicature Act the Judges sat at Leeds, Bristol, Gloucester, Liverpool, and in Surrey long after the 8th of August. So that not only had the Judges perpetuated the old Vacation, but had added a fortnight to it, and now asked Parliament to sanction it. He should take the opinion of the House on his Amendment as being a practical measure of Law Reform. At the same time, he wished to say that although the Rules were not everything they could desire, yet they would make a considerable reduction in the expense and facilitate the administration of justice, and he hoped the House would accept them. He had no desire to deprive the eminent functionaries who sat on the Bench of a fair and legitimate holiday; he did not wish to see the burdens thrown on them unnecessarily increased; but he maintained that 18 weeks in one year was an amount of exemption from public work which no class of public servants ought to ask the House or the country to grant. The hon. Member concluded by moving his Amendment, of which he had given Notice.

Amendment proposed,

To leave out from the second word "that," to the end of the Question, in order to insert the words "Order 63, of the Rules of the Supreme Court, 1883, may be annulled."—(Mr. H. H. Fowler.)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question."

Mr. GRANTHAM said that while he agreed with the hon. Member who

had just spoken in almost all the arguments he had used in the first portion of his speech, he must oppose the conclusions he had arrived at concerning the Vacations in the second part. He had the authority of the late Master of the Rolls, one of the greatest and most hard-working lawyers who had ever sat on the Judicial Bench, for saying that the public would derive no advantage if the Long Vacation were in any way curtailed. If the Amendment which had just been mooted were agreed to, it would have really no effect whatever, and the matter would be left exactly where it was.

Mr. H. H. FOWLER asked permission to explain. The effect of his Amendment, if carried, would be not to leave things precisely as they were before, because the Rule which regulated Sittings and Vacations would be repealed, and the Judges would, therefore, be bound to draw up a New Rule in its place.

Mr. GRANTHAM said, he did not think the Amendment would have such an effect, and that matters would remain as they were. But the mere fact of discussing these Rules in such a manner was altogether anomalous; and it was very unfortunate, indeed, that they should have been brought forward at so late a period of the Session. Although he rejoiced at the majority of the Rules, he thought there were some that required modification, particularly those relating to the carrying on of suits on behalf of paupers, and he thought the Judges would see that they ought to be amended. They were not, however, of the drastic character which they were intended to be after the Committee made their Report some two years ago, although that was a reason why the longer time should be allowed for this discussion. If the Rules were now forced through Parliament, an early amendment would be necessary; and he thought it would be better to have one good practical Act of Parliament, even if they had to wait a little for it. At the same time, he considered that, if they were modified, the Rules would form one of the most valuable additions to the laws of the land that had ever been provided.

Mr.INDERWICK said, he would not criticize the Rules in detail; but in reference to the speech of the hon. Member for Wolverhampton (Mr. H. H. Fowler), he thought the country was indebted to him for having brought be-

fore the House one of the most important questions that could be discussed, the readjustment of judicial time, a question which he brought before the House on another occasion by a Motion for the abolition of the Long Vacation. Individually, he did not feel that he could support that abolition; but, undoubtedly, the hon. Member had made use of arguments that day that should commend themselves to the House. They had heard of the serious block of business in the Chancery Division. They had also heard of a considerable number of causes standing over in the Queen's Bench; and he had himself on one or two occasions unsuccessfully endeavoured to bring before the House the state of things in the Admiralty Division, and the great expense many classes were put to by Judges being removed to go on Circuit. Of course, the removal or decrease of the Long Vacation would be of substantial benefit to suitors; but, without taking such an extraordinary step as that, it was quite possible, by means within the disposal of the Government, to make such a disposal of judicial time as that some time should be given to the Courts at London, Liverpool, Leeds, and Manchester, where cases were waiting to be tried. What the Government had to do was to make up their minds to deal in a trenchant satisfactory manner with the question of Circuits. The Circuits were now nearly over, and he had been told by those who had been on Circuit that there was more business this year than there had been for a considerable time. But two or three Judges were sent on Circuit, and were sent to places the names of which hon. Members were familiar with, and they were taken away from business in London, and they went in twos to five places, where there was not a single cause to try; and to other towns Judges were sent year after year where there were but a few causes to be tried. Under the Assize Act, the Government could send Judges where there was business to transact, and they had power to group towns in a way that would give far more satisfaction. But the fact was, no Government had had courage to deal with the question of Assizes; because, in a number of obsolete country towns, the Assize time was popular and important to the local trade. He did not think that Circuit arrangements ought to be done away with; but he did believe that

if Judges were sent to places where there was business to transact, and if the Government would take in hand the appointment of Spring and Winter Assizes for civil causes, it would be an enormous benefit to suitors, and Judges would not be occupied in trying cases of the most trumpery character. The fact was, though we did not like to admit it, that we were now administering justice in a mechanical point of view, and sending Judges round in the same manner as the days of years ago, before railways and the telegraph were known, no official allowance being made for the shifting of populations and the enormous increase of our great centres of industry in a few years. This he was glad had been put before the House, for it was a substantial matter to deal with. The block of business in the Court was of more practical importance than the alteration of Rules, and the circumstances under which a jury might or might not be had by suitors. It was a pity that the subject had not been dealt with, as it might be, by an Order in Council. He knew the Home Secretary was in favour of such a course, and he hoped another Session would not pass without a step being taken in that direction.

MR. STUART-WORTLEY said, he had known the Judges to sit in Leeds as late as the 16th or 17th of August; and he believed they were sitting in Liverpool at the present moment. He saw in the newspapers also that there was less work at Manchester than occupied the time at the disposal of the Judges. The hon. Member for Wolverhampton (Mr. H. H. Fowler) was, therefore, mistaken in thinking that the Judges had added a fortnight to the Vacation, and that they had construed the Judicature Acts to mean that no legal business was to be transacted after the 8th of August. His hon. and learned Friend (Sir Hardinge Giffard) began his speech by claiming the support of hon. Members opposite, because there was no Party issue in this debate; and it was on that ground that he (Mr. Stuart-Wortley) would not support his hon. and learned Friend. Nor could he support the Amendment crudely proposed by the hon. Member for Wolverhampton, who based his speech on the false assumption that there was too much work for the Judges to do at the Assizes. It was evident that no Code of Rules could be passed which would please everyone. Even supposing that

they could suspend the operation of these Rules for another three months, and that every representation which could be made were listened to, it would be impossible so to amend them that in the end they should satisfy anything like the various conflicting interests which would all try to make themselves felt. Moreover, if they were to annul the Rules, what security would they have that the Rule Committee would meet again and re-enact them? The House could not order the Committee to alter the Rules. However respectfully they might word the Address, and however careful they might be to save the feelings of the Judges, the House had, wisely or unwisely, deprived themselves of the power of even indicating their wish that the Code should be re-enacted. The conclusion of his hon. and learned Friend (Sir Hardinge Giffard) resolved itself into this—that there were among the Rules two or three that were certainly objectionable. What remained as really objectionable were the Rules in reference to cross-examination and jury trials. But, as the Solicitor General had already proved, except in the matter of reversing the presumption, whether there should be trial by jury or not, there would be no greater power, under the New Rules, of compelling a trial without jury than existed before. If his hon. and learned Friend had proposed to expunge the Rule as to cross-examination, he should have voted with him; and that would have prevented the raising, in a perhaps unconstitutional way, of a very difficult question. The principal reason why he objected to the proposal to annul these Rules was that so long as the Rule Committee confined themselves to matters which were *intra vires*, it was in the last degree undesirable that Rules of Legal Procedure should be discussed by the general public. The despotism of the Judges had been referred to; and it was true that bodies like the Law Societies and Bar Committees were much to be respected—though the Bar Committee had not begun particularly well—but what he humbly thought to be worse than the despotism of the Judges was the despotism, in matters entirely beyond its cognizance and above its comprehension, of the uninstructed public.

MR. HORACE DAVEY said, he was surprised to hear the very weak case which the hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for Lauceston (Sir Har-

dinge Giffard) was able to lay before the House. The hon. and learned Gentleman had pleaded for delay; he had told the House that the object of the Motion was to secure that the Rules should undergo some discussion by the public and the different branches of the Legal Profession. In asking the House to assent to the Motion, the hon. and learned Gentleman ought to have shown the House that there were some substantial defects in the Rules; but he had failed to do so. If his hon. and learned Friend had shown that the Rules had abolished trial by jury, or had placed serious restrictions on the right of trial by jury, he would have been justified in asking for further time in which the Rules could be amply and fully discussed in the House and in the country. But the Rules had done nothing of the kind; they, in fact, did not go one step further in that direction than the Rules already in existence went. In regard to the question of the payment of the costs of an action which might have been commenced in a County Court, the hon. and learned Gentleman had also failed to make out such an impeachment of the Rules as would warrant any delay. He was glad to hear from the Solicitor General that the Judges would be ready to give the most attentive and careful consideration to any suggestions which might be made respecting the Rules. In his opinion, there were several matters which were fairly open to criticism, and on which he should have taken a very different view from that taken by the Judges. For example, he doubted the expediency of handing over to the chief and junior clerks in Chambers the duty of dealing with money orders in Chancery. He had great apprehension that the same careful attention would not be paid to the security of the money as had hitherto been paid. He was also very doubtful of the expediency of abolishing what had hitherto been found in the Chancery Division to be a very useful mode of procedure—namely, that by demurrer. It must be borne in mind, however, that these Rules had been under the consideration of the Committee of Judges for a considerable time, and that it would be unwise for the House, except upon the strongest grounds, to take upon itself the responsibility of annulling the Rules. A great deal of the speech of the hon. and learned Gentleman was in the direction of an impeach-

ment of the policy of the Judicature Acts. It was obvious that the hon. and learned Gentleman would take away from the Judges the power of legislating with regard to the practice and procedure of the Courts. But that was not the Question before the House. He knew a great many hon. Members had serious doubts as to the wisdom of placing so much power in the hands of the Judges; but that power was deliberately given by Parliament, and he was sure the hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for Launceston would be the last man in the world to undo, by a side-wind, that which had been determined upon by the House after the most careful and anxious consideration. Had the Judges exceeded their power? He considered his hon. and learned Friend had failed to convince the House that they had done so. He did not regard the objection which had been made with regard to cross-examination as really serious or substantial. He considered that a Judge who presided at a trial ought and must have the power of regulating the evidence which was to be put in at the trial. If any material evidence were excluded there would be ground for a new trial. Justice, however, could not be administered unless there was the power vested in the Judge to stop irrelevant and vexatious cross-examination. To turn to the Amendment of the hon. Member for Wolverhampton (Mr. H. H. Fowler), he must say he had long been of opinion that if the question of the Long Vacation was to be regarded from the point of view of the public, it was impossible that the Long Vacation could exist as at present. He did not think it necessarily followed that the Long Vacation itself should be shortened. The difficulties now experienced might be met by increasing the staff of Vacation Judges, or by increasing the number of days on which the Vacation Judges sat. The public did not realize the strain upon the health and strength of the Judges involved in the sittings in Court and on Circuit. It would be unwise to curtail the amount of vacation allowed to the Judges; but there was some justice in his hon. Friend's complaint as to the decreased expenditure of judicial time in the service of the country. It was certain that the Courts sat later and rose earlier than they did formerly; he hoped they did the business more efficiently now than they did

when the sittings were more prolonged. He sympathized with the object his hon. Friend had in view; but he doubted whether that object could be effected in the manner suggested. If these Rules were passed, his hon. Friend would not be prevented from bringing forward the question in the future, as he had done in the past; and, therefore, he trusted his hon. Friend would be satisfied with the discussion which had taken place, and that he would not persevere in his proposal to leave out one of the Orders, the effect of omitting which would be to some extent to disorganize and make incomplete that which was intended to be a complete Code of Rules.

Mr. NEWDEGATE said, he thought the House was indebted to the hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for Launceston and to the hon. Member for Wolverhampton for the course they had taken on this occasion. The hon. Member for Wolverhampton had acknowledged the great danger which at present threatened the administration of law in this country—namely, the danger arising from the confusion inseparable from the sending of Equity Judges to administer Common Law. If the discussion had done nothing else, it had brought out the confusion involved in the so-called fusion of Law and Equity. The House had created such distrust in the minds of the Judges by its dilatory yielding to Obstruction that they had adopted the best means of evading the discussion of the New Rules. He (Mr. Newdegate) could not think without shame upon the time wasted in the Autumnal Session upon the futile attempts to prevent Obstruction. Unless the House manifested more determination in vindicating the functions for which it was elected, he foresaw that from year to year the Judges would assume the legislative functions the House abandoned, while Democratic meetings out of the House would dictate the principles on which the House was to act. He cordially thanked the hon. and learned Member for Launceston for this protest against the House abandoning its functions.

Mr. MORGAN LLOYD said, he did not believe the carrying of the Amendment would prevent the sitting of the Courts; if it were carried the Judges might either sit all through the year or take any vacation they pleased. There did not appear to be any substantial objection to any of the Rules; the objection

was that there was not time to discuss them. It had been said that the Rules abolished considerably limited the right to trial by jury in civil cases; but that was a mistake. The right remained as it was, and the Rules only affected the procedure. It was also objected that they were unfair to members of the Legal Profession, as they reduced the costs of litigation. He hoped they would have that effect, and that they would not only reduce the costs, which had been greatly increased by the Judicature Acts, but would also tend to reduce the arrears of causes and shorten the inordinate length of proceedings. Under these circumstances he must oppose the Motion, though he would have been glad if the Rules could have been embodied in the Bill, as was the case with the original Judicature Rules. This method of legislating was objectionable, and could only be justified by absolute necessity, which would not exist if it were not for Obstruction; but, authority having been given to the Judges to make the Rules, only the very gravest reason could justify the House taking the course that was now proposed.

MR. WARTON said, it was perfectly unnecessary to abolish demurrers; nothing in their practice of the law had been more useful. In the case of "*Chamberlain v. Boyd*," a demurrer saved the cost and delay of bringing witnesses from Australia by enabling the Court to decide the point of law on the assumption that their evidence would support the allegations made. And the rights and privileges of that House were being argued on a demurrer by the Attorney General, who was now supporting Rules which would get rid of demurrers. The principle of the Rules as to trial by jury was that it should be dispensed with, because it was only by way of exception to trial by Judges that trial by juries was allowed in the class of causes that were most sensational. There could not have been devised a better means of throwing contempt on trial by jury. The tendency of the Rules was to limit the employment of junior counsel, for whom Judges and eminent counsel seemed to have too little consideration. Solicitors were treated scandalously in being saddled with costs if witnesses were absent or papers were missing; and barristers' clerks were to be deprived of what was due to their merit and fidelity.

Let the line between Legislative and Executive functions be recognized, and let Judges judge and Parliament legislate.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (SIR HENRY JAMES) said, the matter had been very fully discussed; but he regretted that it had been debated only by members of the Legal Profession. With the exception of the hon. Member for Warwickshire (Mr. Newdegate), he thought that no hon. Member had expressed an opinion upon these New Rules except he was a member of the Legal Profession. If the House would allow him, he would refer to what had been said by the hon. and learned Member for Launceston (Sir Hardinge Giffard), and in doing so he would endeavour not to say one word that would bring him in conflict with the House and the hon. and learned Gentleman. The hon. and learned Member, in his speech, had spoken of these Rules being concealed, and of the Judges being despotic. He (the Attorney General) was sure his hon. and learned Friend did not intend to say anything that would offend; but he was bound to say that he was certain the words used grated upon the ears of many hon. Members who heard them. Let the House do justice to the Judges. They had not assumed any duties or taken any course which ought to be regarded as being despotic in relation to the framing of these Rules. The duty was cast upon them by Parliament, and the House ought to be grateful to the Judges who, having had that duty imposed upon them, had attempted to discharge it according to the very best of their power in the interests of the public. The House ought, therefore, to be very careful in the language they applied to them. Let him ask the House to consider whether it was possible to accept this Motion without almost acting unconstitutionally, and at least acting in a manner which would be a great insult to the Judges. [*Cries of "No, no!"*] He said so, and said so advisedly. [*"No, no!"*] At least the House, before uttering these signs of dissent, should listen to what he was going to say. Let him first remind the House of the course that had been taken. The Judges might, if they had so chosen, have framed these Rules, and put them into operation at once without consulting Parliament. That was a course that had been taken several times before. The

sanction of this House, to a certain extent, had been given to the Judges at all times to frame Rules that should come into operation even before they were laid upon the Table of the House; and if, therefore, the Judges had thought it right to frame these Rules, and to bring them into operation, they would but have been following precedent. He was bound to say that for his hon. and learned Friend to use the term that these Rules had been kept secret by the Judges was very strong language; besides, it was in no way justified by the facts of the case. The Judges had afforded the House an opportunity of considering the New Rules, and had taken that course at great personal inconvenience. The course proposed to be taken by the hon. Member for Launceston (Sir Hardinge Giffard) was to move an Address to the Crown; but if that were done the Crown would not allow these Rules to come into existence. That would be a most serious thing for the Crown to do, so far as the Judges were concerned. What was to be done when the Rules were annulled? What were the Judges to say? They would be told by the Crown that their labours were to be entirely destroyed, and no reason was to be given. The Judges were not supposed to know the reason why their work was annulled, and yet next year they would again be asked to re-enact that which would be annulled this year. It was, in fact, asking the House to annul the Rules in the hope that next year the annulment would be put aside and the Rules again submitted. That would be a course which appeared to him to be without precedent in the House of Commons, and he trusted hon. Members would pause before they sanctioned such a course. He would ask the House to consider upon what grounds this annulment was asked for. Such a serious step could only be taken on general grounds, such as that there had not been time for consideration, or that there was something in the Rules themselves which necessitated that being done. As for the general grounds, he had heard nothing advanced which in his mind would justify the step. The Committee which considered the Rules in the first instance were men of great experience, and afterwards these Rules were sent to every Law Society in England. The Provincial Law Societies were consulted and made their reports, and all these reports

and suggestions were placed before the Judges, and if he had time he could show that every one of them was carried out. His hon. and learned Friend had said it was monstrous that they should extend the provisions of Order XIV. to actions for the recovery of land. But what was said by the Incorporated Law Society on the subject? They said that the provisions of the Order ought to be so extended, and, in fact, the suggestion came from them; and he asked the House to accept the opinion given in favour of the Rules by the Incorporated Law Society. This was not a despotic action on the part of the Judges, for everything that was done was done on the suggestion of those outside. More than that, they placed the Rules on the Table of the House in order to give an opportunity for discussion, and that they need not have done if they had so wished. His hon. and learned Friend the Member for Launceston had said that he had not had time to consider these Rules, but, being a distinguished member of the Legal Profession, a copy of the Rules was furnished to him as early as the 11th of June; but the hon. and learned Gentleman admitted that he had not considered them, because he said he had only waded through them. He thought the House had a right to ask the hon. and learned Member when he moved for this Address to the Crown to state what his objection to the Rules were. He did not move objections to any particular Rules, but he simply asked that the Judges should be treated in a manner which they did not deserve, by having their work thrown back upon them as a whole. The hon. and learned Gentleman had dwelt strongly on the fact that the Rules would abolish trial by jury in certain cases; but that provision was put in the Rules at the suggestion of the Incorporated Law Society. Anyone could have trial by jury if he simply asked for it, and at the expense of 6s. 8d. What was the weight of authority that was said to be against these Rules? The opinion of the Bar Committee and of the Incorporated Law Society had been cited against these Rules; but Parliament had an authority of its own in such matters. The Prayer of the Bar Committee was that before these Rules were submitted to Parliament they ought to be submitted to them. He had yet to

learn that the Bar Committee came into existence in order that four Judges should submit their labours to it. He wondered what these gentlemen expected was to be their duty. Because the Judges did not submit their Report to the Bar Committee before giving it to the public, his hon. and learned Friend said that the Committee kept the Rules secret, and made of that a ground for a charge against the Committee. He hoped the House would believe that the result of the labours of those four Judges showed that they had acted with unusual courage. He firmly believed the Rules would work a great reform in the law generally, and all in the interests of the public. The costs of Chancery suits would be reduced down to the level of Queen's Bench costs, so that there would be no longer any extra charge on the public. He could assure the House that the public only would benefit by these reforms, and everything that had been done had been done for the purpose of lessening the scandalous charges and expenses attending law proceedings. He was certain that it could not be shown that the interests of the public suffered in any way from these Rules, and for that reason he asked the House not to accept the Amendment. They must either accept the labours of the Judges as they had been carried into effect, or they must point out the errors that the Judges had made in the Rules before they could be refused.

SIR HARDINGE GIFFARD said, he should not have availed himself of his right of reply if the Attorney General had not put a construction on his words which they did not bear. Whatever might be said about his speech being misunderstood, he should say the speech of his hon. and learned Friend would be very much misunderstood by the Judges. He did not say that the Judges were despots. What he said was, that while the policy of our Whig ancestors was to keep Judges down, the tendency of these Rules was to make Judges despotic; and upon that solitary sentence the Attorney General had thought right to say that he had described the Judges as despots.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (SIR HENRY JAMES) said, he had heard the phrase "the despot Judges" over and over again.

SIR HARDINGE GIFFARD observed, that he had simply discussed the tendency of the Rules. The notion of

describing these learned men, many of whom he was glad to say were his intimate and dear friends, in any terms of opprobrium or reproach was the furthest thing from his mind. Except the Attorney General, he did not think there was a single Member of the House who would have supposed he intended to do so; and he was quite sure none of the Judges would have supposed he had spoken of them in their absence as the Attorney General had represented. The Attorney General seemed to think that an Address to the Crown in pursuance of the section was a reflection on the Judges; but if it was never to be used they had better give unchecked power to Her Majesty's Judges. But as long as they said this power of legislating, so to speak, required a check, how could it be insulting to the Judges if they availed themselves of the only mode of doing so? The Attorney General said the Judges had worked night and day so as to present the Rules at an early period; but had they not presented them to Parliament so soon, and had only published them on the 24th of October, there would have been 40 days before next Session in which there would have been an opportunity of considering them and presenting an Address. But that was evidently what the Government did not want. He did not conceal from the Attorney General that he thought some of the powers given to the Judges had been used in such a way that they would produce mischievous results to the public, and especially was that the case with regard to referring a question to arbitration after scientific evidence had been obtained on both sides at great expense. Therefore, when he was asked to accept a Code of Jurisprudence of this sort he looked upon it with great jealousy, and he required an opportunity to examine it. The Attorney General had made a most undue use of what he had called a Minute on this matter of a Committee of the Incorporated Law Society; but it was not a Committee of that Society, but a certain number of gentlemen selected by the Lord Chancellor. The Committee was appointed by the House, or under the powers of the Judicature Act, and then the Attorney General said that the Report of these gentlemen—or rather their opinion, which had no more authority than that of any other person—had been before the House for two years. The Attorney General had

further misrepresented him in saying that he asked the House to pass an adverse judgment on the Rules; all he asked was that time should be given to consider the matter in detail. He did not expect the House to form a judgment on these Rules, as they were matters for lawyers to consider; what he did ask the House to say was that sufficient time had not been given to form a judgment upon their merits or demerits after they had been considered by lawyers.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR asked, as a point of Order, if any hon. Member desired to present an Address to Her Majesty with reference to any other Rule than that named in the Amendment, he could after the Division move an Amendment to that effect?

MR. SPEAKER: If the House decide that the original words should not be adopted, then on the Question that the words of the hon. Member for Wolverhampton be there added, an Amendment might be moved.

Question put.

The House *divided*:—Ayes 99; Noes 22: Majority 77.—(Div. List, No. 285.)

Main Question put.

The House *divided*:—Ayes 49; Noes 71: Majority 22.—(Div. List, No. 286.)

BANKRUPTCY BILL.—[BILL 243.]

(*Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Solicitor General, Mr. John Holms.*)

CONSIDERATION.

Order for Consideration, as amended, read.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Bill be re-committed in respect of Clause 24."—(*Mr. Chamberlain.*)

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR said, he rose to move the adjournment of the House. The House sat until 4 o'clock this morning, and met again at noon. It was understood from the Prime Minister that the Government would not ask the House to sit beyond a reasonable hour this evening. On Wednesdays, according to the Standing Orders, the House rose at 6 o'clock. A "reasonable hour" this evening must be presumed to mean an hour earlier than the dinner hour—say 6 o'clock. The character of the Bill they were asked to consider was such that it was not reasonable to believe that any practical

progress could be made before the dinner hour, and no public advantage could result from a discussion in that time.

MR. CALLAN seconded the Motion for Adjournment.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That this House do now adjourn."—(*Mr. Arthur O'Connor.*)

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he hoped the House would allow them, at all events, to get the Bill into Committee. The Prime Minister had said that the House would not be asked to sit very late, and he did not see why the House should sit very late if hon. Members would address themselves to the Question. But when they got into Committee it would be for the House to decide whether they cared to proceed further.

MR. CALLAN said, that he was prepared to sit if necessary so as to break the Sabbath.

MR. DALY said, he hoped his hon. Friend would not press the Motion for Adjournment. They must recollect that this was a very important Bill, and owing to the lateness of the Session they ought to be willing to make some personal sacrifices for the purpose of passing it. There was great anxiety for this Bill amongst the commercial classes of Ireland.

MR. BLAKE said, he would join in the appeal to his hon. Friend. Outside the City of Dublin all the mercantile classes most earnestly desired this Bill. He could speak most positively for his own constituency, because the Corporation of Waterford had sent to him as well as to the City Members a very earnest request that they would do all in their power to get the Bill passed.

MR. PARNELL said, he hoped his hon. Friend would not proceed with his Motion. Of course, it was open to everybody to have an opinion on the merits or demerits of the clauses extending the Bill to Ireland, and he supposed they would have a proper opportunity for discussing them; but upon this Motion nobody appeared desirous of saying very much. He thought that any Member moving such a Motion at this period of the Session took a great responsibility on himself in regard to other questions of importance in which the people of Ireland were interested. He did not wish to use his influence with any of his hon. Friends as regarded the passage of

the additional clauses; but he certainly did think that when the House had frequently sat on Saturdays until 12 o'clock at night, 6 o'clock was too early an hour to adjourn.

MR. M. BROOKS remarked, that the hon. Member for Waterford had told the House that all the mercantile classes in Ireland were in favour of this Bill. ["No, no!"]

MR. BLAKE: No. I said all the mercantile classes outside Dublin.

MR. DAWSON (The LORD MAYOR OF DUBLIN) expressed his belief that the Chamber of Commerce and other commercial bodies in Dublin were favourable to the extension of the Bill to Ireland.

MR. DIXON-HARTLAND, in supporting the Motion for Adjournment, said, this was the first Bill that had come up from the Grand Committees. ["No, no!"] Well, it was the second; and if it were to be taken now, when they were all nearly worn out, it would be striking a very great blow at the Grand Committees.

MR. FINDLATER said, he should support the adjournment. There had not been any manifestation of public opinion in Ireland in favour of the Bill. There had been a fictitious public opinion got up by the signing of a certain document by several Members of Parliament, the great majority of whom, he undertook to say, knew nothing whatever about Bankruptcy Law. He knew how those Petitions were manufactured. He had very serious objections to this Bill. ["Order!"]

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member must confine himself to the Question of Adjournment.

MR. FINDLATER said, he was opposed to a long Sitting this evening.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR said, although he still retained his personal objection to proceed with the Bill at this hour, he would, in deference to a request of the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell), the Leader of the Party to which he owed allegiance, ask leave to withdraw his Amendment.

MR. BIGGAR wished, before the withdrawal of the Amendment, to direct the attention of the Prime Minister to his statement last night, that he did not intend to ask the House to sit late to-day. The spirit of that pledge would argue that they should not sit later than 6 o'clock, particularly as they had dis-

posed of one branch of Business which had been put on the Paper.

MR. GLADSTONE said, he had distinctly conveyed to the House that the Government would not ask the House to sit till a late hour this evening; but it was quite evident by the letter and spirit of that pledge that they had not reached the time at which the House should be asked to desist from its labours. At that hour (6.30) it would be extremely wrong on the part of the Government if, after giving Notice of this Business, they should refuse to proceed with it.

MR. P. MARTIN said, great and important issues would be involved in the discussion, which was not one of the mere re-commitment of the Bill. The measure would have the effect of introducing into Ireland the great evils of officialism.

MR. SPEAKER said, the hon. and learned Member was not confining himself to the Question of Adjournment.

MR. P. MARTIN said, he was endeavouring to show that the discussion would be one of great importance.

MR. MELDON wished to say why he should vote for the adjournment of the House. It was said that the Motion was one for the re-commitment of the Bill; but it must be remembered that the discussion about to take place was one upon the principle of it as applied to Ireland. On the ground that the discussion must be of a lengthened character, and that the Prime Minister gave a distinct pledge that the Sitting should not be a late one, he thought it was a most unreasonable thing that they should now be asked to enter upon a general discussion of the principles of the Bill.

MR. PULESTON said, that, in his opinion, more harm than good would be done if the Government persisted in proceeding with the Bill after what the House had accomplished during the afternoon.

MR. BARING, on the contrary, trusted the Government would not be deterred from their resolution to proceed, as the Bill, however it might affect Ireland, at any rate was of the greatest consequence to England.

Motion, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Original Question put, and *agreed to*.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair."

MR. P. MARTIN, who had the following Notice on the Paper :—

"That, in view of the fact that the Second Reading of this Bill was taken, and its committal to and constitution of the Standing Committee assented to on the statement that the provisions did not extend to Ireland or Scotland, that Clauses which proposed to so extend it were proposed in Committee and then withdrawn, and that the Bill has been since in part recommitted, it is inexpedient and unreasonable at this period of the Session to now propose that by new Clauses the Bill shall be extended, and the substantive control in the administration of estates in bankruptcy in Ireland vested in the English Board of Trade, and the abuses and evils incident to the already too widely extended Governmental centralization in Irish affairs increased, it is inexpedient to proceed with the Bill,"

said, that before the House went into Committee on this Bill, he was anxious to say a few words. The Motion he had placed on the Paper in general terms expressed his opinion in respect to the Bill, and he would now very briefly, so far as the nature of the subject would permit, deal with the question. He respectfully submitted that the time and circumstances under which the present Motion had been made were most inopportune. This Bill was introduced into the House by the President of the Board of Trade, on the 29th of March, and it was then expressly declared that its provisions would not extend to Ireland, and during the discussion on the second reading not a single Irish Member stood up to ask that the Bill should be extended to their country. It was then referred to the Grand Committee, and, of course, as it was a Bill dealing simply and solely with English mercantile interests, the Committee was constituted with that borne in mind. On the 20th March the Bill entered the Grand Committee, and it was not until the 6th of June that the thought entered the mind of anybody to extend it to Ireland. Some discussion then took place, and certain Members asked that it should be extended to Ireland; but up to that time he believed he was true in stating not a single official of the Irish Government was on the Committee, and it was only then the Attorney General for Ireland was placed on the Committee. On being placed on it he put certain Amendments on the Paper, extending the Bill to Ireland. Now, what became of those Amendments? They were presented to the Committee after some days, and were

then withdrawn; but he would admit that they were withdrawn on the statement of the President of the Board of Trade for the purpose of consulting Irish feeling in reference to the matter. A "round robin" on the matter was then sent to the Irish Members. Was that the way to consult Irish feeling—was that the way to conduct the Business of the House properly, to send round to Irish Members in the dark hours of the night a paper asking them to sign it and say they were in favour of extending this Bill to Ireland? Was that the way Business was to be managed in the English Parliament, to send round at the *lag-end* of the Session a paper to the hon. Member for Cork (Mr. Shaw) and his Friends, who were anxious to have local bankruptcy jurisdiction in their counties, and not allow the matter to be properly discussed at the Grand Committee? No doubt, it was stated that the hon. Member for Carlow (Mr. Gray) interfered there to prevent discussion; but the allegation of the President of the Board of Trade the hon. Member repudiated on the spot, stating that he was perfectly prepared then and there to oppose the extension of the Bill to Ireland. Under these circumstances, what had since occurred to justify the right hon. Gentleman in introducing these clauses again? The clauses never had the benefit of public discussion; in point of fact, they had never been examined into or ventilated. What justification now could there be for the sudden and hasty change on the part of the President of the Board of Trade? None that he could see, unless it was because of some gross abuse existing in the Irish system of bankruptcy. Now, he admitted that there might be some defects in the Irish system, as there was in all legal systems, and that it was capable of considerable improvements. He always advocated that small bankruptcy cases ought to be tried in the counties in which they arose, and he believed there was ample machinery existing at the present moment to give effect to that object. Why should not his own county of *Kilkenny* and the other counties in Ireland that had at present the benefit of Chairmen of Quarter Sessions have also the benefit of local Courts of Bankruptcy for the trial of small cases? But if this Bill passed it would be impossible to establish Courts of that character. Now,

lot them see whether there were such gross abuses in the Irish system as would warrant this sudden change. He would give the words of a man who had studied the question of localization of Bankruptcy Courts with great care (Mr. James Campbell), and who had read several papers on the subject before the Statistical Society. What did he say? He said that the Irish bankruptcy system could not fail to be viewed in a favourable light, inasmuch as it would be found to contain all the virtues, whilst it was free from the vices, of the English and Scotch systems. The debts of the Irish Court, Mr. Campbell said, were collected economically and expeditiously by the Official Assignees; while the English system did not escape the unfavourable comments in this respect of the Commission of 1864. What did Mr. Justice Harrison say—a Belfast man, whose opinions ought to have some weight with the hon. Members from Belfast who were in favour of this Bill. Mr. Justice Harrison spoke in most favourable terms of the Irish system, and stated that while debts in England took 30 and 40 per cent to collect, they were collected in Ireland for 14 per cent. Now, these were important matters, which he submitted ought to be borne in mind before a hasty and sudden change was made. The President of the Board of Trade, when introducing this Bill, stated that £5,000,000 sterling had been wrongfully and fraudulently withheld from its owners. That, in fact, was the *raison d'être* of this Bill. Now, compare that state of affairs with what occurred in Ireland, and it would be found that not one shilling had been lost by the Irish Bankruptcy Court. It was, therefore, a very strange and a very curious thing that when, by this system, the money of the creditors was realized so cheaply and so expeditiously, that a great change should be made, and a new system of officialism introduced. What was the advantage of this Bill? The Official Referee, whom it was now proposed to extend to Ireland, introduced a most complicated system. First of all, a receiving order was to be made, under which the Official Referee was to take possession of the assets; then there was to be a Committee of Inspection as to which of the number fell below a certain limit, and report was to be made to the Judge. Altogether the whole of the

proceedings under the clauses of the Bill were of the most complicated and difficult character, and would entail waste of money and unnecessary expense upon the traders who were brought under its operation. What was gained by the substitution in Ireland of the Official Receiver for the old system? Nothing at all. The abuses and the abstraction of money which was complained of under the present system in England did not exist in Ireland. There the Official Assignee was a public officer; the dividend list was made out at a certain time, and it was the right of any creditor to walk into the Official's Office and ask for his dividend. If he did not get it, even on the next day the creditor could walk down to the Courthouse; and, without the assistance of attorney or counsel, could make an application to the Judge, who would not only direct payment of the dividend, but would probably make such a report as would incapacitate the Assignee from holding any such office in future. So far from this Bill providing an expeditious system, it, on the contrary, put into operation a scheme terminating in that great and important body, the Board of Trade, to which the Irish trader would have to resort to obtain his order. Instead of providing Bankruptcy Courts easily accessible to every suitor, this Bill created a body of irresponsible officials throughout every part of Ireland, from whom the unfortunate creditor would at last be driven to seek the aid and protection of the Board of Trade. As a general principle, therefore, this was a very singular system for the right hon. Gentleman to ask the House to adopt, especially as some men of the very highest authority and experience had condemned in the strongest terms this system of officialism altogether. On the second reading of the Bill an opinion of Lord Sherborne was quoted, pointing out the danger of relegating to a political body like the Board of Trade functions of this character. What was this system, too, but a wholly new and untried one? He could understand the proposal to extend this to Ireland, if it had been in successful operation in England; but, on the contrary, it was well known that in England they had muddled this question of bankruptcy, and introduced into it almost every wrong system they could introduce.

The right hon. Gentleman, too, was quite wrong in saying that these clauses, which were now, at the tenth hour, presented to the House, were the same as those originally brought before the Grand Committee. The very first of the latter proposed to extend the Bill to Ireland in a very different manner from what was now suggested. So far from creating small local Courts in different places, these clauses did the very opposite; for, in point of fact, they transferred to the Lord Lieutenant a power which the House of Commons ought not to vest in him—a power, namely, to create Bankruptcy Courts in such places as he thought fit. Some hon. Members might think this right; but he should be surprised if the majority of the House were in favour of such policy. If the Bill had not received the sanction of the Board of Trade, he should have stamped it as a piece of privileged and gross jobbery. He would assume that five Courts were appointed—Cork, Belfast, Limerick, Waterford, and Derry. How were these five Judges to be controlled, and from what fund would they be paid? Clearly, the Recorders could not fill the offices; and the curious spectacle was afforded of such an advocate of economy and retrenchment as the right hon. Gentleman pressing forward a Bill which, in regard to Ireland, would lead only to extra expenditure. Let them go a step further. These Courts would require a permanent staff, and from what fund were they also to be paid, or was the cost to be met out of the assets of the estates? These points furnished abundant reasons why there should be a full and adequate discussion of this Bill, so that the Irish people might really know what they had before them. Do not let anyone suppose that if this Bill were passed bankruptcy expenses in Ireland, of which many people now complained, would be any smaller. He trusted the President of the Board of Trade would not propose such a monstrous thing as that these expenses should be borne out of the estates of the debtors. This new Official Referee was to be paid from a percentage charged on the presentation of petitions; but he would have the House observe that *plus* that there would be the expenses of attorney and counsel—gentlemen whom many people would like to get rid of altogether in these transactions. The 17th section said, that—

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“The official referee shall take part in the examination of the debtor, and for the purpose thereof, if specially authorized by the Board of Trade, may employ a solicitor with or without counsel.”

Here the inevitable solicitors stepped in—who might not be an Irishman, but an English attorney appointed by the Board of Trade, who would thus obtain the right to practice in Ireland without having obtained the necessary call, and without paying one farthing. But the grievance did not end there. Under the present Irish system there were limited provisions with respect to rights of appeal; but the 104th section of this clause proposed a power of appeal without stint or limit, and conceived on a most liberal principle. In this he recognized the hand of the English Solicitor General; and when the whole round of appeals up to the House of Lords had been carried out nothing but the proverbial oyster shell would be left for the unfortunate creditor. Then, again, for the sake of uniformity, economy, and expedition, the English Bankruptcy Judges had been constituted a part of the Supreme Court of Judicature; whilst there were separate clauses now to be moved by the Government, excluding this provision in respect to Ireland.

Notice taken, that 40 Members were not present; House counted, and 40 Members being found present.

Mr. P. MARTIN resuming, said, that when the Conservatives were in power they carried out these provisions; and on the Irish Judges being consulted all they advised was that the Bankruptcy Court in Dublin should be attached to the Chancery, and not to the Common Law Division. So little regard, however, was shown to Ireland that an express provision was to be moved excluding from that country this very moderate measure of reform. It was shown very clearly, by a Return presented on the Motion of an hon. Member opposite (Mr. Arthur O'Connor), that there was not work enough for even the two existing Judges; and he could not see why one of them, at least, should not be utilized in the Equity Courts. Mr. Walsh was a gentleman enjoying a large Equity business before he was made a Judge, and no one was better fitted to adorn the Irish Bench. The system of this Bill was intended to meet large and congested business, and it was a cruelty to

introduce those complicated and expensive provisions into Ireland, where they were not wanted. Another wholesome and just distinction drawn by the existing Irish law was that between trading and non-trading defaulters. It would be a great hardship to non-trading classes in Ireland to be subjected to stringent acts of bankruptcy. The result would be, that if a man, in a moment of error or folly, were to tell his servant when a man called for payment of an account—"I don't want to see him," he would thereby commit an act of bankruptcy, on which adjudication could take place, because it would be inferred he had acted with intent to defeat his creditors. It would be cruelty to apply such an Act of Bankruptcy to the non-trading classes throughout Ireland. Was there not, he asked, something behind the conduct of the Government in regard to this Bill? Was not this an attempt to extend the accursed centralization in Ireland? The President of the Board of Trade had got in the thin end of the wedge already with the tramways, and he now tried to get control of bankruptcy. He would, under the Bill, have enormous patronage in respect of bankruptcy; and it would not be very difficult then for the Dublin Lights Board to fall at his hand, and he who decried centralization would secure the control and leave every Irish matter in the hands of an English Board. It was no longer to be the Lord Lieutenant who would have the real control of Ireland, but the President of the Board of Trade. At the same time, such was his high opinion of the right hon. Gentleman that, if all that multifarious business could possibly be supervised personally by the present President of the Board of Trade, he would have less objection to such an arrangement; but they could not hope that any one man could bestow upon it the vigilant attention which was required, and still less could they expect that the right hon. Gentleman would remain permanently in Office.

Mr. EWART said, that, judging from the speech just delivered, legal and commercial men from Ireland took very different views of that question; but, although the present state of things might be very satisfactory to the lawyers, it was anything but satisfactory to the mercantile community. To describe the present system of bankruptcy in Ireland as being cheap, simple, and expeditious

was to draw a sketch from fancy only. The reverse was the opinion of the entire community in Ireland, except a small knot of gentlemen connected with the Legal Profession, many of whom were deeply interested in the existing system. Bankruptcy business in Ireland was now dear, complex, and tedious, so much so that the merchants allowed the traders to do almost what they liked rather than go into a Court of Bankruptcy. As to there being a small amount of business in that Court in Ireland, the fact was that a great amount of business which should go into Court did not go there at all for the reasons he had indicated. The hon. and learned Member for Kilkenny (Mr. P. Martin) had spoken slightly of what he called the "round robin;" but it had been signed by 62 Gentlemen, while others gave it their approval, although objecting to put their names on the paper. In the town which he represented (Belfast), the Town Council, the Chamber of Commerce, the Linen Merchants' Association, and men of eminence in the banking world supported that measure. Indeed, there was a general consensus of opinion entirely in favour of the Bill. They wished to cast in their lot with England in regard to that legislation. The hon. and learned Member had quoted Judge Harrison as speaking in favour of the Bankruptcy Laws in Ireland; but that was when comparing them with the existing laws in England. He (Mr. Ewart), therefore, sincerely hoped that the Government would go forward with the measure.

Mr. DALY said, he must deny that that measure had been either conceived in haste or pressed forward with confusion. He also maintained that it had been considered in Ireland, and was approved by the mercantile community. As a matter of fact, no proceedings had been more carefully watched and discussed than the proceedings of the Grand Committee on the Bill; and the announcement of its extension to Ireland was received with satisfaction by commercial men throughout the country. The hon. and learned Member for Kilkenny (Mr. P. Martin) had had the audacity to state that the Bill had never been discussed by the Irish people. To that statement he gave a categorical denial. He knew, indeed, of no subject which was more freely canvassed and discussed in Ireland. The Irish Bankruptcy Law was

only good in comparison with the existing state of Bankruptcy Law in England; and the opinions quoted by the hon. and learned Member for Kilkenny, of Mr. Campbell, and Judge Harrison, who were both theorists, were in opposition to the unanimous opinion of mercantile men in Ireland. No one felt where the shoe pinched more than the wearer; and the opinion of men who had 20 or 25 years' experience of the operations of the Bankruptcy Court in Ireland must weigh heavier than the opinion of an outsider who read a mere theoretical opinion before the Statistical Society in Dublin. When the Bill was introduced he sent it to every Society and Chamber of Commerce and Commercial Institute in Cork that was capable of examining it, and also to the Southern Law Association, composed of experienced solicitors; and from all these—from Mercantile Associations and Legal Associations alike—there came the opinion that it would be a great boon if the Bill were extended to Ireland. The Bill, as now before the House, had the approbation of the Dublin Mercantile Association and Council of Commerce, and of the most influential merchants of Belfast. He himself had the pleasure of meeting at the Board of Trade the Mayor of Belfast, surrounded by men representing its commercial interests, who came there with the head of his own Corporation and a number of the most influential men in Cork to pray that these clauses be extended to Ireland. There might be details which could be amended in Committee; but, in his opinion, the Bill contained that germ of a principle which had been desired throughout Ireland—namely, the establishment of local Courts of Bankruptcy. He had presented a Petition from 750 firms in the great centres of trade in England doing business with Ireland, who prayed that the great boon enjoyed here of a local Bankruptcy Court should be established in Cork, Belfast, and other centres. He, therefore, asked the English Members not to look upon this as an exclusively Irish question, but to consider the immense amount of business done from the English side of the Channel with Ireland. Was it unfair that Irish Members should ask that in their smaller operations at home they should be put on the same platform as Englishmen, and have a cheap and expeditious method of bankruptcy, in place of the costly and

protracted system at present carried on in Dublin? The evils of the present system comprised the delay in adjudication, whereby the trader, if he was dishonest, gained an immense advantage over his creditors. Again, where small estates had to be administered, the expense of taking witnesses to the Court in Dublin often absorbed nearly the whole of the assets; while the process of distributing the assets was also very expensive and dilatory. The establishment of local Courts would go far to remedy those evils. The extension of that Bill to Ireland was unanimously supported by the mercantile men of Belfast, Cork, Limerick, and Waterford. By whom was the measure opposed? Looking over the 30 pages of Amendments, he found, by an odd coincidence, the name of lawyer after lawyer, who did not represent the commercial classes, but presumably acted from *esprit de corps*, or from some other motive in defence of the Dublin legal gentlemen who were interested in the existing system. He would only add, in conclusion, that he hoped he had succeeded in establishing the fact that in the arguments used by the hon. and learned Member for Kilkenny there were a great many inaccuracies; and he trusted that the House would not be deterred by the threat of factious opposition from conferring on the mercantile community in Ireland the boon which they anxiously anticipated.

Dr. LYONS said, he desired to put the House in possession of the views which a number of commercial men had addressed to him in regard to this Bill. This day, on it becoming known in Dublin that the Government was in earnest in their intention to extend this Bill to Ireland, he had been addressed by a body of individuals representing so many interests that it was impossible to ignore their high position and their right to speak on behalf of the commercial community. From the large number of telegrams which he held in his hand he would only enumerate a few, though they were all from persons of the most independent position. It was unworthy to impute to them that their position, as opponents of this Bill, was in the interest of a small clique of lawyers, or in the interests of Dublin alone. The Directors of the Royal Bank of Ireland had telegraphed to him that until experience was had of this Bill, and of its working

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in England, they in Ireland should not be asked hastily to abandon a system of Bankruptcy Law which had hitherto given full satisfaction. These Directors, he said, were gentlemen who could be mentioned alongside some of the greatest commercial men in England. He had received telegrams from many other representative men and firms and Associations. It was not necessary for him to specify names. The senders all agreed in expressing their satisfaction with the working of the existing system. He only desired to put the views of the great body of the commercial community before the House. The right hon. Gentleman the President of the Board of Trade had stated he was desirous of being guided by the Representatives of Irish constituencies, and by those who represented the great commercial interests of the country. That, he pointed out, was not to be taken from a numerical comparison; but when they took the position of gentlemen of great commercial *status*, of perfect independence, and integrity of character, he thought that expressions of opinion such as he had the honour of conveying to the House were worthy of respectful consideration, and he was sure they would receive such consideration at the hands of the President of the Board of Trade.

MR. DAWSON (LORD MAYOR OF DUBLIN) said, the hon. Member for Dublin (Dr. Lyons) was not alone in receiving telegrams with regard to this Bill. He himself had also received telegrams; and it was quite evident, from their similarity with messages received by the hon. Member for Dublin, that they all emanated from a certain source, which would have found itself very weak indeed in the expression of Irish opinion without these Whips. The fact that they had all been received to-day was a condemnation of them as a genuine or representative expression of opinion. The Bill had been before the House since the 19th March; and it was strange, if the commercial people of Ireland felt so keenly on the subject, that they should have waited until now in order to inspire their Representatives to oppose it. They had not only inspired their Representatives, but he believed they had been themselves inspired, and the very phraseology of the telegrams they had sent had been forwarded to them. The Royal Bank was a peculiarly Dublin

institution, which had no branches to any extent throughout the country. Notwithstanding the telegrams referred to by the hon. Member (Dr. Lyons), there was no pronouncement from any distinguished house of business, except that which was an emphatic pronouncement in support of the Bill. Let them see what was the public opinion held by Ireland on this question. They were told by the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Daly) that most of the Amendments upon the Paper appeared in the names of Members of the Legal Profession; and, that being so, it would be well to see what was thought in Ireland on the subject. One of the first commercial circles in which he had heard this Bill criticized was a meeting of the Irish Commercial Travellers' Association in Dublin on April 7th. These were the men who held in their hands the threads of the commercial operations of Ireland; and one of them, Mr. Macdonald, who presided at the meeting, pointed out how the traders were injuriously affected by the present system, and how they, as a rule, took little notice of bad debts, because it would only be throwing good money after bad to go into the Bankruptcy Court. Honest traders in Ireland could not get on, because of the system which permitted the frequent appearances in the Bankruptcy Court of those who paid only 3s., 4s., or 5s. in the pound. Those who desired to see the commercial position of Ireland improve ought to welcome the introduction of such a measure as this, which would tend to make Irish traders business-like and prudent. The only reason which for a time had made him hesitate about supporting this Bill was that it was opposed by an hon. Gentleman with whom he had always desired to act most harmoniously—namely, the hon. Member for Carlow (Mr. Gray); but the hon. Member for Carlow was accountable, to some degree, for the sound opinion which he now held. *The Freeman's Journal* of the 23rd April commented on the meeting of the Commercial Travellers' Association, and expressed its belief that the need for the improvement of the Bankruptcy Law, recommended by that Association was obvious, and that their suggestions were sound. He found from a return that there were in the year 14,000 and odd bankruptcy cases, and

that for each case there were 15 or 16 sittings. As Judge Walsh, the Judge of the Bankruptcy Court, stated in May last, it was no wonder it was proposed to make some change in the system, considering the frequent adjournment of the cases pending before the Courts. Under the present system a man could open a place of business one day and shut the next; and, in his opinion, if this Bill was passed, it would introduce such good commercial habits into the country that it would go far to promote the prosperity of the country. In Dublin he remarked the case of a man who had closed several times and opened again; and, wishing to understand how he was able to do that, he inquired of the Official Assignee, and the Official Assignee told him that the man made declaration that he gave the best account he could give—the best account he could give being no account at all. Now, what was the view of the commercial traders in Ireland on the question? The Chamber of Commerce in Dublin was in favour of it, so were the Chambers of Commerce in Limerick, Belfast, Waterford, and Derry—in fact, all the towns in Ireland gave an unqualified support; and it was not until the telegrams were received a while ago, the identity of phraseology of which showed a common origin, that there was any indication of opposition to it. That opposition came entirely from the Dublin Legal Profession, and he should say that Profession took a very narrow-minded view of this matter. The fact was, there was no great amount of commercial business in Ireland, owing, to a considerable extent, to the state of the Bankruptcy Law; and he believed that a reform of that law would lead to a rapid increase of trade. One of the reasons alleged against the Bill was that it would deprive Ireland of a local institution, and centralize it in London. Now, such an opposition would entirely have his sympathy; but the President of the Board of Trade told him that he intended doing no such thing, but that it was proposed to establish in Dublin a branch of the Board of Trade—in fact, a new institution over which he would have control, and which would be only responsible to him. It was said—“Try the Bill in England, and then, if it succeeded, apply it to Ireland.” Well, he would say—“Try it in England and Ireland, and if it does not succeed

deprive both of it.” And now he came to the climax of the argument in favour of this Bill, and that was that there was a national element in the desire for it. He hoped, therefore, that the President of the Board of Trade would persevere with the Bill, and extend to Ireland a measure which would lay the foundation of that commercial prosperity which they so much wanted, and which they were so much in hopes of getting.

Mr. M. BROOKS said, he had listened with attention to the speech of the hon. Member for Cork City (Mr. Daly), and the right hon. Gentleman the Lord Mayor of Dublin (Mr. Dawson); and he failed to see that they pointed out one blot in the existing Irish Bankruptcy Law. Their arguments were entirely confined to a condemnation of the administration of an Irish system which was carried on by Irish gentlemen, and a condemnation of an institution which he never heard condemned before, and which he had always heard spoken of as being most satisfactory. If there was such a feeling in Ireland in favour of the Bill, why did not the Lord Mayor of Dublin ask the Body over which he presided to express an opinion on the matter? The Corporation of Dublin always took a deep interest in anything that concerned the commercial interests of Ireland; and why were they not asked to express their opinions on this question? He was amazed to hear the attacks made on an honourable Profession, to the effect that Amendments had been placed upon the Paper from mean and selfish motives. Now, he would be ashamed to suggest a doubt; but might it not be asked whether the Legal Profession in Cork and Belfast had personal interest in the matter also? He represented the unanimous feeling of the mercantile, manufacturing, and shipping interests of the City of Dublin, and they had but one feeling, and that was that, unless some weighty reasons were given, the Government ought not to make the changes proposed in the Bill. The more the subject had been examined, the more clearly did it appear that great injury would be done to the public interest by the application of the Bill to Ireland. Trade would be restricted and money interests injured; and he, therefore, hoped the House would negative the present proposal, which ought not to be proceeded with

without fuller discussion. He would move the adjournment of the debate.

MR. GLADSTONE said, before that Question was put, and before it found a Secunder, he would make some observations which might have some influence on the mind of the hon. Gentleman. The experience which the Government had obtained since the close of the debate on the Judicature Rules and Orders had been very valuable in the light it had cast upon the future. It had enabled the Government to make a forecast of the future with sufficient accuracy, and to point out what was their duty under existing circumstances. In the few remarks he had to make, he would confine himself to an estimate of the facts of the case. The first point of importance was that they had arrived at the 11th of August. On this, the 11th of August, his right hon. Friend the President of the Board of Trade had made a Motion to extend the enactments of the Bankruptcy Bill to Ireland, in pursuance of an announcement he had made to that effect; and there had been placed upon the Table of the House, almost entirely on account of that announcement, 39 pages of Amendments, which, he believed, amounted to more than 300 in number. It had not been found practicable to discuss these Amendments. Hon. Members from Ireland had felt it their Parliamentary duty to initiate a discussion on the principle of extending the Bankruptcy Bill to Ireland. Some half-dozen Irish Members had addressed the House upon the subject; and there remained, so far as he could form an estimate, no less than twice that number who also felt it incumbent on them, as Irish Members, to address the House.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR: Not half that number.

MR. CALLAN: Twice that number, Sir.

MR. GLADSTONE said, he might be excused for attaching as much value to his own estimate as to that of other persons. It came, therefore, to this—that it would be impossible to name a day for resuming the discussion. Supposing they were now, or shortly, to adjourn the debate, the earliest day for resuming it would be Wednesday next; and though it might be possible to bring the Speaker out of the Chair at the close of the Wednesday Sitting, they

would only be at the beginning of the 39 pages of Amendments. Under these circumstances, the end of August would be reached before the Bill could be sent up to the House of Lords; and he was bound to say that would be making a draft upon the patience and forbearance of the House of Lords which would be hardly justifiable; and, undoubtedly, this was a Bill upon which the Legal Authorities of the other House had eminently a title to a fair opportunity of full discussion and consideration. The Government had not scrupled to ask the House in the past to make considerable sacrifices. It was a serious matter for the House to be entreated—and it had listened most cheerfully to the entreaty—to continue its daily discussions to hours so unreasonable as those at which it had recently adjourned. Besides that, they were reaching the outside limit of the Parliamentary Session in contemplating the transaction of the Business which they had before them, apart from the discussion of the extension of this Bill to Ireland. With regard to the measure itself, Her Majesty's Government attached to it the very greatest importance; and desirous as they were that Ireland should have the benefit of this measure, and that she should have the benefit of it without delay, yet they had another duty to perform—their duty to England, which substantially had got the measure; and it would be a heavy responsibility if, in the anxiety at once to extend it to Ireland without delay, they were to entail upon the House such a prolongation of labour as might even end in endangering the passing of the Bill as a Bill for England, but a Bill which he hoped would, in the next Session, serve for an extension to Ireland. [*A laugh.*] He witnessed the glee of the hon. Member for Cavan (Mr. Biggar), who, no doubt, looked upon this as another of the many achievements which had marked his career in the House. The hon. Member must be content to take a rational view of public affairs, and form but a modest measure of the achievements within the power of the Government. They considered that it was within their power to secure the passing of such a valuable measure; and they did not think they ought to do anything that would endanger this result. They thought there was a limit on the demands which they were justified in

making on the House. The debate which had taken place was enough to show that the field opened by the Motion for extending the Bill to Ireland would practically be a very wide one. He had been careful not to say a word about Obstruction, or anything which could give offence to anyone. But he had now, on the part of his right hon. Friend (Mr. Chamberlain), and on the part of the Government, to say that while, of course, they would at once prosecute this measure, and would name an early day next week for that purpose, they would desist from any attempt to extend its provisions in the present year to Ireland; and it was his duty to ask leave to withdraw the Motion made three hours ago by his right hon. Friend the President of the Board of Trade.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR said, that, before the Motion was withdrawn, he would like just to say a word. The right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister was perfectly justified in stating that he had not said a word which would wound the susceptibilities of Members of the House. He had not been one of those who had taken any part in signing the request to the President of the Board of Trade; but he did not sympathize with the insinuation that the six Members who had taken part in the opposition to the Bill had been actuated by anything mean or selfish in that opposition. The opposition had been almost essentially of a local character, and was supported by enemies of centralization, and by lawyers; but it was only fair to add that it had not been obstructive. The Government were a little to blame in the matter, because they ought to have given the House an earlier opportunity for discussion. He hoped, however, that next Session any Bill for extending the provisions of the English Bill to Ireland would be introduced at a sufficiently early period to insure proper discussion.

MR. T. A. DICKSON wished to say, before the debate closed, that 70 Irish Members were in favour of the application of the Bill to Ireland; but that the influence and wishes of those Members were thrown aside by the Prime Minister, and the clauses relating to Ireland cast aside, in deference to the opinion of six Members. He had learned from these facts the value of Obstruction, and, in the end, it would prevail if persevered in. They had also seen the in-

terests of the entire commercial class in Ireland sacrificed to a clique of Dublin lawyers.

MR. CALLAN said, he had at no time during the past 15 years admired the Prime Minister more than he had that evening, because there had been nothing more becoming in the Bill than its withdrawal. To show how the Prime Minister could gauge the opposition to the Bill, notwithstanding that the hon. Member for Tyrone (Mr. T. A. Dickson) and the hon. Member for Galway (Mr. T. P. O'Connor) had spoken of only six Members, and that the opposition had been confined to a Dublin clique of lawyers, he would point out to the House that, although he had opposed it, he was not, unfortunately, a practising barrister; also the two hon. Members for Monaghan (Mr. Healy and Mr. Findlater) had opposed it—[“No, no!”]—also the hon. and learned Member for Kildare (Mr. Meldon), the hon. and learned Member for Kilkenny (Mr. P. Martin), who had retired with a large fortune; the hon. Member for Cavan (Mr. Biggar), who was a merchant; the two hon. Members for the City of Dublin (Mr. M. Brooks and Dr. Lyons), one eminent as a merchant and the other as a medical man; the other hon. Member for Cavan (Mr. Fay), the hon. Member for Wexford County (Mr. Small), and the hon. Member for Carlow (Mr. Gray). There had been 13 Members opposed to the Bill altogether, and who were prepared to oppose it at all lengths; and then the hon. Member for Tyrone had got up to oppose his old Friend the Prime Minister, on behalf of the 62 Members who had signed the requisition, not half of whom had really known what it was about. He was proud to say that he had killed two of the most objectionable Bills which had been brought on during the Session—the Sunday Closing Bill and the Bankruptcy Bill as it was proposed to be extended to Ireland.

MR. FINDLATER said, he must deny that the opposition to the Bill had been promoted by a clique of Dublin lawyers. He had opposed it because he conscientiously believed it was fraught with injury to Ireland.

MR. O'BRIEN said, that there was one consolation, at all events, in the course the Government had taken, and that was that it would show the Irish people what power even half-a-dozen

determined men had in that House. He only hoped that the hon. Member for Dublin and his Friends, who had distinguished themselves by their prowess in upsetting these clauses, would expend as much energy in the cause of Ireland as they had in saving the Dublin Bankruptcy Court.

MR. BIGGAR said, the reason he signed the requisition to the Prime Minister was because he received a Memorial to that effect purporting to come from the Town Commissioners of Cavan; but he subsequently found that the Memorial really came from the chairman of a local bank at Belfast. Then he examined the Bill for himself, and came to the conclusion that it would not be desirable to extend it to Ireland, and that the opinion in favour of that extension was a manufactured opinion. He had to complain, further, that the conduct of Business with respect to the Bill when before the Grand Committee was unsatisfactory. One hon. Member was threatened that if he were to raise any difficulty on Report he would never get on a Grand Committee again. An hon. Member found that all his Amendments were opposed by the President of the Board of Trade, and he was outvoted; but the moment that hon. Member put down Amendments in the name of somebody else they were immediately accepted by the right hon. Gentleman.

MR. LEAMY said, he was bound to complain that the Irish clauses were not pressed on the Grand Committee. Those Members who signed the Memorial had every reason to believe that the Government would carry out their promise, and bow to the wishes of the majority of the Irish Members. The blame of the present failure rested entirely with the President of the Board of Trade. It was certainly within their rights for those who objected to the extension of the Bill to Ireland to give it all the opposition in their power—he himself would do the same if he were opposed to it—but if the President of the Board of Trade meant to extend the Bill to Ireland, why had he kept it back till the last moment, when he must have known that it would encounter opposition that would destroy its chance of passing?

MR. MARUM said, he was opposed to the extension of the Bill to Ireland,

although he had put no Amendments on the Paper. He denied however, that the Motion of the right hon. Gentleman was opposed solely by half-a-dozen Dublin lawyers.

Motion, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Order for re-committal of Bill *discharged*.

Bill, as amended, to be considered upon *Monday* next.

House adjourned at a quarter before Nine o'clock till Monday next.

HOUSE OF LORDS,

Monday, 13th August, 1883.

MINUTES.]—PUBLIC BILLS—*First Reading*—Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) * (189); Sale of Wight Highways * (191).
Second Reading—Diseases Prevention (Metropolis) (181).
Committee—Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) (178-190).
Committee—Report—Public Health Act, 1875, (Support of Sewers) Amendment * (172).
Report—Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 2) * (151); Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 3) * (152); Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 4) * (158); Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 9) * (161); Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 10) * (162); Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 11) * (163); Parochial Charities (London) * (187); Patents for Inventions * (179).
Third Reading—Trial of Lunatics * (169); Statute Law Revision * (176), and *passed*.

SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE (NEW RULES).

PETITION PRESENTED.

LORD BRAMWELL, in presenting a Petition from the Bar Committee asking their Lordships to present an humble Address to Her Majesty, praying that the New Rules regulating the practice and procedure of the Supreme Court of Judicature might be annulled, said, the object of the Petitioners was by no means hostile to the New Rules; but they thought that if the Rules were published and discussed they might be improved, and this could be done by such an Address as prayed, and by a second issuing of the Rules. He could not agree in the prayer of the Petition. He thought they were excellent, and

the sooner they were adopted the better. They could be amended if, in the working, faults were discovered. He should be glad to see the Long Vacation shortened—not the long Vacation of the Judges, but of the Courts. The Judges required a very long Vacation. They now did five weeks' more work every year than before the Judicature Act. He would like to see a rota formed, or some other arrangement made, by which the Judges might sit in turn. He thought that might have been done; but he begged to say again that they ought to be very much obliged to those who had drawn the Rules.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said, he was very much gratified at hearing what had fallen from his noble and learned Friend. With regard to the single point upon which he had objected to the Rules, about the length of the Long Vacation remaining unaltered, he did not at all differ from him; but it was not in the power of the Rule Committee of the Judges to deal with that matter—it could only be dealt with by an Order in Council, upon the advice of a Council of the whole body of Judges. He thought he might bear his testimony to the very great assiduity and zeal for the Public Service with which his Colleagues had laboured for about two years in the preparation of the New Code of Rules. He thought no public servants ever took more pains about any work, or brought to it a greater amount of knowledge and intelligence; and among those who assisted him he could not help specially mentioning the late Master of the Rolls (Sir George Jessel), who, he knew, approved of all the alterations, which had been decided upon before his lamented death, including most of those which were of any great importance. As to the applications said to have been made by the Bar Committee and the Inns of Court to the Rule Committee, neither from the Incorporated Law Society, nor from any Society or Body of persons in any sense representing the Bar, was any application made for any communication of the Rules to them during the time while those Rules were still under consideration. What applications were actually made were made when the Rules were in the course of signature by the Judges; and if those applications had been granted the Rules could not have been laid before Parliament during

the present Session. The Rule Committee made no secret of the work on which they were engaged during the whole progress of it; it had its commencement in the Report of a preliminary Departmental Committee, on which the Judges, the Bar, and the solicitors were well represented; and the Rule Committee, from time to time, communicated freely with Judges, officers of the Court, and barristers and solicitors of experience, on many of the questions which they had to consider. Under those circumstances, no one, he was sure, could suppose that any other course could have been taken than was actually taken.

METROPOLITAN IMPROVEMENTS— PUBLIC OFFICES.

MOTION FOR A RETURN.

LORD LAMINGTON, in rising to ask whether the Government would delay the erection of any building in Parliament Street until the plan of the whole proposed improvements from Whitehall to the Houses of Parliament had been submitted to Parliament, and to move for a Return of the rents paid for the hire of public offices other than the War Office and the Admiralty, said, that he had taken an interest in this matter for over 30 years. There had been many Committees to inquire into it, and the last appointed in 1877, of which he was Chairman, reported that the Government Offices should be concentrated. He was most anxious that the Government should avoid committing the grievous error which he thought they were about to fall into. He understood, as far as he could judge from what appeared in the newspapers, that it was now intended to take down the present buildings in Parliament Street, and widen that thoroughfare; but to his great regret he saw it was not intended to use the ground so gained, for the concentration of Public Offices, but to let it on building leases. If that were done, it would be the greatest blunder possible; whereas, if Government Offices were erected on the land, not only would the appearance of the neighbourhood be improved, and the convenience of Public Departments consulted, but there would also be a saving of £35,000 annually, and the buildings could be erected for about £800,000.

Moved, "That there be laid before this House, Return of the rents paid for the hire of public offices other than the War Office and Admiralty."—(*The Lord Lamington.*)

LORD THURLOW said, that, in reply to the first portion of the Question, he was directed to say that it would be necessary to apply to Parliament for further powers before proceeding with the erection of Public Offices in Parliament Street; and when that application was made, it would be accompanied by a complete plan of what it was proposed to build, and Members of both Houses of Parliament would have a full opportunity of expressing their opinions as to the merits of the scheme. With regard to the second portion of the Question, his noble Friend would find the information he desired in the Estimates presented annually to Parliament, in Class I. of the Revenue Departments and Customs, as regarded most of the Public Offices that were hired, and as regarded the Post Office and Telegraph Offices in Estimates 3 and 5 of the Revenue Department expenses.

THE EARL OF REDESDALE (CHAIRMAN of COMMITTEES) said, the noble Lord had not answered the Question of his noble Friend. He thought the Question was, whether it was intended to let the ground in Parliament Street on building leases? He would, therefore, ask the noble Lord whether it was a fact that Parliament Street was going to be pulled down for the purpose of letting the ground on building leases?

THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY said, that the Questions on the Paper had been replied to; but if there were any other Questions on the subject, Notice should be given of them.

LORD LAMINGTON said, he would give Notice to ask other Questions on a future day.

On Question? *Resolved in the negative.*

POST OFFICE—UNDERGROUND TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE WIRES.

QUESTION. OBSERVATIONS.

VISCOUNT SIDMOUTH asked Her Majesty's Government, Whether, in the extension of the telegraph system which was now contemplated, they intended to consider the feasibility of carrying the wires underground, as was done in some other countries, instead of upon

poles according to the present universal practice of Great Britain to the detriment of the landscape? It had been stated that the expense of carrying wires underground was considerably more than carrying them overground, and that it was as much as 100 to 30; but he had lately received information from America to the effect that, in consequence of recent inventions, the expense, so far from being greater, was less than the overhead method. If it were impossible to adopt a general system of underground wires throughout the country, he hoped the beauty of some of the valleys and mountains in Scotland and elsewhere would be spared by having unsightly telegraph poles erected on them.

THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH said, he concurred in the view taken by the noble Viscount, though more on account of practical than of picturesque considerations. Apart from the disfiguration of scenery, there was great public danger from the present system of suspending telegraph wires from poles along the public roads. In the North, when there was a heavy snowstorm the wires and poles occasionally gave way, interrupting and causing great danger to traffic. This risk would be wholly removed by a system of underground wires.

LORD THURLOW said, he had been in communication with the Postmaster General upon this subject; and, while he had every desire to carry out the system of underground wires as far as possible, the additional expense, as compared with carrying wires on poles, was very large, so that it would be impossible to adopt the system generally; but, as regarded large towns, care would be taken to adopt the underground system in as many cases as possible. That was all the Postmaster General could undertake at present. He would, however, take care that the remarks of the noble Viscount were brought before the Postmaster General, who would consider them with attention.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ACTS—THE COMPULSORY CLAUSES.

QUESTION. OBSERVATIONS.

THE EARL OF MILLTOWN asked Her Majesty's Government, Whether, having regard to the fearful increase of juvenile prostitution, the strong feeling of the country on the subject, and the

fact that Mr. Gladstone had announced his intention to abandon the Bill which had recently passed that House, which had for its alleged object the mitigation of this crying evil, they would reconsider their policy of practically repealing the Contagious Diseases Acts, which had been proved by the evidence given before the Select Committee of that House to be doing an immensity of good work in this very direction? What the Government ought to have done after the scratch vote, passed by a majority consisting of considerably less than a third of the Members of the House of Commons, was to have seen whether Parliament would refuse the money to carry on the Acts. He had evidence to prove that the operation of these Acts had been most beneficial at Portsmouth, and had been the means of rescuing many young girls from a life of misery and vice. The Government did not invariably show the respect for Resolutions of the House of Commons which they had professed in the matter of these Acts. When asked why the Government had taken no action in pursuance of Mr. Chaplin's Resolution with regard to restricting the importation of foreign cattle, Mr. Gladstone had recently replied that they were very desirous of giving effect to Resolutions of the House of Commons "compatible with that which was of higher importance, obedience to the law of the land." But in this case they had given an effect to a Resolution of that House which completely set aside the law of the land. The recent Resolution passed in the House of Commons was due to the opposition raised by fanatics of both sexes, extreme Radicals, and loose women, with whose avocations these most salutary Acts seriously interfered.

THE EARL OF NORTHBROOK was understood to reply that, after what had happened in the other House on that subject, the Government had adopted the only course in regard to it which, under the circumstances, was left open to them.

AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS (SCOTLAND) BILL.—(No. 178.)

(*The Lord President.*)

COMMITTEE.

Order of the Day for the House to be put into Committee read.

The Earl of Milltown

Moved, "That the House do resolve itself into Committee on the Bill."—(*The Lord Carlingford.*)

LORD FORBES said, he was of opinion that their Lordships were entering with too light a heart upon that legislation. He was surprised at the great rapidity with which the second reading of the Bill had been taken. Legislation of this kind affected Scotland a great deal more than it affected England. The measure dealing with the same subject for England, in his opinion, would not do half so much harm, or lead to half the litigation, which the present Bill would do for Scotland. It would cause much heartburning and irritation between landlord and tenant, while to the small proprietor it was likely to prove disastrous. The Scottish farmers were in a different condition from the English farmers in respect to leases; and he hoped the noble Marquess (the Marquess of Salisbury) would give the same attention to the Scotch Bill that he had done to the English, and that the noble Duke (the Duke of Richmond and Gordon) would forget his own position, and legislate for the smaller proprietors.

Motion agreed to; House in Committee accordingly.

Compensation for Improvements.

Clause 1 (General right of tenant to compensation).

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL moved to add the following Proviso corresponding to that in the English Bill:—namely—

"Provided always, that, in estimating the value of any improvement in the Schedule hereto, there shall not be taken into account as part of the improvement made by the tenant what is justly due to inherent capabilities of the soil."

His Amendment, as it originally stood on the Paper, comprised only "Parts I. and II." of the Schedule; but he would accept the proposal contained in an Amendment of the noble Duke opposite (the Duke of Richmond and Gordon) that the Proviso should extend to the whole Schedule.

Amendment moved,

In page 1, line 12, after ("tenant,") add ("Provided always, that, in estimating the value of any improvement in the Schedule hereto, there shall not be taken into account as part of the improvement made by the tenant what is justly due to the inherent capabilities of the soil.")—(*The Duke of Argyll.*)

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he was quite prepared to accept the Amendment as it stood upon the Paper, as it was similar to the one that had been accepted by the Government in the House of Commons upon the English Bill; but he objected to its extension to the 3rd Part of the Schedule. It was true that it had been extended in this way in the English Bill; but it was done against the wishes of those who were in charge of the Bill, and even the authors of it did not express any desire to have it so extended.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, the noble Lord had made a statement which showed that he must have been misinformed—namely, that those who were the authors of the Amendment expressed no desire that it should be extended to the 3rd Schedule. At that time the Amendment, which was that of Mr. Balfour, covered the whole ground of the Schedule, and was in the English Bill. After the Committee stage, however, had been gone through, the Government procured a reversal of the decision that the Committee had come to upon Mr. Balfour's Amendment. Time passed by, and he believed a Motion was made at the instance of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach that the Proviso should extend to the 3rd Part of the Schedule; therefore, he hoped the noble Lord would not take up the position that there was no desire on the part of the authors of the Amendment to extend it to the 3rd Part of the Schedule.

THE EARL OF ROSEBERY said, that the statement of the noble Lord (Lord Carlingford) was correct, in so far that no such extension was proposed by any Member from Scotland.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he was of opinion that the extension of the Proviso to Part III. was, in some respects, more important than its extension to Parts I. and II.; because, as regards Parts I. and II., the landlord could protect himself by agreement.

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he could not admit the force of the noble Duke's argument.

Amendment agreed to.

THE EARL OF WEMYSS moved to add to the clause the following Proviso:—

"Provided that this Act shall not apply to any holding under a contract of lease current

at the commencement of this Act, unless the landlord and tenant agree in writing that the Act, or any part thereof, shall apply to the holding."

The purpose of the Amendment was to do with regard to Scotland what had been done in the English Bill. He regretted that this Proviso had not been inserted when the Bill was in the House of Commons. It was a more important Proviso as regarded Scotland than as regarded England, because, as the noble Earl (the Earl of Rosebery) knew, the whole tenure in Scotland was under lease.

Amendment moved,

In page 1, line 13, at end of clause, add—
"Provided that this Act shall not apply to any holding under a contract of lease current at the commencement of this Act, unless the landlord and tenant agree in writing that the Act, or any part thereof, shall apply to the holding."—
(*The Earl of Wemyss.*)

THE EARL OF ROSEBERY said, he sincerely hoped the Government would not accept the Amendment. He would pass by the remarks which the noble Earl had been good enough to address to him personally, and also his remarks with regard to the House of Commons. The noble Earl was in a peculiarly unfortunate position in his reference to the House of Commons, because, if there had been any wish to extend this principle in the House of Commons, the noble Earl had not only a county Member to represent him, but a county Member who stood in the interesting relation of a son. Therefore, the noble Earl had an advantage over some of their Lordships in having direct representation in the House of Commons. Whether it was necessary or not for legislation to be initiated in that House which had never been mentioned in the House of Commons, he would merely mention the fact that the Members representing Scotch constituencies had not thought it necessary to moot this point in the House of Commons. The Amendment, if agreed to, would render the Bill absolutely null and void in Scotland. The Bill would become practically no boon to the farmers, but, on the contrary, a constant source of irritation.

THE EARL OF CAMPERDOWN said, he might remind their Lordships that there was an enormous difference between the English and Scotch farmers, in consequence of which what would apply to the one would not necessarily

apply to the other. In England the system was for a farmer to take his farm upon a year-to-year tenancy, whereas in Scotland they were almost all 19 years' tenancies; and it seemed to him only fair and reasonable that the operation of the Bill should apply to the remainder of the term of existing leases having still to run.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he was quite willing that the Bill should apply to all leases except those which contained specific provisions. As almost the whole area of Scotland, except the crofters, was under lease, the operation of the Bill as regarded the 3rd Schedule would be, by the Amendment, practically postponed for various terms of years—from two or three up to 19 years. That would create such dissatisfaction in Scotland that it would be very unwise for their Lordships to adopt it. He thought it would be unfair and invidious and not worth while to exempt existing leases.

THE EARL OF GALLOWAY said, that there might be cases in which leases were renewed with certain understandings not embodied in writing; and if they were to be included in the Act, while others who had taken care to have specific agreements were excluded, the dissatisfaction would be greater than if they were both excluded. He could not help hoping the Amendment would be accepted.

LORD CARLINGFORD (Lord President of the Council) said, that the noble Earl who had moved this Amendment, having on a former occasion asked their Lordships to make the sacrifice of the whole Bill to the principle of freedom of contract, which he had made into an idol which he worshipped with somewhat of unreasoning reverence, now asked their Lordships to make a lesser sacrifice to his shibboleth by postponing the operation of the Bill in certain cases for a number of years. He, however, thought it was impossible, with the two Agricultural Bills now before Parliament, to treat the argument at the high level which his noble Friend desired. They must come down to a lower level. The effect of the adoption of the Amendment of the noble Earl would be to put the Scotch tenant—for many years to come, at least, if not for the lifetime of many of them—upon an unequal footing with his English brethren in respect of tenant's improvements. The position would

be this. In some instances they would have Scotch tenants who had made valuable improvements upon their farms—and that was what they desired to encourage and promote—compelled to leave those improvements for the benefit of their landlords or their successors; and in other instances they would have the same class of tenants obtaining rights under this Bill. Under those circumstances, whatever might be the abstract merits of the question, the rights of the tenants would be so unequal, and of such a character, that it was impossible for the House to contemplate such a result; therefore, he trusted that their Lordships would reject the Amendment, as they had done an Amendment framed in a similar spirit by the noble Marquess opposite.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, that while he should decline to record his vote in favour of the Amendment, which would be equivalent in many cases to a rejection of the Bill for a number of years, he desired to point out that his Amendment merely proposed to postpone the operation of a particular clause for a time; whereas the noble Earl's Amendment proposed to postpone the operation of the whole Bill in certain cases for a number of years.

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON said, that the effect of the noble Earl's Amendment would be to prevent the Bill coming into operation in many cases until after the year 1900. If the noble Earl's tenants were satisfied with the conditions of agriculture which were in their leases, then the tenants would remain as they were now. If they thought that the conditions were insufficient protection, then they would come under the Act. If the noble Earl and his tenants were on happy terms, and his agreements were right and proper, then he might rest perfectly quiet.

THE EARL OF WEMYSS said, it was with something more than astonishment that he had heard from the Lord President (Lord Carlingford) language almost denunciatory of those who endeavoured in their Lordships' House to maintain the principles of freedom of agreement between full-grown men which had been, from time immemorial until the most recent date, the faith of Her Majesty's Government. The 19 years' lease was entered into by the two parties with a full

The Earl of Camperdown

knowledge of what they were doing. The agreements proposed under this Bill were unnecessary, as the 19 years' lease had been supposed to give a farmer all that was required to recoup him for his outlay. The noble Lord sneered, as usual, at anyone who differed from him as to freedom of contract; but what he wished to point out, not only to the House, but also to the public out-of-doors, was this—that apparently both sides of the House were agreed that contracts so entered into were to be broken by the State. He thought that any Legislature or Ministry which rested on such principles as those was resting on entirely false ground. What was now to be done was, when proposed in the matter of hares and rabbits a few years ago, viewed by the Members of the Cabinet as an insult. What was being done would not only break contract, but shatter the foundations of commercial transactions in this country. The commercial classes would be horrified, and they would petition their Lordships' House, but for the fact that they saw that both sides of the House were prepared to give this great question of principle the go-by. He felt most strongly the position which he had taken up, and on which he stood. The noble Earl (the Earl of Rosebery) spoke of giving a boon to the tenant. The question seemed to be not whether they were doing what was right and was beneficial to agriculture, but simply whether they were giving a boon to the tenant at the expense of the landlord.

THE EARL OF DALHOUSIE said, he must congratulate the noble Earl (the Earl of Wemyss) on his remarkable powers of seeing and hearing. He was the only Member of their Lordships' House who had ever heard denunciatory language from the Lord President, or had ever seen him sneer. The noble Earl had said that a 19 years' lease had always been considered a sufficient safeguard for the tenant in Scotland; but the Commission over which the noble Duke opposite had presided had come to a different conclusion, and was of opinion that a tenant ought to have compensation for his improvements at the end of his lease, and the Bill proceeded on that assumption. He regretted that the noble Earl, after all he had seen and heard, should not be able to see the necessity for the change.

On Question? their Lordships divided:—Contents 26; Not-Contents 45: Majority 19.

CONTENTS.

Northumberland, D.	Blantyre, L. [<i>Teller.</i>]
	Forbes, L.
Winchester, M.	Gerard, L.
	Ker, L. (<i>M. Lothian.</i>)
Clonmell, E.	Lamington, L.
Hartrey, E.	Lyveden, L.
Doncaster, E. (<i>D. Bucleuch and Queensberry.</i>)	Norton, L.
Fortescue, E.	Oxenfoord, L. (<i>E. Stair.</i>)
Haddington, E.	Stewart of Garlies, L. (<i>E. Galloway.</i>)
Lucan, E.	Stratheden and Campbell, L.
Redesdale, E.	Wemyss, L. (<i>E. Wemyss.</i>) [<i>Teller.</i>]
Melville, V.	Wynford, L.
Sidmouth, V.	Zouche of Haryngworth, L.
Bateman, L.	
Beaumont, L.	

NOT-CONTENTS.

Selborne, E. (<i>L. Chancellor.</i>)	Crewe, L.
	Douglas, L. (<i>E. Home.</i>)
	Emly, L.
Richmond, D.	Hopetoun, L. (<i>E. Hope-toun.</i>)
Westminster, D.	Kenmare, L. (<i>E. Kenmare.</i>)
Camperdown, E.	Lovat, L.
Derby, E.	Lyttelton, L.
Devon, E.	Methuen, L.
Dundonald, E.	Moncreiff, L.
Kimberley, E.	Monson, L. [<i>Teller.</i>]
Morley, E.	Penrhyn, L.
Northbrook, E.	Ramsay, L. (<i>E. Dalhousie.</i>)
Suffolk and Berkshire, E.	Reay, L.
Sydney, E.	Ribblesdale, L.
Gordon, V. (<i>E. Aberdeen.</i>)	Rosebery, L. (<i>E. Rosebery.</i>)
Sherbrooke, V.	Sandhurst, L.
	Skene, L. (<i>E. Fife.</i>)
Aberdare, L.	Somerton, L. (<i>E. Northampton.</i>)
Alington, L.	Strathpey, L. (<i>E. Seafield.</i>)
Botreaux, L. (<i>E. Loudoun.</i>)	Sundridge, L. (<i>D. Argyll.</i>)
Boyle, L. (<i>E. Cork and Orrery.</i>) [<i>Teller.</i>]	Templemore, L.
Carlingford, L.	Thurlow, L.
Carrington, L.	Ventry, L.
Clifford of Chudleigh, L.	Wrottesley, L.

Resolved in the negative.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

As to Improvements executed before the Commencement of Act.

Clause 2 (Restriction as to improvements before Act).

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON said, he proposed to insert 10 years as the time before the commencement of the Act within which a tenant might claim for compensation.

Amendment *moved*, in page 1, line 17, after ("has") insert ("within ten years.")—(*The Duke of Richmond and Gordon.*)

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, the Government could be no parties to the Amendment being accepted.

Amendment *agreed to*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

As to Improvements executed after the Commencement of Act.

Clause 3 (Consent of landlord as to improvements in the first part of schedule) *agreed to*.

Clause 4 (Notice to landlord as to improvements in second part of schedule).

THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH said, he thought the substitution of the word "drainage" for "improvement" throughout the clause would be an advantage.

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he would consider the matter before the Report stage.

THE MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN said, he had an Amendment to propose, the effect of which was to relieve the landlord from the limit of 5 per cent imposed by the Bill, in cases where he undertook the drainage, and to permit the rate of interest to be a matter of agreement between the parties.

Amendment *moved*, in page 2, line 30, leave out from ("with") to ("improvement") in line 32, and insert ("with interest thereon at such percentage as may be agreed on.")—(*The Marquess of Lothian.*)

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON said, he thought the clause left it open to the landlord and tenant to agree to terms.

LORD WATSON thought it unfortunate that the clause was not more clearly expressed, as it appeared the landlord and tenant could only agree for one purpose that the tenant should drain, whereas he thought the intention of the framer of the clause was that the landlord and tenant might agree upon that subject.

THE EARL OF CAMPERDOWN said, he would suggest that, as the Government were preparing an amended clause on this subject for the English Bill,

they ought to see it, as it might obviate all the difficulties in the present case.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said, he was of opinion that some such words as "proper and reasonable" might meet the difficulty.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he thought the clause required re-drafting. The words "proper and reasonable" would very likely lead to litigation, as the Courts would be asked to decide what was meant by those words. He did not see why a landlord should not be allowed to execute the drainage according to his own judgment, and charge the tenant interest upon the outlay.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said, he thought that would be undesirable, as the landlord might go in for unnecessarily expensive drainage, and in such a case the words "proper and reasonable" would have application.

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he would suggest that it might be convenient to reserve the revision of the clause till the Report, because they would have to deal with the corresponding clause in the English Bill on the Report, and he had already placed Amendments on the Paper on the part of the Government.

THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH said, there was a danger of a tenant draining in such an insufficient way that in a few years the whole work was worse than useless, and that was a thing which ought to be prevented.

Amendment (by leave of the Committee) *withdrawn*.

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON said, he begged to move, as an Amendment, to substitute "four" for "three" as the rate of interest chargeable by a landlord to a tenant on outlay on improvements, when the repayment of the amount of such outlay was spread over a period of 25 years.

Amendment *moved*, in page 2, line 84, leave out ("three") and insert ("four.")—(*The Duke of Richmond and Gordon.*)

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he could not accept the Amendment.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL asked whether the President of the Council really, on the part of the Government, objected to a landlord being able to charge a ten-

ant the same rate of interest which he himself was compelled to pay? He said that no landlord could borrow money for drainage at a lower rate than 4 per cent just now; and was it decent, was it reasonable, that the law should compel the landlord to drain his land for the tenant on such terms that he could not possibly gain anything, and must lose a good deal, while the tenant had all the advantage? The proposal seemed to him so preposterous that he could not believe the Government would adhere to it.

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL) said, that it was a concession made by the Government in the other House. The Bill, as it originally stood, provided only for a charge of 5 per cent, and it was altered on the proposal of an independent Member, the Amendment being accepted by the Government and by all parties who took part in the discussion. When he was told that this was a monstrous thing, he was bound to repeat what he had said the other evening, that the landlord at the end of 25 years would find himself in the position of having laid out a sum of money on his own estate, and would get back his capital, having meantime enjoyed as high a rate of interest as he could have got if he had bought a piece of additional land. The object of the landlord in carrying out drainage works was either to get or to keep a good tenant; and the indirect advantages which he obtained were very great indeed. He thought the landlord might be very well content, supposing he refused to allow the tenant to carry out these improvements himself, to be subject to the trifling loss of interest which might arise under the provisions of the clause. The indirect and most real advantages which he would in most cases obtain appeared to him ample compensation for any such trifling loss as that.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, their Lordships had nothing to do with what was done in the other House. He wished to point out that the landlord would have to borrow at 4 per cent interest while he would only get 3, so that the outlay would be a dead loss to him. A drain would not last beyond eight, 10, or 12 years, and was certainly not a permanent improvement. The noble Lord told them that the reason a landlord made this outlay was either to get

or to keep a good tenant. But was he not forced by this Bill to carry out these works? What they complained of was, that in cases where the landlord, under the stress of a Parliamentary enactment, had to make a drain which he considered undesirable, and would not otherwise make, he should be compelled to borrow money for the purpose at 4 per cent, and only get back 3 per cent.

THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY said, he must deny that the landlord would be compelled to borrow money and execute the work at a loss. The Bill provided the alternative of allowing the tenant to do it.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY: He exposes himself then to compensation.

THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY said, he was only pointing out that the argument of the noble Marquess did not apply where the tenant was allowed to do the work himself.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he considered that the landlord was forced under the strongest possible penalties to expend money for this purpose. He might know that the tenant would not drain the land efficiently, and that the duration of drains, instead of being 25 years, would very likely be 15 years. The landlord was to be compelled under severe risks to raise this money; and surely it was a most unjust thing to make him borrow at 4 per cent, and then lose the interest of his capital. But he wished to call attention to a larger question which was involved. There were Members of this House, even Members of the Conservative Party—the noble Marquess opposite (the Marquess of Salisbury) amongst them—who for years had laid down the great doctrine that the number of landed proprietors should be increased. That had been a favourite doctrine of the Liberal Party. Now, look at the tendency of this restrictive legislation. It would make it almost impossible for a man to buy a small portion of land, because, unless he cultivated it himself as a farmer, he knew that, should circumstances arise to compel him to let it, he would not get even fair interest for his money, and he would be placed at a grievous disadvantage as compared with every form of industry and investment of capital. Every one of those provisions that went beyond the strict necessities of the case was not only uncalled for by the public

policy, but was against the public policy in the very highest degree.

Amendment agreed to.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he had the following Amendment on the Paper—namely, to add to the end of the Clause:—

“Provided that in this case it shall be lawful for the landlord to require that the improvement executed by the tenant shall be so executed under the inspection and direction of a person to be appointed by the sheriff, or by the Land Commissioners for England.

“Where the landlord shall object to any drainage specified by the tenant as not being an improvement, or as injurious to his interests, or to the interests of other tenants, it shall be lawful for the landlord to object to such drainage; and in the event of such objection being intimated in writing to the tenant, the tenant shall not be entitled to execute such drainage; but it shall be lawful to the tenant to appeal to the sheriff, who shall appoint an impartial and competent person to inspect the lands to be drained, or to be affected by such drainage, and upon the report of such person the decision of the sheriff shall be final.

“Where in the case of a tenancy under a lease current at the commencement of this Act, there is in such lease, or in any relative writing made prior to the passing hereof, an express stipulation limiting the outlay on any improvement specified in the second part of the Schedule hereto, the tenant shall have no claim to compensation under this Act for any such improvement in excess of the sum provided for in such stipulation.”

He would withdraw the first paragraph of the Amendment, the object of which he expected would be met by other Amendments. With regard to the second paragraph, he might explain that it was intended to refer to moorland, and not to apply to arable land. With reference to the last paragraph, it was proposed for the purpose of providing a maximum in regard to existing contracts. It was not uncommon in Scotland for a tenant to bargain with his landlord that the latter should lay out so much on houses and on drainage. He had known cases on his own estate where the outlay asked by the tenant, and allowed by the landlord to be necessary, amounted to five or six years' rental of the farm. It was not uncommon in these cases to say that if the landlord expended, say £300 on buildings and £300 on drainage during the term of the lease, the tenant should not ask for more. He thought that was a perfectly fair arrangement; and he wished to insert a Proviso that where such stipulations were made they should not be overridden by the Bill. That

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would only be exempting certain leases in which there were certain specific clauses.

Amendment moved, to add at the end of the Clause—

“Where the landlord shall object to any drainage specified by the tenant as not being an improvement or as injurious to his interests or the interests of other tenants, it shall be lawful for the landlord to object to such drainage; and in the event of such objection being intimated in writing to the tenant, the tenant shall not be entitled to execute such drainage; but it shall be lawful to the tenant to appeal to the sheriff, who shall appoint an impartial and competent person to inspect the lands to be drained or to be affected by such drainage, and upon the report of such person the decision of the sheriff shall be final.

“Where in the case of a tenancy under a lease current at the commencement of this Act, there is in such lease, or in any relative writing made prior to the passing hereof, an express stipulation limiting the outlay on an improvement specified in the second part of the Schedule hereto, the tenant shall have no claim to compensation under this Act for any such improvement in excess of the sum provided for in such stipulation.”—(*The Duke of Argyll.*)

THE EARL OF CAMPERDOWN said, he wished to call the attention of the Lord President to the necessity of obtaining, if possible, some record of the cost of carrying out the drainage work. Twenty years after an improvement of this kind was done, it would be almost impossible for a valuer to decide what was the value of it.

THE MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN said, he should have preferred if the second paragraph of the noble Duke's Amendment were made to apply to all lands, instead of to moorlands only.

THE EARL OF DALHOUSIE asked their Lordships to remember that the principle of the Bill in regard to drainage was this—that the tenant should have power to force the landlord to drain, or that he should himself be free to drain. If the tenant thought that drainage was so necessary that he was willing to pay 5 per cent on the outlay, or do the work himself, the Bill gave no power to the landlord to prevent the work being done; and, therefore, he did not think that the Lord President could possibly accept the third paragraph of the Amendment of the noble Duke.

LORD CARLINGFORD (Lord President of the Council), in reference to the suggestion that a record should be kept of the cost of improvements effected

by the tenant, observed that such a record would be most misleading, inasmuch as the improvement might have been effected at an extravagant cost. The principle of the Bill was based not upon the cost of improvements, but upon the value of the result. He regretted that he could not accept the very carefully considered Amendment of the noble Duke. He did not consider that such unlimited power of objection should be given to the landlord. If they put the tenant absolutely at the mercy of the landlord, he believed they would paralyze the action of the Bill. The only chance of the Bill having any effect was that it should be simple, and that the tenant should not be encumbered by complicated precautions. As regarded the proposal of the noble Duke, he would say that in a case he put of an ample and adequate provision in the lease, it was, in his belief, provided for already by the Bill; but his noble Friend's words would equally apply to the case of a totally inadequate provision, and so the Bill would have no effect at all. They contended that the tenant should be allowed to do the drainage at his own risk in the last resort. The Amendment really involved an attack on the principle of the Bill; and the noble Duke, if he intended to press his proposal, ought to have voted against the second reading.

LORD LOVAT said he should support the Amendment. Great damage might be occasioned by the drainage of sheep land; and the tenant ought not to be vested with the power of expending an unlimited sum of money only to claim compensation for it afterwards.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he must protest against an expression which had been made use of by the President of the Council in his speech, that he was attempting to "encumber" the Bill in any way. He objected to the use of the word "encumber." He did not think the noble Lord intended to use the expression offensively; but, at the same time, he had used it in a sense against which he (the Duke of Argyll) felt bound to protest. His own opinion was that the Government had steered, on the whole, with ingenuity and success between the total rejection of the principle of compulsion and the use of a fair amount of that principle. And, therefore, he had not opposed the

second reading of the Bill; but, in the course of the discussion, objections had been raised on points of detail, the force of which the Government had not fairly met. The fact was, his noble Friend the Lord President had not agreed to any one Amendment proposed by a Member of the House, though he had made several Amendments himself. He thought it was a very reasonable proposal that when a landlord, as he very often did, laid out as much as six years' rental of the farm on improvements, upon the distinct understanding that the tenant should ask for no more during that lease, that that arrangement should be made. There might be, as his noble Friend had said, unreasonable landlords in Scotland, though he himself did not know of any; and there might be also very sharp fellows among the tenant farmers, who would take advantage of any loopholes in the Act. The noble Lord who had spoken for the Government had not answered the arguments he (the Duke of Argyll) had made use of, respecting the danger which was likely to be occasioned by the drainage of moors, and the consequent flooding of the valleys below. It was enough for the noble Lord to make appeals to popular passions and popular prejudice. It was quite true that he only desired his Amendment with respect to drainage to apply to moorland; but as it had been pointed out that it would operate indiscriminately, he would withdraw it for the present. The object of the third part of his Amendment was to save existing contracts, where they were specific and definite in character; and that was a question of so much importance that, if the Government could not see their way to accept it, he would go to a Division.

THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY said, he was at a loss to understand what was the object of the agreements to which the noble Duke referred. What object could a landlord have in limiting the improvements on his estate? If the money was to be spent for the improvement of the farm, what object could a landlord, from the point of public or private policy, have in preventing his land being improved? He could quite understand him limiting the amount he himself would spend. What he rather expected was at the bottom of the matter was the incurable dislike of the

noble Duke to the work of valuers. If the noble Duke's object were to be carried the Bill ought to have been thrown out on the second reading. The Bill proceeded upon the principle that the landlord should only pay such sums as had really been spent upon improvements, and that he would receive the value of them; it was also a principle that the expenditure should be advantageous to the outgoing and incoming tenant, as well as the landlord; and the cardinal hinge was that valuers should be honest, and do their duty. The possibility of drainage being badly done he could understand; but he really did not understand why the noble Duke should be so unwilling to part with the singular notion that it was a matter of extreme importance to preserve agreements which limited the outlay on the land. It seemed as if the noble Duke, in dealing with this Bill, had parted with his usual clearness of perception. The noble Duke had said that he accepted the Bill with cordial reluctance. ["No, no!"] He had said that he accepted it with reluctance, but cordially—

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL: To the best of my recollection I never used any expression so absurd.

THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY: The noble Duke said he viewed the Bill with cordiality, and he at the same time said he regarded it with reluctance. If that was not cordial reluctance on the other side of the Tweed, it certainly was on this.

THE EARL OF DALHOUSIE said, the policy of the Bill was, that all arable land should be drainable, either by the landlord or tenant. The case put by the noble Duke was not uncommon in Scotland; but he did not think the fact that such an agreement had been come to, limiting the drainage, could be accepted in view of the principles of the Bill.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, that the noble Lord opposite (Lord Carlingford) was fond of saying that when they proposed Amendments they were attacking the principle of the Bill. If the arrangement of clauses on any point of detail were objected to, it was, according to the noble Lord, still the central idea of the Bill that was attacked. If this idea respecting the valuers was really the principle of the Bill, it ought to have been definitely

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expressed in the Preamble in some such form as this—"Whereas valuers both in England and Scotland are infallible and impeccable," and so on. But valuers were not infallible. There was a certain amount of risk that they would go wrong, and this was a risk which made it exceedingly unpalatable to noble Lords to allow a great amount of money to be submitted to their judgment. Even if they were infallible, as the noble Lord opposite suggested, it was quite possible that a landlord might object to have more than a certain amount of money spent upon his land for fear of being involved in difficulties if that amount were exceeded. Surely this was a very reasonable proposition. All the noble Duke (the Duke of Argyll) asked was that when a landlord by an agreement had guarded himself against having an excessive burden imposed upon himself such agreement should be respected. If they did not respect distinct and solemn agreements, it was to be remembered that the principle would be extended very far beyond that Bill, and very far beyond land. All our public and private prosperity depended on the respect of agreements when they had been once executed. He did not see on what principles the Government could continue the payment of interest on the National Debt if they showed such a disregard of the principle of respect for solemn agreements. If the noble Duke Divided, he should support him.

THE EARL OF ROSEBERY, in the name of one or two bewildered Peers below the Gangway, who had followed, as far as understanding was allowed them, the bent of the discussion, asked to be allowed to put a question to the noble Duke, and also to the Government. He understood, more than an hour ago, that this clause was to be brought forward in a re-modelled form, and that in the meantime they should pass on to the next clause. Was such a clause to be brought forward, and was the noble Duke to Divide or wait to the Report stage?

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he agreed with the noble Earl that the course taken had been rather puzzling. He himself had understood that the Government intended to bring forward an amended clause; but he had since been told that they did not pledge themselves to do so. Under these circumstances, he

felt bound to press the present Amendment, although he had decided to postpone those Amendments which did not seem to be applicable since the discussion on the English Bill.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said, the Government had undertaken to amend this clause on Report; but they had not said they could agree to all the Amendments of the noble Duke.

On Question? Their Lordships divided:—Contents 47; Not-Contents 26: Majority 21.

CONTENTS.

Northumberland, D.	Douglas, L. (<i>E. Home</i> .)
Richmond, D.	Forbes, L.
	Gerard, L.
Exeter, M.	Hopetoun, L. (<i>E. Hope-</i>
Salisbury, M.	<i>town</i> .) [<i>Teller</i> .]
Winchester, M.	Ker, L. (<i>M. Lothian</i> .)
	Loval, L.
Denbigh, E.	Lyveden, L.
Doncaster, E. (<i>D. Buc-</i>	Norton, L.
<i>cleuch and Queens-</i>	O'Neill, L.
<i>berry</i> .)	Oxenfoord, L. (<i>E.</i>
Dundonald, E.	<i>Stair</i> .)
Feversham, E.	Penrhyn, L.
Fortescue, E.	Rowton, L.
Haddington, E.	Somerton, L. (<i>E. Nor-</i>
Harrington, E.	<i>manton</i> .)
Milltown, E.	Stanley of Alderley,
Minto, E.	L.
Redesdale, E.	Stewart of Garlies, L.
Suffolk and Berkshire,	(<i>E. Gaitlaway</i> .)
E.	Stratheden and Camp-
	bell, L.
Hawarden, V.	Strathspey, L. (<i>E. Sea-</i>
Melville, V.	<i>field</i> .)
Sidmouth, V.	Sundridge, L. (<i>D. Ar-</i>
	<i>gyll</i> .) [<i>Teller</i> .]
Bagot, L.	Templemore, L.
Baleman, L.	Ventry, L.
Beaumont, L.	Watson, L.
Blantyre, L.	Wemyss, L. (<i>E.</i>
Botreaux, L. (<i>E. Lou-</i>	<i>Wemyss</i> .)
<i>doun</i> .)	Wynford, L.

NOT-CONTENTS.

Selborne, E. (<i>L. Chan-</i>	Clifford of Chudleigh,
<i>cailor</i> .)	L.
Westminster, D.	Crews, L.
	Kenmare, L. (<i>E. Ken-</i>
Derby, E.	<i>mare</i> .)
Granville, E.	Methuen, L.
Kimberley, E.	Moncrieff, L.
Marley, E.	Monson, L. [<i>Teller</i> .]
Northbrook, E.	Ramsay, L. (<i>E. Dal-</i>
Sydney, E.	<i>housie</i> .)
	Reay, L.
Gordon, V. (<i>E. Aber-</i>	Ribblesdale, L.
<i>deen</i> .)	Rosebery, L. (<i>E. Rose-</i>
	<i>bery</i> .)
Boyle, L. (<i>E. Carr and</i>	Sandhurst, L.
<i>Orrery</i> .) [<i>Teller</i> .]	Skene, L. (<i>E. Fife</i> .)
Carlingford, L.	Thurlow, L.
Carrington, L.	Wrottesley, L.

Resolved in the affirmative.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 5 (Reservation as to existing and future leases) *agreed to*.

Regulations as to Estimates of Improve-
ments.

Clause 6 (Set-off of benefit to tenant).

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL proposed, at page 3, line 24, after "according to the rules of good husbandry," to insert "or according to the terms of any written contract specifying such rules." The sub-section in which he moved this Amendment provided that there should be taken into account, in reduction of the amount of compensation payable to the tenant for manures, the value of the manure that would have been produced by the consumption on the holding, according to the rules of good husbandry, of any crops sold off or removed from the holding within the last two years of the tenancy, or other less time for which the tenancy had endured, except in so far as a proper return of manure to the holding had been made in respect of such produce so sold off or removed.

Amendment moved,

In page 3, line 24, after ("husbandry") insert ("or according to the terms of any written contract specifying such rules.")—(*The Duke of Argyll*.)

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he was glad to have the opportunity of accepting an Amendment from the noble Duke.

Amendment agreed to.

LORD LOVAT moved that the last paragraph of the clause, providing that nothing contained in that section should enable a landlord to obtain under the Bill compensation in respect of deterioration by the tenant, or of breach of stipulations by the tenant, committed or permitted in relation to cultivation or management more than four years before the determination of the tenancy, should be amended by the addition of the words of his Amendment.

Amendment moved,

In page 4, line 5, after ("tenancy") add ("but this exception of four years shall not affect undue deterioration or breach of stipulations in regard to buildings and fences.")—(*The Lord Lovat*.)

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he had on the Paper a Notice of Amendment to

leave out the whole of the last paragraph of the clause.

LORD LOVAT said, he would withdraw his Amendment in favour of that of the noble Duke.

Amendment (by leave of the Committee) *withdrawn*.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL moved to omit the Proviso at the end of the clause. He thought the Government should be able to trust the valuers to decide what was fair and equitable in such cases.

Amendment *moved*, in page 4, leave out lines 1 to 5.—(*The Duke of Argyll*.)

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he could not accept the Amendment.

THE EARL OF CAMPERDOWN said, there appeared to be some ambiguity in the terms of the clause.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said, he admitted that the words differed from those in the corresponding clause in the English Bill; and the Government would consider against the next stage of the Bill whether the words should not be the same. With reference to the effect of the clause, there was this difference between the landlord's right and the tenant's right—that the tenant's right to compensation arose on quitting his farm, and then only; whereas if a tenant made a breach of a condition of his lease, the landlord had his remedy at once.

THE EARL OF CAMPERDOWN asked whether the expression "cultivation and management" would include houses, buildings, and fences?

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said, he did not think the words quoted by the noble Earl would include buildings at all. This Proviso had nothing to do with the question of confidence or want of confidence in the valuers. If any deterioration in breach of any stipulation were passed over for four years, and the landlord received his rent, it seemed clear that the landlord should be bound by it.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he would not press his Amendment; but he would move an Amendment to insert seven years in the clause instead of four.

Amendment (by leave of the Committee) *withdrawn*.

On the Motion of The Duke of ARGYLL, Amendment made, in page 4,

The Duke of Argyll

line 4, by leaving out ("four") and inserting ("seven").

On the Motion of The Duke of RICHMOND and GORDON, the following Proviso was inserted as a separate Clause:—

"Provided always, as regards 22 and 23 of Part III. of First Schedule, there shall not be taken into account any larger outlay during the last year of the tenancy than the average amount of the tenant's outlay for like purposes during the three next preceding years of the tenancy, or other less number of years for which the tenancy has endured."

THE EARL OF GALLOWAY moved to add the following Clause after Clause 6:—

"No claim for compensation in respect of artificial manure shall be sustainable unless the outgoing tenant shall produce and show to the referee an analysis of such artificial manure, indicating its composition and value, certified by an analytical chemist."

The object of the Amendment was to prevent fraud.

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND and GORDON said, he thought the words of the clause were so wide that it would be quite impossible for a tenant to comply with them.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said, that, in speaking upon this point the other evening, he was misunderstood by several noble Lords. Therefore, he wished to explain that agreements come to between landlord and tenants, if they were fair and reasonable, were not excluded by this Bill, but agreements which, in the opinion of the valuer or the Court which might have to decide the question, were unreasonable, would be of no effect.

THE EARL OF WEMYSS asked how the value of the artificial manure used was to be ascertained? It might be adulterated.

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) remarked, that the object of the Bill was not to ascertain the value of the artificial manure used, but the improved value of the land through its application. If the manure was adulterated, the land would not have been improved, and the tenant would receive nothing in respect of it.

THE EARL OF ROSEBURY wished that the noble Lord had gone into more detail on that point.

THE EARL OF GALLOWAY said, he had no desire to take up the time of the Committee unnecessarily; but he must

say that he did not think that any proper answer had been given to his Amendment. Unless a safeguard of the kind he proposed were inserted in the Bill, it would be impossible for the valuer to come to any proper opinion as to the value, and all he could do would be to take the word of the tenant.

THE MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN said, that it was possible for a tenant, by the use of all sorts of rubbish, to produce a very heavy crop in the last year of the tenancy, and if the valuer was to judge from that of the value of the land, he might make an award which would mean almost ruin to the landlord.

Amendment negatived.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to.*

Procedure.

Clause 7 (Notice of intended claim).

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL moved that the tenant should be required to give notice of his intention to claim compensation six months before the determination of the tenancy, instead of two months' notice as provided in the Bill. The effect of the tenant giving only two months' notice was that it would be practically impossible for the landlord to make his bargain with a new tenant. The outgoing tenant had two years to make up his bill against the landlord, and he did not see why the tenant could not make his claim six months before the termination of the tenancy.

Amendment moved, in page 4, line 7, leave out ("two") and insert ("six.")—(*The Duke of Argyll.*)

THE EARL OF DALHOUSIE said, he hoped the Government would meet the noble Duke to some extent. Without saying that six months' notice was the right length to give, he thought that, at all events, two months was too short, and that four months would be better than two.

LORD WATSON said, that though there was ample time during the currency of the lease for the tenant to fully prepare an estimate as to the value of his improvements, the landlord, on the other hand, was utterly ignorant of what the tenant had done; therefore, six months was by no means too much time to give in order to enable a landlord to make a fair investigation into the claim of the tenant. Such a

proposal as that of the noble Duke's would not bear hardly upon any honest tenant, whereas it might defeat the object of a dishonest one; therefore he hoped it would be accepted.

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he was not prepared to accept the Amendment at this stage of the Bill without further consideration. He felt that two months was too short a period; but if the noble Duke would accept four months, he would agree to it at once.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he must stand to the terms of his Amendment.

Amendment agreed to.

On the Motion of The Earl of CAMPERDOWN, Amendment made, in page 4, line 13, by leaving out ("fourteen days") and inserting ("one month").

Clause, as amended, *agreed to.*

Clause 8 (Compensation agreed or settled by reference) *agreed to.*

Clause 9 (Appointment of referee or referees and oversman) *agreed to.*

Clause 10 (Requisition for appointment of oversman by the sheriff).

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL moved that requisition for the appointment of an "oversman" might be made to the Land Commissioners of England as well as to the Sheriff. He might point out that it was extremely difficult to get competent valuers in Scotland, and there had been great complaints of the overvaluing of stock. He questioned whether the Sheriff would always have at his hand competent persons to undertake the work of valuation. He knew there was a feeling against the Land Commissioners; but his own experience was that the Land Commissioners, or, as they were more commonly known in Scotland, the Enclosure Commissioners, had a very competent staff of Inspectors, and he would trust those Commissioners more than any other public body with these appointments. He would remind his noble Friend that he only put this forward as an alternative.

Amendment moved, in page 5, line 24, after ("sheriff") insert ("or by the Land Commissioners for England.")—(*The Duke of Argyll.*)

THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH said, that anything would be better than the

present system of valuers in Scotland. The valuer generally seemed to consider himself bound to do his best for his client. The way stock was valued when transferred was a public scandal in the North of Scotland. What he would like to see done would be that a valuer, when he had made his award, should be put upon his oath with regard to its accuracy and honesty, if it was considered desirable.

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he was not sorry that the noble Duke had moved the Amendment, because he entirely agreed with him in his opinion of the Land Commissioners of England. His full belief was that they would be thoroughly efficient and trustworthy in making appointments; but, nevertheless, he was equally convinced that the Sheriff was perfectly competent to do the work without the assistance of the Land Commissioners; and his impression was that a recourse to the Land Commissioners would not be viewed favourably in Scotland.

THE EARL OF ROSEBERY said, a Minister of Agriculture had recently been appointed, and there appeared to be some ambiguity as to what his functions should be. This would be a golden opportunity to utilize that Minister by placing these appointments in his hands.

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, his objection in the case of the Minister of Agriculture was at least as strong as in the case of the Land Commissioners.

THE MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN said, he thought the alternative proposed by the noble Duke would be of great value to both landlord and tenant.

LORD LOVAT said, he hoped that something would be done, whatever it was, to secure greater justice than was obtained under the present system.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he would not press his Amendment.

Amendment (by leave of the Committee) *withdrawn*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clauses 11 to 19, inclusive, *agreed to*.

Clause 20 (Appeal to sheriff).

LORD LOVAT begged to move an Amendment to reduce the limit of the amount of compensation in respect of

The Duke of Buccleuch

which an appeal might be made from £100 to £50.

Amendment *moved*, in page 7, lines 14 and 15, leave out ("one hundred pounds") and insert ("fifty.")—(*The Lord Lovat*.)

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, that when a claim was made for £50, it would probably involve improvements of considerably less value. He therefore should not think the Amendment an advisable one.

Amendment (by leave of the Committee) *withdrawn*.

On the Motion of Lord CARLINGFORD, Amendment made, in page 7, line 18, by inserting the following Sub-section:—

"That the award proceeds wholly or in part upon an improper application of, or upon omission properly to apply, the special provisions of section five, or any other part of this Act."

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clauses 21 to 23, inclusive, *agreed to*.

Charge of Tenant's Compensation.

Clause 24 (Power for landlord on paying compensation to obtain charge).

On the Motion of Lord CARLINGFORD, the following Proviso was added at end of Clause:—

"Any charge under this section shall rank after all prior charges and burdens heritably secured upon the holding or estate. Where a holding or estate is charged by the landlord under this section, such charge shall not be deemed to be a contravention of any prohibition against charging or burdening contained in the deed or instrument under which the holding or estate is held by the landlord."

Amendment *agreed to*.

Clauses 25 to 27, inclusive, *agreed to*.

Notice of Termination of Tenancy.

Clause 28 (Two years' notice to be given of termination of tenancy).

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL moved to reduce the period from two years to one. He proposed one year because it was the unit of agricultural operations everywhere, and must be so.

Amendment *moved*, in page 10, line 2, leave out ("two") and insert ("one.")—(*The Duke of Argyll*.)

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he had no

strong opinion for or against his noble Friend's Amendment; but it did appear to him that the tenant should have ample time to look out for another farm; and, of course, the mere fact of notice being given did not bind the parties, for the notice need not be acted upon.

THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH said, one year was practically the usual time in Scotland.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 29 (*Mortis causâ* assignment of lease).

On the Motion of Lord CARLINGFORD, the following Amendments were made:—
In page 10, line 24, insert as heading:

Bequest of Lease.

Page 10, line 25, leave out side-note ("*Mortis causâ* assignment of lease") and insert ("Tenant may bequeath lease by will"); line 25, leave out ("*mortis causâ*") and insert ("testamentary"); lines 25 and 26, leave out ("assignor"); line 27, leave out ("assignee") and insert ("legatee"); line 28, leave out ("assignee") and insert ("legatee") and leave out ("assignment or"); line 33, leave out ("assignee") and insert ("legatee"); line 34, leave out ("assignee") and insert ("legatee"); line 36, leave out ("assignee") and insert ("legatee").

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON moved to omit the entire clause. He considered this one of the most objectionable clauses in the whole Bill. It proposed that the tenant might assign his lease to any person whom he might think fit. He considered the clause to be a very great step in the direction of free sale. He thought he might fairly assume that the Lord Advocate, who was a very great authority on these matters, and who, no doubt, had been consulted in the preparation of the Bill, had not thought it necessary that such a clause as this should be inserted. He could not help thinking that the insertion of this clause was intended to render it agreeable to those persons who had very extreme views on this subject, and one or two of whom held the special doctrine that tenants should be allowed to part with their leases and assign them to any persons whom they might think right during their lifetime

or after their death. The Lord President had said the other day that great inconvenience would arise from having a different state of the law as regarded the stock of a farm and as regarded the lease. With regard to the stock of a farm, the tenant had a perfect right to do with that as he pleased, because it was his property. But with regard to the lease, it was really the property of the landlord, and the tenant had no more right to dispose of it than of any other property of the landlord. He considered that it was very essential for the welfare of an estate that the landlord should have, as far as it was possible to give it, the right of selecting the tenants on his estate. By the operation of this clause, the landlord might find himself saddled with one of the greatest drunkards, one of the most immoral men, or one of the most ill-tempered men in the whole district. He further believed the clause to be wholly unnecessary, because all it sought to do was done now with the consent of the landlord.

Amendment moved, to omit Clause 29.—(*The Duke of Richmond and Gordon.*)

THE EARL OF FIFE said, they all knew that under the present state of law the lease devolved upon the next heir, and this clause merely proposed to give the tenant the right of bequeathing his lease to another person in the rare case of their being no next-of-kin, or in the still rarer case of the next-of-kin being excluded. It was a natural and fair assumption that if the tenant excluded his next-of-kin, his only heir, he must have some very strong and good reasons for doing so—that in 99 cases out of 100 the legatee would be a very much better tenant than the next-of-kin who had been excluded. He also reminded their Lordships of the veto of the Sheriff, and pointed out that with regard to the moral qualities of the legatee, they had not, at the present time, any guarantee, nor could they in the nature of things have any such guarantee. He did not see any great harm in the clause, and he had reason to know that a great number of tenant farmers in the North of Scotland held to this clause. He, therefore, hoped it would be allowed to stand.

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he failed to understand why the noble Duke (the

Duke of Richmond and Gordon) was so afraid of the operation of this clause. The noble Duke had not adverted to an important part of the clause—that, namely, which provided that the landlord should have power of objection to the legatee. He could call in the judgment of the Sheriff if he pleased, and unless the person to whom the lease had been bequeathed proved to the satisfaction of the Sheriff that he was possessed of the means and skill requisite for the necessary stocking and cultivation of the holding, and fulfilling the other obligations incumbent upon a tenant, the Sheriff would set aside the person to whom the tenant had bequeathed his lease. That appeared to him to be a very sufficient safeguard indeed, and one which met all the circumstances of the case. The noble Duke said the landlord might be saddled with a drunkard. Surely that was the case now, and he failed to see that there was any greater choice of persons when the lease went to the heir-at-law absolutely, as at present, than there would be under the system proposed by the Bill. Therefore, as the landlords would gain little or nothing by the refusal of their Lordships to accept the clause, and as the tenants of Scotland attached considerable importance to it, feeling it to be a hardship now not to be able to bequeath their leases, he hoped the clause would be adopted.

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON said, he must deny that the Scotch tenants, as a rule, set great store by that clause. If a tenant desired to leave a lease to a particular person, no doubt the landlord would accept him; and, therefore, he could not see what hardships would be inflicted by the omission of this clause.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said, the existing system under which a tenant might arrange with his landlord was not sufficient security.

THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH said, he had not heard any valid reason given why they should alter that which had been the law for 400 years. There was, indeed, a certain number of agitators in the North, who were quite as much political as they were agricultural, and who talked a great deal of nonsense on these subjects; but that was no sufficient proof of the necessity of the proposed innovation.

Lord Carlingford

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he considered this was a matter for contract, and not for legislation. In all his leases his tenants were allowed to leave their farms to anybody they pleased, provided they left their stock. In his experience he had never had the slightest difficulty; and if his noble Friend divided, he would vote with him.

On Question, "That the Clause proposed to be left out stand part of the Bill?" Their Lordships *divided*:—Contents 17; Not-Contents 27: Majority 10.

CONTENTS.

Selborne, E. (<i>L. Chancellor.</i>)	Crewes, L. Lyttelton, L.
Westminster, D.	Methuen, L. Monson, L. [<i>Teller.</i>]
Kimberley, E. Morley, E.	Ramsay, L. (<i>E. Dalhousie.</i>) Reay, L. Ribblesdale, L.
Boyle, L. (<i>E. Cork and Orrery.</i>) [<i>Teller.</i>]	Skene, L. (<i>E. Fife.</i>) Thurlow, L.
Carlingford, L. Carrington, L.	Wrottesley, L.

NOT-CONTENTS.

Northumberland, D. Richmond, D.	Douglas, L. (<i>E. Home.</i>) Forbes, L. Gerard, L.
Salisbury, M. Winchester, M.	Hopetoun, L. (<i>E. Hopetoun.</i>) [<i>Teller.</i>] Ker, L. (<i>M. Lothian.</i>) Lovat, L.
Doncaster, E. (<i>D. Buccleuch and Queensberry.</i>)	Lyveden, L. Stanley of Alderley, L.
Haddington, E. Redesdale, E.	Stewart of Garlies, L. (<i>E. Galloway.</i>) Strathpey, L. (<i>E. Seafield.</i>)
Hawarden, V. [<i>Teller.</i>] Melville, V.	Sundridge, L. (<i>D. Argyll.</i>) Ventry, L.
Blantyre, L. Botreaux, L. (<i>E. Loudoun.</i>)	Watson, L. Wemyss, L. (<i>E. Wemyss.</i>)
Clifford of Chudleigh, L.	Wynford, L.

Resolved in the negative.

Clause omitted.

Clauses 30 to 34, inclusive, *agreed to.*

Clause 35 (Application of Act).

On the Motion of Lord CARLINGFORD, Clause 35 left out, and the following Clause inserted instead:—

"Nothing in this Act shall apply to a holding of less than two acres in extent, not being a market garden, or to a holding unless it is either wholly agricultural or wholly pastoral, or in part agricultural and as to the residue pastoral, or in whole or in part cultivated as a market garden, or to a holding let to the tenant during his continuance in any office, appointment, or employment held under the landlord."

Clause 36 (Avoidance of agreement inconsistent with Act).

On the Motion of Lord CARLINGFORD, Amendment made, by leaving out from "tenant," in line 18, to the end of the clause, and inserting—

"By virtue of which he is deprived of his right to claim compensation under this Act in respect of any improvement specified in schedule hereto [except an agreement providing such compensation as is by this Act permitted to be substituted for compensation under this Act] shall, so far as it deprives him of such right, be void."

Remaining clauses agreed to.

Schedule agreed to.

The Report of the Amendments to be received on *Thursday* next; and Bill to be printed as amended. (No. 190.)

DISEASES PREVENTION (METROPOLIS) BILL.—(No. 181.)

(The Lord Carrington.)

SECOND READING.

Order of the Day for the Second Reading read.

LORD CARRINGTON, in moving that the Bill be now read a second time, said, that its object was the isolation and treatment in suitable hospitals of persons suffering from cholera, and that the introduction of the Bill had been considered absolutely necessary for the public safety of the Metropolis in the event of a cholera epidemic. England would not be free from this danger for another month, and to avoid, if possible, any opposition to the Bill, it was proposed to limit its duration to September 1, 1884. In 1855 the main Bill for the prevention of cholera was passed, called "The Diseases Prevention Act," which gave powers to certain local authorities amply sufficient for preventing the disease. There had been, however, some difficulty in putting these powers into force on account of the number of Vestries; and with this difficulty the present Bill proposed to deal by falling back on the managers of the Metropolitan Asylum district, whom it was proposed also to make a local authority under the Diseases Prevention Act, and subject to the authority of the Local Government Board. This, the object of the Bill, was contained in the 2nd clause. The next most important clause was the 4th, which related to expense.

At the present moment the 38 different Vestries, or District Boards, would act for 38 different areas, and their expenses would be a local charge. So that, if the epidemic broke out very badly in any particular parish, the whole cost of dealing with it would be thrown on that parish. This clause provided—

"That the amount expended by any local authority under the Act of 1855 in providing any building for the reception of patients, together with two-thirds of the salaries of officers and servants, should be repaid from the Metropolitan Poor Fund."

A deputation of the managers met the President on Thursday last, and expressed themselves willing to do all in their power. They would constitute themselves the first line of defence, and trusted to work in harmony with the Vestries and Boards of Works. Under these circumstances, he moved that the Bill be now read a second time.

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^d."
—(The Lord Carrington.)

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, that the Bill gave very large powers with reference to other diseases than that of cholera. Though it was very right to take special powers to deal with the cholera, it was scarcely necessary to include other diseases within the scope of the Bill. At all events, he did not think that the Bill ought to be passed into law, under the circumstances of the moment in their Lordships' House, many of their Lordships who took an interest in the matter being absent. The Bill ought to be subjected to a rather more complete discussion than it was likely to have on the present occasion; and he thought that a Schedule should be furnished of the infectious diseases, so that they might know on what grounds the authorities would have the right to spend the public money. Considering that the authority given by the Bill was only to last for one year, very large duties were to be performed—for instance, among other things, wharves or landing places, not exceeding three in number, were to be provided on the River Thames, as well as convenient approaches thereto. This was likely to be a very expensive amusement, whether the wharves were purchased or specially constructed. Though he thought it necessary to make these observations on the Bill, he had no

intention of opening the second reading.

EARL GRANVILLE said, he had the impression that one of the great principles upon which the late Government acted was that of a care for the public health; and he was, therefore, somewhat surprised at the attempt of the noble Marquess to throw discredit on this Bill.

Motion *agreed to*; Bill read 2^a accordingly, and *committed* to a Committee of the Whole House *To-morrow*.

House adjourned at half past Nine o'clock, till *To-morrow*, a quarter past Four o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Monday, 13th August, 1883.

MINUTES.]—SELECT COMMITTEE—Education, Science, and Art (Administration of Votes), Mr. Sclater-Booth and Mr. Jesse Collings added.

SUPPLY—considered in Committee—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—Class III.—LAW AND JUSTICE, Votes 24 to 29; 31, 32, 35, & 36; Class IV.—EDUCATION, SCIENCE, AND ART, Vote 2.

PUBLIC BILLS—*Resolutions in Committee*—Navy and Army Expenditure, 1881-2.

Committee—Medals* [188]—*r.r.*

Committee—*Report*—National Debt (*re-comm.*) [287]; Education (Scotland) [226]; Expiring Laws Continuance [283].

Considered as amended—*Third Reading*—Cholera Hospitals (Ireland) [282], and *passed*.

QUESTIONS.

PREVENTION OF CRIME (IRELAND) ACT—DOMICILIARY VISITS BY THE POLICE.

MR. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If it is the fact that the Shantsnagh police, county Monaghan, visit by day and night the house of Mr. Patrick M'Ginn, of Lengongoun, and that this has gone on for several months; if so, on what grounds; whether any outrages have been committed in Aughnamullen parishes; if so, when; by whose instructions Mr. M'Ginn is thus watched; whether the police who visit his ho-

use carry a warrant; if not, by what authority for making such visits; whether there is any sanction; and, if he has the general character of M'Ginn and his family.

MR. TREVELYAN.

Sir, that the house of M'Ginn has been for some time occasionally visited by the police, being that there was a belief that illegal gaming was held there. Except on this ground, M'Ginn's character. The order of the district and Sub-Inspector was directed to be projected to by M'Ginn's interests require that the matter be further continued.

serious outrages within the past year, the burning of a man's house, a serious assault.

MR. HEALY. hon. Gentleman, I strongly object to the police, and I would like to know that portion of the Act which requires whether a warrant, and, if not, by what authority for entering the house.

MR. TREVELYAN. visited the house of the Assistant Magistrate of the district.

MR. HEALY. There is a part of the Crimes Act authorising the police to carry a warrant, whether these visits are under the Crimes Act?

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL (HENRY JAMES) said that the police do not carry a warrant when the visits are made. If M'Ginn did not have a right to enter.

MR. HEALY. wanted; but Mr. Trevelyan said the police.

MR. TREVELYAN. that they were not carrying a warrant, but that M'Ginn's visits.

MR. HEALY: for the future, and the Gentleman will be.

The Marquess of Salisbury

POOR LAW (IRELAND)—THE CORK BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

MR. O'BRIEN asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether he is aware that Captain Sarsfield, Vice Chairman of the Cork Board of Guardians, refused to take the opinion of that Board on an application for the use of a board room for a conference of the elected and ex-officio Guardians of the county on the subject of the defects and suggested amendments of the Poor Law system in Ireland; and, whether it was within the Vice Chairman's competence to refuse the Board an opportunity of deciding upon the application; and, if not, whether an intimation to that effect will be conveyed to him?

MR. TREVELYAN: I am informed, Sir, that the Vice Chairman did not refuse to take the opinion of the Board. There was a difference of opinion among the Guardians as to whether or not the use of the Board-room should be granted for the purpose asked, and, after some discussion, the matter dropped, not having been pressed by those in favour of it, and no formal resolution having been put.

PREVENTION OF CRIME (IRELAND)
ACT, 1882—POLICE PROTECTION.

MR. O'BRIEN asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether a blacksmith named Hallissey, in the Monaninny Division of the Mallo Union, has been under the protection of six policemen since September last; whether the cost of the extra police force, amounting to over £200, has been levied off the ratepayers of that division; whether the ratepayers challenged a sworn inquiry into the alleged attempt to shoot Hallissey, undertaking to prove that his story was a concoction; whether the inquiry was refused; whether Mr. Plunkett, special resident magistrate, on the 30th July wrote a Letter, threatening to enforce payment of the arrears of Police Tax, and to retain the police at the expense of the parish, unless within a few days the ratepayers subscribed £50 to enable Hallissey to emigrate, and promising, if the money were forthcoming, that he would use his influence with the Lord Lieutenant to relieve the parish of the Police Tax; whether the threat has in-

duced the ratepayers to subscribe the money necessary to influence Hallissey to leave the Country; whether Mr. Plunkett's Letter is an offence against the Intimidation Clause of the Crimes Act; and, whether the Government will take any action in reference to his conduct?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, the district mentioned has been proclaimed as stated for the protection of a blacksmith named Hallissey. Whether he was fired at or not, he was cruelly "Boycotted" for a long time; his danger was admitted by many persons, and there could be no doubt whatever of the necessity for affording him protection. The proposal to collect a sum of £50 for the purpose of enabling him to emigrate was first made some time ago. It did not emanate from the Special Resident Magistrate as stated, and I believe the parish priest has the matter in hand. I am unable to say whether Captain Plunkett wrote a letter on the subject on the 30th of July. I have made inquiries, but have not yet been informed.

MR. O'BRIEN: Whoever may have initiated the proceedings, is the House to understand that Captain Plunkett, or any other official, has authority to levy under threat any amount of black mail he chooses for the benefit of a private individual?

MR. HARRINGTON: Arising out of the right hon. Gentleman's answer, I beg to give Notice that I shall ask him on Thursday, Whether a communication was sent by the Private Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant stating that Captain Plunkett was in communication with certain persons in that district with reference to the emigration of this man?

MR. TREVELYAN: Captain Plunkett was in communication with the parish priest; but that is the only person.

MR. O'BRIEN: In consequence of the reply of the right hon. Gentleman, I beg to give Notice that I will on Thursday ask, Whether the following is a copy of the letter written by Captain Plunkett to the parish priest:—

"Dear Sir,—I have received your letter. I hope that the necessary amount may be raised in order that Hallissey may be in a position to emigrate, as I understand he is anxious to do so. If this is done, I shall recommend His Excellency to remove the proclamation, and thus relieve the parish of the Police Tax. But as long as the authorities consider that protection

is necessary the police will remain at the expense of the parish. Should you be able to get the necessary amount in a few days, I will use my influence to have as much as possible of the arrears for which warrants will shortly issue struck off; but this will not be able to be done after the warrants issue?"

I will also ask whether the following letter has been addressed by the Chief Secretary to a magistrate in the district who applied for the remission of the Police Tax:—

"I am to add that His Excellency understands that arrangements are now in progress by which the necessity for the protection of Hallissey will cease; and on learning that such arrangements have been brought to a satisfactory conclusion, His Excellency will direct the withdrawal of the additional force?"

I will also ask what these arrangements were, by what legal authority they were entered into, and whether it is the law that any ruffian in the community, by making himself obnoxious to his neighbours—"Order!"—

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member is now making a speech.

MR. O'BRIEN: I am giving Notice of a Question, Mr. Speaker, which is, whether any person who makes himself obnoxious to his neighbours can in this way have a handsome subscription made up for him?

MR. HEALY: I also beg to give Notice that I will move a special Amendment to the Tramway and Emigration Bill, providing for the emigration of Mr. Hallissey at the expense of the taxpayers.

MR. HARRINGTON: I beg to give Notice that at the same time I shall ask whether at the time that the Lord Lieutenant and Captain Plunkett were in communication about the emigration of this person, at the expense of the locality, they had in their hands a special fund with which to pay the cost of his emigration?

MR. TREVELYAN: I do not see anything that calls for remark in what has happened, nor does it disclose anything inconsistent with official propriety. But when a man is publicly called a ruffian who has made himself obnoxious to his neighbours, I am bound to say that the offence of this man was that he worked for a "Boycotted" person.

MR. O'KELLY: Are we to understand that the Government authorized this system of black mail?

MR. HEALY: Assisted emigration.

MR. O'KELLY: The brigands of the Treasury Bench.

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS (CORRUPT AND ILLEGAL PRACTICES) BILL—CONVEYANCE OF ELECTORS —HOURS OF POLLING.

MR. S. SMITH asked the President of the Local Government Board, if he has fully considered the important changes in the conditions of recording votes in elections for Members of Parliament involved by the Clauses of the Corrupt Practices Bill prohibiting the conveyance of voters; and, if it is the intention of the Government next Session so to amend the Ballot Act as to extend the hours of polling universally to eight o'clock in the evening?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: The importance of the hours of polling question in the eyes of those who sit on this Bench is well known, and I myself on several occasions proposed to the House of Commons a universal extension in boroughs, when it was generally supported by Liberal and opposed by Conservative Members. It has since been proposed with similar results by my right hon. Friend the President of the Board of Trade and by the hon. Member for Glasgow. In 1878 a Select Committee reported against extension even in the large towns by the casting-vote of its Chairman, the hon. Baronet the Member for North Northumberland (Sir Matthew White Ridley), a Member of the Conservative Administration; but universal borough extension was not proposed to it at all. In the present Parliament it has once been proposed to the House, on June 2, 1880, when the Bill was read a second time; but only on the understanding expressed by the Leader of the Opposition that it should cease to be a universal measure, a view supported in the debate by some who sit upon this side. Since 1880 I have each year, at the beginning of the Session, introduced a Bill for optional extension of hours, which each year has been much opposed by many hon. Gentlemen opposite. That Bill passed its second reading last year and this year, but each year had to be abandoned in consequence of the character of the opposition with which it met. It is the intention of Her Majesty's Government to re-introduce the Bill at the beginning of the next Session, during which Ses-

sion they have every hope that it will become law.

MR. ONSLOW asked whether the right hon. Gentleman, before introducing a Bill, would consider the propriety of nominating a Select Committee to inquire into the extension of the hours of polling in small places?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE said, he did not think it would be necessary, because the question had been debated so often—some eight or ten times—that the views of hon. Members were pretty well known.

MR. ONSLOW gave Notice that when the Bill was introduced he should move that it be referred to a Select Committee.

ARMY—THE PROMOTION WARRANT— SIR ANDREW CLARKE.

MR. TOTTENHAM asked the Secretary of State for War, If his attention has been called to letters in the "Standard" newspaper of the 4th and 7th instant, headed "A questionable transaction," and if it is the case as therein stated, that a Special Warrant is about to be issued to exempt Sir Andrew Clarke from the provisions of the existing regulations as to ineligibility for promotion on account of age; whether the age as now fixed by Royal Warrant at which a Colonel of Engineers is ineligible for promotion is fifty-nine, and whether Sir Andrew Clarke has reached that age; Whether the local or temporary rank of Major General was given to him to enable him to hold the office of Inspector General of Fortifications, which it is laid down in the Queen's Regulations shall be held by a General Officer, who shall be considered a General of Division, thereby setting aside the claims of other distinguished officers eligible to hold the appointment, and giving him precedence over the seniors in his own Regiment; whether he should not now be retired on account of age; and, what are the circumstances which justify the continued supercession of others, and the evasion of regulations heretofore rigidly enforced?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON: Sir, it is a fact that a Warrant has been issued exempting officers holding the temporary rank of Major General from the operation of the clauses of the Promotion Warrant which deals with the eligibility of Colonels for promotion and employment after certain ages, and giv-

ing them the benefit of regulations applicable to Major Generals so long as they hold that rank. Sir Andrew Clarke, who would be otherwise ineligible for promotion, comes under the operation of this Warrant. The appointment of Inspector General of Fortifications with the rank of temporary Major General was given to Sir Andrew Clarke under the circumstances stated by my Predecessor (Mr. Childers) in reply to a Question by the hon. Member for Plymouth (Mr. Stewart MacLiver) on the 5th of June, 1882. I will quote his words—

"The Inspector General exercises, it is true, certain military functions, but they constitute a small portion of his duties; and Sir Andrew Clarke has been appointed because he is an engineer of great eminence, and has shown the highest qualities as an administrator; and because, as at the present time, proposals of great importance are expected from the Royal Commission on Colonial Defences and the Committee on the Defence of Mercantile Harbours, we require to be advised by an officer of the very highest engineering, administrative, and financial capacity."—(3 *Hansard*, [270] 57.)

The proposals referred to by my Predecessor are now before Her Majesty's Government, and Sir Andrew Clarke has already given a great deal of time and labour to their consideration. On his advice Her Majesty's Government must largely depend in coming to a decision as to the extent to which these proposals shall be adopted, and as to the measures to be taken for their execution; and, in the opinion of the Government, it is most desirable in the interests of the Public Service that he should continue to be their adviser until further progress has been made in the consideration of the subject.

MR. TOTTENHAM: Are there any other officers besides Sir Andrew Clarke who have come within the provisions of this Warrant?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON: I am not aware at this moment; but the Warrant is general in its application.

STATE OF IRELAND—ASSAULT BY ORANGEMEN AT BELFAST.

MR. JUSTIN M'CARTHY (for Mr. Sexton) asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether his attention has been drawn to an account given in the "Belfast Morning News" of the 3rd instant, of an attack made by an Orange mob at Crumlin Road, Belfast, on a Catholic excursion party on the night of the 31st ult.; whe-

ther this excursion party, consisting of about twenty ladies connected with the vesper choir and schools of the Holy Cross Retreat, and of a few young men, were suddenly and without provocation attacked while driving home along the Crumlin Road by a mob of about three hundred men and boys, with the result that eleven ladies were struck with stones, that one of them received a dangerous wound, that the clergyman in charge of the excursion was severely struck, and that worse was only prevented by a constable off duty, and in plain clothes, who came by chance upon the scene; whether, although the excursionists before leaving in the morning requested police protection on their return, and obtained a promise of it, and that the police station is within one hundred and fifty yards of the spot in question, no steps whatever were taken by head constable Howe, or anyone in charge of the police, even by stationing a constable at the dangerous point, to guard the peace and protect the excursionists against violence; what is the explanation of this; and, what steps will be taken by the Irish Executive to mark their sense of it, and to prevent a recurrence of such scenes?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, I regret that it is true that such an attack was made; but the terms in which it is described are somewhat exaggerated. One young lady was hit on the head and slightly injured. The clergyman also was struck, but not in any way injured. It is true that protection on the return journey had been asked for, and Head Constable Howe had accordingly arranged to place additional men on the streets; but, unfortunately, he did not expect the excursionists to return so punctually as they did, and the men were not sent out in time. The Head Constable admits his error on this occasion; but as he is highly spoken of as an energetic and hard-working man, not only by his own officers, but by the Rev. Mr. Anthony, the Roman Catholic clergyman who was in charge of this excursion, I think the caution which has been administered to him is sufficient notice to take of the matter. The Rev. Mr. Anthony expressed himself quite satisfied with the explanation given, and spoke highly of Head Constable Howe's attention to his duty during the past four years.

Mr. Justin M'Carthy

MR. O'KELLY: Has any effort been made to arrest the men who attacked the procession?

MR. TREVELYAN: I will make inquiries on that point.

NATIONAL EDUCATION (IRELAND)— ENGLISH AND IRISH EDUCATION CODES.

MR. JUSTIN M'CARTHY (for Mr. Sexton) asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether his attention has been drawn to the fact that, whilst a pupil in an English Elementary School, who has been examined in any subject by one of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Public Elementary Schools, may be presented for examination in the same subject by the Science and Art Department on the expiration of a period of six months (vide "Directory of the Science and Art Department," Rule XLVII., page 20, edition of 1881), on the other hand, no pupil in a school under the patronage of the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland, who has been examined by an officer of the Commissioners in any subject can be presented for examination in the same subject by the Science and Art Department until after a period of twelve months has elapsed (vide "Directory," page 41, Rule I.); whether he is aware that this difference in the rules applied to the two countries by the Department operates to lessen the earnings of the Irish as compared with the English teacher, inasmuch as, in multitudes of cases, owing to the months in which the Irish examinations are held, the teacher cannot present his pupils at the next annual examination by the Department; whether he is aware that, in regard to extra subjects, the Result Fee paid by the Department being eight times as much as that allowed by the Commissioners, the Irish teacher is driven to withhold from the Irish examinations in extra subjects those pupils whom he thinks likely to pass the examination by the Department; and, whether, in regard to the extra subject of Agriculture, the Irish teacher is obliged, by a rule of the Commissioners, to present his pupils for examination by their Inspector, though the Result Fee for each successful pupil is but five shillings, and though this regulation, coupled with the time rule already quoted, prevents him from earning the Result Fee of two

pounds allowed for each successful pupil by the Department; and, whether the time rule will be made uniform for both countries?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, it is not the practice of the Commissioners of National Education to pay a results fee for any subject for which a results fee has been already paid within the results period (one year) by the Science and Art Department. This rule was made after consultation with the Science and Art Department—the object being to prevent a duplication of payment for the same subject in the same results period on the answering of the same pupils. If a different rule applies in England, it appears to me to be a matter for the consideration of the Science and Art Department whether any change should be made; and, if so, in what direction. For my own part, I have no hesitation in saying that, if other things are equal, the same rule should apply in Ireland and England, and I will communicate with the Science and Art Department on the subject. I think that the query as to agriculture in the third paragraph of the hon. Member's Question is put under some misapprehension, as I understand that agriculture is not an extra subject in Irish National schools.

NATIONAL EDUCATION (IRELAND)— EXAMINATIONS IN AGRICULTURE.

MR. JUSTIN M'CARTHY (for Mr. SEXTON) asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, What practical agricultural training is possessed by the Inspectors of the Irish Board of National Education who conduct examinations in agriculture in schools under the direction of the Board, and what certificates of competency in this regard are held by those Inspectors; whether examinations in agriculture are held at all periods of the year, Midwinter as well as Midsummer; and, whether, as the income of the teacher depends on the result of the examination, arrangements will be made, in the case of schools with gardens or plots of ground attached, that the agricultural examination shall be held at a time when the value of the teacher's work can be practically tested?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, the Commissioners of National Education inform me as follows:—The pupils and farms of

agricultural schools are examined by an Inspector who is qualified by education and practical experience for his office. Agricultural schools are inspected and examined twice each year at such times as results can be fairly judged. The school gardens are examined at periods when the Inspectors consider they can do full justice in the matter of results.

NATIONAL EDUCATION (IRELAND)— THE "IRISH EDUCATIONAL JOURNAL."

MR. JUSTIN M'CARTHY (for Mr. SEXTON) asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether it is true as stated in the "Belfast Morning News" of 14th and the "Northern Whig" of 15 May last, that the President and ex-president of the National Teachers' Organisation, the Chairman and Secretary of the Belfast National Teachers' Association, and eight associated teachers, were on Monday 7th May last brought to the Belfast Model School before Head Inspector M'Cullum and District Inspectors (Jordan and Moran, with no further intimation of the cause than a line from the Head Inspector: "Please meet me at the Model School at two o'clock this day;" that these teachers were one by one brought into the Inspectors' Office and required to declare whether they had any connection with the "Irish Educational Journal;" whether they had written articles or corrected proofs for it; whether they knew the editor or reputed editors; that these teachers after being examined were prevented from leaving the office till the proceedings closed about six o'clock, an army pensioner being placed on guard at the office door; whether on a teacher declining to answer a certain question Dr. Moran said "You must answer it," and then to his colleagues, "We'll report him officially;" whether the same official said at another stage of the proceedings, "Now we are weaving a net round them;" whether there is any rule of the Commissioners of National Education prohibiting teachers from owning and editing a journal solely devoted to the cause of primary education; and, whether it is not a fact that the primary teachers of England and Scotland conduct such journals, and that the civil servants enjoy a similar privilege?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, the Commissioners of National Education have no objection whatever to national teachers owning and editing a journal devoted to the cause of primary education, and there is no rule prohibiting it; but a journal called *The Irish Educational Journal and National Education Gazette*, purporting to be owned and edited by National teachers, has from time to time contained articles reflecting in so reprehensible a manner on the administration of the Department to which the teachers belonged, that the Commissioners felt themselves obliged to interfere, and endeavoured to ascertain who was responsible. They, therefore, ordered an inquiry which was held in Belfast. The alleged incidents at the inquiry referred to in *The Belfast Morning News* are unknown to the Commissioners; but they will investigate the statements.

STATE OF IRELAND—WESTMEATH.

MR. HARRINGTON asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether a police hut has been recently erected at Coldoro, in the neighbourhood of Ballycumber, county Westmeath; whether there was any other reason for the erection of the hut than the fact that an iron gate had been stolen off the land of a man named Gaynor residing in the locality; and, whether it is true that the sub-inspector of police visited the houses of several farmers before the hut was erected, and cautioned them if the iron gate was not returned he would have this additional police tax placed on them?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, a police hut has been erected on the lands as stated. The theft of the gate was only a symptom of the state of affairs which rendered the police necessary. Mr. Gaynor had taken an evicted farm, which had been "Boycotted," and turned into a common by the neighbours. He sought police protection to enable him to stock it, and this was afforded to him by patrols, which, however, proved to be insufficient. Preparatory to putting cattle on the farm he repaired the fences and put up an iron gate, which was stolen and carried away. Persistence in this line of conduct rendered the imposition of extra police necessary; but the district was given a further chance of escaping the proclamation by the circumstance referred to in the last paragraph of the

Question. It is true that the Sub-Inspector, acting under the direction of the Resident Magistrate, warned the people that unless the gate was returned the Lord Lieutenant would be asked to proclaim the district.

MR. O'BRIEN: I should like to ask the right hon. Gentleman whether any proposal has been made by the Government to send Mr. Gaynor out of the country?

[No reply was given.]

ROYAL IRISH CONSTABULARY—SUB-CONSTABLE FORBES.

MR. SHEIL asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether sub-constable Forbes was transferred from Meath to Limerick because of a complaint against him; what the charge against him was; whether the Inspector General, as well as Mr. Ross the County Inspector of Meath, were aware at the time the transfer was ordered, that sub-constable Forbes had hired a house for his family and himself, for which he had paid a year's rent in advance; and, whether the loss suffered by sub-constable Forbes, in consequence of the unexpected change of his quarters, will be made good to him?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, I am informed that Sub-Constable Forbes and two others were transferred for the good of the Public Service on suspicion of their having been concerned in an anonymous correspondence in the Press, reflecting on the conduct of certain officers and men of the Force. As the Service makes no provision for leaving a man permanently at any particular station, if Sub-Constable Forbes paid for a house a year in advance, he, of course, did so at his own risk, and is not entitled to any compensation in the matter.

ROYAL IRISH CONSTABULARY—MEETING OF THE NATIONAL LEAGUE.

MR. BIGGAR asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether he is aware that the meetings of the Kanturk Branch of the Irish National League, are regularly attended by Members of the Royal Irish Constabulary; if he can state under whose directions, and for what purpose, this annoyance to the members of a legal organization is so persistently carried out; and, whether he will give instruc-

tions to have the practice discontinued?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, the meetings of the Kanturk, as well as other branches of the National League in the district, are usually attended by the police, but they never force their admission unless obliged to do so under warrant?

MR. HARRINGTON: May I ask if the people resisted the police would they be prosecuted under the Prevention of Crime Act?

MR. HEALY: Of course they would.

INLAND FISHERIES (IRELAND)—THE FISH PASS, KILLALOE.

MR. KENNY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If he is aware that the Irish Board of Works removed the fish pass at Killaloe last autumn, and have not since replaced it by a new one; if he is aware that a great number of salmon and peel have recently been destroyed by endeavouring to ascend the Shannon through the sluices at Killaloe; if he will cause inquiry to be made; and, if the facts are found accurate, recommend that a new pass be constructed to prevent this great destruction of valuable fish?

MR. COURTNEY: Sir, the old fish pass at Killaloe was removed when the weir there was altered; a new one is in hand, and will be finished in a month. I have inquired as to any loss of fish during the alteration, and am glad to say that the information I have received does not bear out the allegation in the Question.

ARMY EDUCATION—THE ROYAL WARRANT OF 25TH JUNE, 1881—ARMY SCHOOLS.

MR. LEAMY asked the Secretary of State for War, Why the provision in paragraph 485 of the Royal Warrant of the 25th June 1881, that the pay of Sub-inspector of Army Schools should be the same as that of Quarter-master of Artillery, has not been carried out in India, while the advantages conferred by this Warrant on Quarter-masters, Riding-masters, Non-commissioned Officers, and Privates in India have been conceded; and, whether the Inspectors and Sub-inspectors of Army Schools suffer a loss of status as represented by pay, on transfer from the Home to the Indian Establishment; and, if so,

whether this grievance will be remedied?

MR. J. K. CROSS: There are no Inspectors of Army schools nor Quarter-masters of Artillery in India. Inquiry will be made whether it is desirable to make any change in the existing rates of pay of Sub-Inspectors of Army schools; but I must observe that no representation on the subject has been received from any quarter.

THE IRISH LAND COMMISSION (SUB-COMMISSIONERS)—JUDICIAL RENTS.

MR. O'KELLY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether two of the Sub-Commissioners appointed for the counties Roscommon, Sligo, and Leitrim, namely, Messrs. Morrison and Henston, did on the 11th July last in proceeding to visit the farm of Mr. John Watters, who had an application for the fixing of a fair rent heard at the sitting of their Sub-Commission in Carrick-on-Shannon, drive to the farm in the trap of the landlord, Mr. C. C. B. Whyte, D.L., Hatly Manor, in company with Mr. Whyte and his bailiff; whether in the decisions delivered at Mohill subsequently the Sub-Commissioners fixed the judicial rent in this case at the old rent; and, whether a competent valuer swore that the old rent was a rack rent?

MR. TREVELYAN: A communication has been addressed to the Sub-Commissioners named, asking them for a Report on this matter; but I am informed that as they are at present taking their vacation, some days may elapse before their reply is received.

THE IRISH LAND COMMISSION—COURT OF APPEAL—CASE OF "DRISCOLL v. HALL."

MR. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether, in hearing evidence in Driscoll v. Hall the Land Commissioners heard any witness as to value, or confined themselves to hearing evidence as to a legal point; whether they sent a court valuer; in how many cases have they given decisions in which neither they nor the Sub-commissioners sent a court valuer, and is it an invariable rule not to give judgment unless they or the Sub-commissioners have sent a court valuer, or heard evidence as to value; and, is it the fact that the rent fixed is

greater than what the middleman pays his own landlord for his tenant's land, and for twice as much land in addition, which is in his own possession?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, the Land Commissioners have forwarded to me a very full Report on this subject. It is too voluminous for me to take up the time of the House by reading it, and I think the House should have it in full; that is evidently the wish of the Commissioners. I will, therefore, lay it on the Table without delay.

MR. HEALY: How soon may we expect it?

MR. TREVELYAN: Very soon. It is a very long answer to the Question. I shall have it issued as a Parliamentary Paper.

MR. HEALY: Will the right hon. Gentleman have the Estimate for the salaries of the Land Commissioners postponed until it has been printed?

MR. TREVELYAN: I cannot undertake to give an assurance to that effect.

MR. HEALY: In that case I shall have to move the reduction of the Vote.

MR. TREVELYAN: If that is the intention of the hon. Gentleman, I would rather read the letter.

MR. HEALY: It is certainly a most important matter, and I intend to call attention to it on the Estimate.

MR. TREVELYAN: Then I will read the letter. It is as follows:—

“Irish Land Commission, Dublin,

“11th August, 1883.

“Sir,—With reference to Mr. Healy's Question regarding the case of O'Driscoll, tenant, Hall, landlord, I am directed by the Irish Land Commissioners to state as follows:—John Hall, the landlord, is, in fact, an extremely poor peasant. His wife's evidence as to their way of living was that she went spinning, that she had two sons and a daughter in service, and another daughter in America, who sends her a couple of pounds. Hall rented some land from Lord Bantry, at a rent of £10 18s., about 14 years ago. Hall's wife having to leave the place in which they were living, and to go and live as caretaker to her father, a bargain was entered into between her and Driscoll to the effect that Driscoll was to take the larger portion—amounting to seven statute acres—of the land at £12 a-year upon the terms that he would give it up again when Hall wanted it. The Sub-Commissioners came to the conclusion that the land was let for a temporary convenience, and dismissed the case. An appeal was brought. Upon consideration of some intervening circumstances not necessary to detail as to the lapse of time, the Commissioners, on appeal, though not without much hesitation, were of opinion that they ought not to confirm the dismissal pronounced by the Sub-

Commissioners; but they were unanimously of opinion that as Driscoll refused to give back the land to Hall according to his undertaking, he should, as regards the land, be held to his bargain, and to give him a statutable term at a lower rent would not be just. They considered Driscoll's conduct to be unreasonable, and fixed the rent at the sum he had agreed to pay without going into the question of value. This order they thought consonant with justice, and they had distinct power to make it under the terms of the Statute. There is no invariable rule on the subject of sending a Court valuer. It is the ordinary rule that where there is an appeal from the decision of the Sub-Commissioners fixing a judicial rent, one of the Court valuers visits the farm before the hearing on appeal, and reports on its value. This is not done when the originating notice is dismissed. If the Commissioners, on re-hearing, are of opinion that it should not have been dismissed, their general practice is to remit the case to the Sub-Commissioners to fix a fair rent. They did not do so in Driscoll v. Hall, for the reason they have stated. The Commissioners, at the same time, consider it their duty to protest against being called upon by Government to make statements or to give explanations in relation to their judicial decisions. The rule that protects such decisions from being made the subject of Parliamentary inquiry is not, they conceive, a rule arising from any personal privilege; but it is a rule of public policy to secure the independence and impartiality of the judgment seat. When a Question is asked in the House of Commons impugning the judicial decision, and the Question is forwarded to the Judges who made the decision for a reply, the latter are placed in the dilemma either of violating a Constitutional rule, or, should they decline to answer upon the ground of that rule, of being assailed under the plea of privilege of Parliament in coarse and vituperative language. The Land Commissioners submit that the Question in Parliament seeking to ransack the judicial decision indicates of itself the only reply that can be properly given, and that the responsibility of making that reply should not be cast upon the Commissioners with the result of exposing them to language insulting in itself and calculated to prejudice the administration of justice. The Commissioners think that in justice to them this letter should be communicated to the House of Commons, or else that they may be at liberty to make it public, if they should so think fit.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

“W. W. GWENNY.”

MR. HEALY: I beg to give Notice that I will call attention to the circumstances of fixing fair rents, not upon the lines of the Act of Parliament, but by going into personal, collateral, and family matters; and, still further, I shall call attention to the fact that while the right hon. Gentleman has communicated a document reflecting upon Members of this House for having in their capacity as such asked Questions regarding a judicial decision of Mr. Justice O'Hagan and the other Land Commissioners, these

Mr. Healy

Commissioners did not use their position as Judges to decline to give evidence before the Committee of the House of Lords; that they have gone before the House of Lords and allowed themselves to be close questioned—

MR. SPEAKER intimated that the hon. Member was out of Order.

MR. HEALY: I give Notice, Mr. Speaker, that I shall call attention to that subject.

SOUTH AFRICA—ZULULAND— CETEWAYO.

SIR HENRY HOLLAND (for Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH) asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, Whether, if it prove to be the fact that Cetewayo has been compelled to seek British protection in the reserved territory, Her Majesty's Government will direct that measures shall be taken to prevent him or his adherents from recommencing war, or using the reserved territory as a basis for fresh agitation or military operations in Zululand?

MR. RYLANDS asked if the Under Secretary could at the same time state whether he had any information that Cetewayo was still in his own country collecting his forces, and, according to a telegram published to-day in *The Standard*, was about to make an attack on Usibepu?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: No, Sir; we have absolutely no information later than that which I gave to the House a few days ago. I have seen the telegram referred to, but am quite unable to say whether there is any truth in it or not. In the total absence of authentic and positive information of what is the true state of affairs at this moment, I am unable to give any definite answer to the Question which has been put upon the Paper; but I may say this much—that Her Majesty's Government would not view with indifference any attempt to use the Reserved Territory as a basis for military operations.

SOUTH AFRICA—NATAL—RESTORA- TION OF LANGALIBALELE.

SIR HENRY HOLLAND asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, Whether Sir Henry Bulwer had been instructed by the Colonial Office to report as to the conditions upon which Langalibalele might be restored; and, if so, whether he will lay upon the Table of the House a Copy of those

Instructions and of Sir H. Bulwer's Report?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: Yes; Sir Henry Bulwer was instructed by the Colonial Office in the sense referred to, and those instructions and his Report will be laid on the Table of the House in the course of a few days.

PREVENTION OF CRIME (IRELAND) ACT, 1882—ARREST OF MR. B. M'HUGH.

MR. O'KELLY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether it is true that Mr. Bernard M'Hugh, of Thomastown, county Roscommon, was arrested on the 22nd of June on a charge of conspiring to murder Mr. Young, for which murder he was tried and acquitted six years ago; whether, having been remanded six times, and on each occasion for eight days, he has been finally set at liberty without any evidence having been produced against him; whether he was brought into the sub-inspector's room in the police barracks at Castlereagh, and into the presence of the sub-inspector and a stranger; whether the stranger, addressing Mr. M'Hugh, said—

"Now, M'Hugh, we have got evidence that will convict you; but, if you hand up the actual murderer, you can go home to your family, and we shall do all we can for you;"

whether Mr. M'Hugh was only permitted to be represented once by his solicitor before the magistrate, and although he applied, on each occasion on which he was remanded, to be allowed the services of his solicitor, he was not permitted to communicate with his legal adviser; whether, on cross-examination, Sub-Inspector Wynne swore that "no information had been sworn against Mr. M'Hugh;" whether the Government will take any action in view of the conduct of the police; and, whether any compensation will be given to Mr. M'Hugh for the loss of his time, and the damage done to his character by these proceedings?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER): M'Hugh was arrested on the 22nd of June on a charge of conspiring to murder Mr. Young, for whose murder he had been tried and acquitted three, not six, years ago. There was several remands, and finally the case dropped from want of completeness in the evidence. The Resident Magistrate informs me that he is not

aware of any overtures having been made to M'Hugh, and that no such conversation as that referred to occurred in the police barracks. It is untrue that the prisoner was ever refused permission to see his solicitor or to be represented by him. I am not aware of what evidence Mr. Wynne gave; but I cannot think he said that there was no sworn information against Mr. M'Hugh, as there was. The last part of the Question I have to answer in the negative.

MR. O'KELLY said, that he had put the Question denied by the Attorney General upon the faith of a letter received from M'Hugh himself. On going into Committee of Supply he would call attention to the persistent persecution to which this man had been subjected for three years in view of the fact that the Government had under their own protection the man who confessed himself to be the organizer of Mr. Young's murder.

PRISONS (IRELAND)—MR. HARRINGTON.

MR. T. D. SULLIVAN asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, What alterations have been made in the treatment of Mr. Edward Harrington, at present imprisoned in Tralee Gaol; whether he is still compelled to wear the prison clothes, and to do the work usually allotted to criminal prisoners; whether he is allowed to read any newspaper, or whether any one of the employes in his office is allowed to visit him, to consult with him about his business; if not, how long will he be kept in gaol before being allowed to receive any visits; and, whether it is true that he is confined in a small cell twenty-two hours out of the twenty-four?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, the prisoner has been relieved from the plank bed, and is allowed to communicate by letter with his friends and receive their letters according to rule. He has the use of books sent by his friends, and has four hours' exercise daily. He wears prison clothes and does the work usually allotted to prisoners who are not sentenced to hard labour. He is not allowed newspapers or visitors, and will be three months in prison before he can be allowed to receive visits. It is not the case that he is confined in his cell 22 hours out of the 24.

The Attorney General for Ireland

MADAGASCAR—ACTION OF THE
FRENCH AT TAMATAVE—CASE OF THE
REV. MR. SHAW.

MR. A. M'ARTHUR asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether Her Majesty's Government are aware that the Rev. G. A. Shaw, agent of the London Missionary Society at Tamatave, is detained a close prisoner on board a French man-of-war, and refused permission to communicate with his friends; whether they have received from the French authorities any statement of the charges brought against Mr. Shaw; and, what steps they have taken to secure a fair investigation into his case?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: Yes, Sir; Her Majesty's Government are aware of the arrest and detention of Mr. Shaw, and they understand that he has been refused permission to communicate with his friends. Her Majesty's Government have not yet received from the French authorities any formal statement of the charges against Mr. Shaw; but they have reason to believe that he is accused of what the French Admiral considers a very serious offence. Her Majesty's Government are in communication with the French Government on the subject.

MR. R. N. FOWLER asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether Her Majesty's Government have received any information concerning the refusal of the French authorities at Ivondro, in Madagascar, to permit a party of twenty-two English subjects including women and children, to proceed from that place to Tamatave in order to embark for England; and, if so, what are the reasons assigned by the French for such proceeding?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: Sir, the facts are as follows:—Commander Johnstone learnt a few days before July 7 that a party of English missionaries from Antanarivo had arrived at Ivondro, and, having been interfered with by the Hovas, turned southward to Mahanoro. Captain Johnstone thereupon arranged that the officers in charge of a Government steamer, which had been despatched from the Mauritius to take away any refugees, should call at Mahanoro to take off the missionaries; but it was stated that, owing to the heavy surf, it would be impossible to communi-

cate with the shore. There is a British Vice Consul at Mahanoro, Mr. J. J. Wilson. —

MR. HEALY: Will the noble Lord say whether the French Admiral considered this such a serious charge that he has put this clergyman on a plank bed?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: I have no information as to that.

POST OFFICE (CONTRACTS)—THE IRISH MAIL SERVICE.

MR. ONSLOW (for Mr. RITCHIE) asked the Postmaster General, Whether any tenders were received for the carriage of Her Majesty's Mails between Holyhead and Kingstown other than that of the City of Dublin Company; and, if so, by whom were the tenders made?

MR. FAWCETT: Sir, in reply to the hon. Member, I may state that besides the tender of the City of Dublin Company for the conveyance of mails between Holyhead and Kingstown, the only other tender received was from Mr. Holt, of Liverpool. This tender proposed the employment of small despatch boats; but, although, they would have made the passage in quick time, they would have afforded very inadequate accommodation for the sorting of mails and no accommodation for passengers. It was, therefore, thought inexpedient to accept his tender.

AFGHANISTAN—THE SUBSIDY TO THE AMEER.

MR. JOSEPH COWEN asked the Under Secretary of State for India, If any information has been received from India respecting the subsidy to be paid to the Ameer of Afghanistan; and, if he is now in a position to state to the House the services the Ameer is to render in return for £120,000?

MR. J. K. CROSS: The annual subsidy of 12 lakhs of rupees is given as a subsidy personal to the Ameer Abdurrahman as an aid towards meeting his present difficulties in the management of his State, to be devoted to the payment of his troops, and to other measures which may be required for the defence of his territories. No Treaty has been concluded with the Ameer.

MR. JOSEPH COWEN asked, whether there were no conditions of service to be given by the Ameer in consequence of this payment? Subsidies to previous

Ameers had been given; but in consequence of these, they had extended to the British Government certain powers—such as to have a Resident at Kabul, Agents on the frontier, facilities in respect to commerce, and even a distinct provision that the foreign policy of Afghanistan should be regulated and controlled by the British Government in India. What he wished to know was whether any such conditions had been obtained from the present Ameer in consequence of this subsidy?

MR. J. K. CROSS: No such conditions have been imposed upon the Ameer.

MR. JOSEPH COWEN gave Notice that on the Indian Budget he would call attention to the subject.

MR. ONSLOW inquired whether arms and ammunition were to be given as well as the £120,000?

MR. J. K. CROSS: No, Sir; no arms or ammunition. If any more Questions are to be put, I shall be very much obliged if hon. Members will give Notice.

MR. ONSLOW: I beg to give Notice that, in consequence of the way in which the hon. Gentleman answers my Questions, in future I shall put all such Questions to the Prime Minister.

MR. GLADSTONE: I beg to say, in that case, if the hon. Gentleman contemplates putting Questions to me, owing to his disapproval of the answers given by my hon. Friend, I shall not think it my duty to take over the duties of my hon. Friend.

MR. ONSLOW: I beg to give Notice that at the usual time I am going to give the right hon. Gentleman Notice of a Question for Thursday next.

LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART—THE ASHBURNHAM MSS.—THE IRISH MSS.

DR. LYONS asked Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, If he can comply with the request of the Society for the Preservation of the Ancient Language and Literature of Ireland to allow the Ashburnham MSS. to be examined by a gentleman, whom the Society designate, and who is exceptionally well skilled in Irish Literature and Antiquities, before the final selection of the works intended to be deposited in Dublin?

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (MR. CHILDERS): In reply to my

hon. Friend, I have to state that when it was finally decided to propose to Parliament the purchase of the Stowe Collection, Sir Samuel Ferguson, who is Deputy Keeper of the Irish Public Record Office and President of the Royal Irish Academy, assisted by Mr. Hennessey, who is Todd Professor of Celtic and Editor of Irish Chronicles, conferred, under the direction of the Treasury, with Mr. Bond, of the British Museum, and these gentlemen recommended to us which manuscripts should go to the Royal Irish Academy and which to the British Museum. Their Report, about which there was no difference of opinion, has been approved, and I cannot re-open the question.

MR. O'KELLY: Does the right hon. Gentleman mean to say that London has got some of our Irish MSS., and is he not aware it was clearly understood they were all to be sent to Ireland?

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (MR. CHILDERS): No; I said nothing of the kind.

MR. O'KELLY: Can the right hon. Gentleman say if there is any person in the British Museum who knows Irish?

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (MR. CHILDERS): The two gentlemen who have examined the manuscripts are well acquainted with the Irish language.

MR. MITCHELL HENRY asked whether, before these manuscripts were transferred to Dublin, the right hon. Gentleman would make inquiry as to the provision for their safety? The manuscripts in the Royal Irish Academy were kept in common book-cases. The documents now in question were of an important character, and he thought they ought to be kept in fireproof cases.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (MR. CHILDERS) said, the Irish Board of Works had been directed to take care that proper provision was made for the cases in which the manuscripts were to be kept.

MR. GIBSON said, that as Sir Samuel Ferguson's name had been mentioned, he assumed that that gentleman would be thoroughly satisfied with the custody of the documents?

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (MR. CHILDERS) said, they were acting under the advice of Sir Samuel Ferguson.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer

THE ECCLESIASTICAL COURTS COMMISSION.

MR. BERESFORD HOPE asked the Under Secretary of State for the Home Department, Whether he can state when the Report of the Commission on Ecclesiastical Courts will be distributed; and, whether he can account for the delay in its publication? The right hon. Gentleman added that he had seen a *précis* in the papers; but the Report itself was not forthcoming.

MR. HIBBERT, in reply, said, the Report would not be ready for distribution for a few days. The delay had occurred owing to certain Commissioners having appended reservations since the last meeting of the Commission, and to Lord Penzance having written a separate Report. As to a *précis* of the Report having been published in several newspapers, he had to say he had communicated with the Secretary to the Commission, and he had written disclaiming any part in the publication. The Home Office were only supplied with one copy, and that still remained there. He could not explain the publication unless the information had been furnished by some Member of the Commission. He wished also to state that the Copy of the Report which appeared in the public papers was not a correct copy; it was a copy of a Report which was issued some time ago.

CROWN LANDS ACT—THE NEW BRIGHTON FORESHORE.

MR. BIGGAR asked the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, If he can state what authority (if any) the Wallasey Local Board has over the foreshore of New Brighton, and what rights the owners of property have to the portion of the foreshore in front thereof?

MR. COURTNEY: Sir, the Wallasey Local Board hold a lease of seven acres of foreshore at New Brighton for a term which expires in 1939. They lately held a lease of about two miles of foreshore on each side of New Brighton Ferry for the purpose of preserving order on the shore, and to prevent the unauthorized removal of shingle; this lease has recently expired, and negotiations are pending for its renewal. It is not known that the owners of property at or near New Brighton have any rights over the soil of the foreshore.

LAW AND JUSTICE—LONDON BANKRUPTCY COURT.

Mr. WAUGH asked the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, Why, in the Appropriation Accounts of the London Bankruptcy Court, credit is taken for £65,546 12s. 3d. for fees collected by stamps, showing a profit on that account of £8,595 14s. 8d. whereas about £56,000 of those stamps represent the fees due to the country Courts of Bankruptcy, and cover the £46,517 16s. 11d. paid to the country registrars, leaving a profit of £9,482 3s. 1d. from those courts, instead of a loss of the above sum of £46,517 16s. 11d. and showing a loss on the London Bankruptcy Court of £47,404 5s. 4d?

Mr. COURTNEY: Sir, the hon. Member refers to the statements of gross and net cost appended to, but not part of, the Appropriation Accounts. These are prepared by the Controller and Auditor General. I think a blot has been hit in the bankruptcy figures; but I would point out, in justice to the Controller and Auditor General, that he has no means of knowing what proportion of the bankruptcy fee stamps represents work done in the County Courts. His attention has been called to the point.

PARLIAMENT—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—MEDICAL ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Sir LYON PLAYFAIR asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether, considering the important interests involved in the Medical Bill, he can arrange for a Second Reading of that Bill early in the week?

Mr. GLADSTONE: Sir, owing to the important interests involved in the Medical Bill, we are most anxious to take the discussion and obtain the judgment of the House upon it on the earliest day we can; but the progress made with certain other Bills is not sufficient to allow me to name a day at the present moment. I hope in the course of three or four days to be able to do so.

SUEZ CANAL—THE ENGLISH DIRECTORS.

Sir H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether his attention has been called to a telegram, in nearly all the newspapers of the 9th instant, to the following effect:—

"The Directors of the Suez Canal Company held their monthly meeting in Paris yesterday,

M. de Lesseps presiding, and the three English members of the Board being present. They gave their unqualified approval to the Letter of M. de Lesseps to Mr. Gladstone of the 20th of July;"

whether the three English Directors concurred in this unqualified approval of a Document which contends that the existing Suez Canal Company enjoys

"For ninety-nine years the exclusive monopoly of excavating any maritime Canal through the Egyptian isthmus;"

and, if so, whether Her Majesty's Government have taken any steps to show to the Canal Company that such expression of opinion on the part of the three British Government Directors of the Canal does not necessarily imply the concurrence of the Government in the contentions of M. de Lesseps?

Mr. GLADSTONE: The paragraph which the hon. Gentleman has quoted did attract my attention; but we have had a report of what took place at the meeting, and the language of that paragraph is certainly not accurate. What was asked of the Council of the Suez Canal Company was an approval of the letter generally, which I do not understand would cover anything beyond the general scope of the letter; but a special approval was asked of the last paragraph of the letter, and that last paragraph had no relation to any disputed or disputable question, but referred entirely to the intention to give increased accommodation along the line of the present Canal. With regard to the apprehension of the hon. Gentleman that the acceptance without any protest of this proposal by the British Directors might have committed the British Government, I think he will have seen by this time there was no such committal on the part of the Council itself. However that may be—I do not wish to enter into any argument—the opinions and pledges of the British Government must be taken from their own written and spoken declarations; and I may remind the hon. Gentleman that on the 24th of last month I referred to this subject, and I said I believed that the exclusive power to which reference had been made in these discussions by us was a power to prevent others from piercing the Isthmus, and did not touch the question, either affirmatively or negatively, whether the present Company was authorized without any further concession to make a second Canal.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, that, as the right hon. Gentleman had said the Board of Directors were asked to pass a general approval of the whole letter and a special approval of one part of it, he would ask how far the right hon. Gentleman could allow the Canal Company to go under the impression that the general approval of the letter which contained the words he had quoted was concurred in by the British Directors? He would also ask the right hon. Gentleman whether any steps would be taken, in accordance with the assurance given by the Secretary of State for War, that the English Directors would be warned not to mix up in political matters?

MR. GLADSTONE: Sir, we shall give such instructions to the English Directors from time to time as may seem to us to be necessary. I think the hon. Gentleman is not quite under a correct impression. He seems to think that the Directors of the Canal Company are under the supposition that every expression and argument of that letter has been adopted by the Company and by its Directors. We have no reason to know or believe that such is the case; and the hon. Gentleman will observe that, if such were the case, the distinction between the general approval given to the letter, as a whole, and the special approval given to the last paragraph would altogether disappear and be of no account.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked whether the three English Directors who were charged with the negotiations with the Canal Company, and who in their negotiations pledged themselves to conserve the monopoly of M. de Lesseps and the Company, were entitled, after the decision of the House and after the general expression of feeling in the House and in the country, even to join in a general approval of a letter which contained the words quoted in the Question to the right hon. Gentleman?

MR. GLADSTONE: Sir, they had no character as negotiators whatever, and I am not aware they have done anything which commits the Government.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked if they were not negotiators between this country and M. de Lesseps and the Company?

MR. GLADSTONE: Sir, I must distinguish between the two characters.

If the hon. Gentleman has a difficulty in distinguishing between the character of these gentlemen as Directors and their character as negotiators, or, at least, the political effect of their action as negotiators, that is a matter which it would have been well to consider at the time they were made Directors, and when the original arrangement was made. So far as the negotiations are concerned in which they were engaged, that matter is now entirely dropped, and their action must now be judged as that of Directors, and not negotiators. I can only repeat I do not believe that by acquiescing in the general acceptance of the scope of M. de Lesseps's letter, they have done anything that in any manner limits or commits the action of the British Government.

OYSTER FISHERIES — THE RIVER BLACKWATER (COLCHESTER).

MR. ROUND asked the President of the Board of Trade, if he will lay upon the Table of the House the Report of their Inspector who held an inquiry at Colchester in January last upon applications for grants of the River Blackwater for Oyster Fisheries, inasmuch as the matter is of considerable interest to all parties represented at such inquiry?

MR. CHAMBERLAIN, in reply, said, it had not been customary to publish the Reports in the case of the applications refused; he supposed the chief objection being the great cost. As there was some interest taken in this matter, he would inform the hon. Gentleman that the reasons why the application in this case was not granted were—Firstly, the applicants proposed to appropriate a large area of an already existing public bed or productive dredging ground; secondly, the area was a dredging and fishing ground, and the appropriation would have been detrimental to the public interest and to the owners of private oyster grounds, and to the local dredgermen and fishermen; and, thirdly, the applicants failed to show that by means of these grants the supply of oysters would be materially increased.

MADAGASCAR — ACTION OF THE FRENCH AT TAMATAVE — STATEMENT OF THE PRIME MINISTER.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE asked the First Lord of the Treasury, When

he will be prepared to make a statement with respect to Madagascar; and, whether he can now give the House any particulars with respect to a proclamation said to have been issued by "the Superior Commandant of Tamatave," prohibiting access to Tamatave "to all Foreign sailors, soldiers, and officers?"

MR. GLADSTONE: In answer to this Question, Sir, I am not able to name any time when I can make a statement with respect to Madagascar. The Papers, which contain a great deal of matter and much Correspondence—some of it perhaps a little conflicting—have only very recently come into our hands. They were only in my hands on Saturday last, and we are not aware that the French Government have as yet received any detailed information. Lord Granville stated in "another place," I think on Friday last, that he was awaiting tidings of the French Government having received such information, and it had been agreed between M. Waddington and himself that when that information arrived communications would immediately take place. The right hon. Gentleman, therefore, will see I am not in a condition further to refer to the matter or to name a day on which I can make a statement, or to say anything about the presentation of Papers on the subject. I do not think there would be any advantage in entering in details respecting any particular Correspondence; but, undoubtedly, it is a fact that a prohibitory proclamation was issued by the French authorities, of course purporting to be issued in virtue of the military occupation. Certain questions may arise upon the terms of that proclamation.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE asked whether the House might expect any statement before its rising? He must remind the right hon. Gentleman that he himself made a statement in what might be called "another place," which had evoked a great deal of interest and curiosity.

MR. GLADSTONE: Yes, Sir; my statement was confirmatory of what we have previously stated with regard to our own impressions upon the communications that had passed with the French Government at the time when this intelligence arrived, and it was confirmatory of the intelligence we then had received that the matters that happened and the communications upon them at

the outset were of a nature to lead to the supposition that no apprehension need be entertained with regard to their ultimate issue. I would readily make a statement if it were a matter dependent upon our own action alone; but as it was a matter affecting a Foreign Government, I cannot give any pledge on the subject whatever to make a statement.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE: I will repeat the Question next Monday.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT asked whether it was true that Admiral Pierre had been recalled from Tamatave? He also asked the Prime Minister whether his attention had been called to statements in the French newspapers to the effect that the French people were highly gratified with the *amende honorable* made by the right hon. Gentleman, and whether he was aware that his speech on Wednesday last, at the Mansion House, was taken as an apology to France?

MR. GLADSTONE: No, Sir; no such statement as that mentioned by the hon. Gentleman as appearing in the French newspapers has reached me. I do not understand how uttering a warning as to the interpretation to be put upon documents necessarily couched in the succinct language of telegrams could be taken as an apology or retraction on my part. We have no information whatever as to Admiral Pierre being recalled.

PARLIAMENT—INTRODUCTION OF MEASURES IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

MR. JOSEPH COWEN asked the First Lord of the Treasury, If, with a view to the more equitable distribution of legislative labour, some of the chief measures of the Government could not in future be initiated in the other House of Parliament?

MR. GLADSTONE: Sir, this is a question of much interest and importance, and I may state that it has been present to the mind of this and, I believe, preceding Governments. But very great difficulty is found in giving effect to what appears on the surface to be a most reasonable proposal. It is supposed that time may be gained by introducing various important measures first in the House of Lords. Once or twice we made some serious experiments of that kind; but

we found in the issue that we gained nothing whatever in consequence of the large alterations and the cuttings and carvings that were deemed necessary. Still, the question is never lost sight of, and the introduction and passing of the Medical Bill in the House of Lords is an indication of what we are willing to do. I quite agree in the opinion that is conveyed in the Question; and what I hope is, that if the House ever obtains command over the conduct of its own Business, that steps will be taken to originate measures more frequently in the House of Lords.

POST OFFICE (IRELAND)—LETTER CARRIERS.

MR. T. D. SULLIVAN (for Mr. Dawson) asked the Postmaster General, Whether it is a fact that the letter-carriers in many Irish towns receive much lower wages than similar officers receive in England, although the Irish letter-carriers give the same time and perform like duties?

MR. FAWCETT: Sir, the rates of wages for letter-carriers, whether in Ireland or in England, differ according to the value of labour in the locality concerned. I may further state, in reply to the hon. Member, that although some Irish letter-carriers get less than some English letter-carriers, on the other hand, some English letter-carriers get less than some Irish letter-carriers. Circumstances alone can decide these cases.

INDIA—THE MADRAS CIVIL SERVICE.

MR. GIBSON asked the Under Secretary of State for India, Whether the Secretary of State for India has yet reconsidered the grievances of the Madras Civil Service, and the working of the concessions made by him last year, in order partially to relieve the block of promotion in the service; and, whether there has been any recent communication with the Simla Government on the subject; and, if so, with what result?

MR. J. K. CROSS: Sir, no communication has yet been received from the Government of India upon the subject of the representations made to them by the Government of Madras some time ago, to the effect that the extent to which the offer of proportionate expenses had been accepted during the past year did not offer the relief which was expected to result from it. A differ-

ence of opinion having arisen between the Governments of Madras and Bombay as to the date from which the payment of the special or minimum allowances to certain members of the Madras Civil Service was sanctioned, the matter was referred to the Secretary of State, who has approved the Orders issued by the Government of India, which ruled that, as is usual in such cases, these allowances should take effect from the date of the receipt in India of the despatch of the Secretary of State sanctioning the scheme.

MR. GIBSON asked whether the Secretary of State had given his decision in favour of the Civil Service?

MR. J. K. CROSS said, that no communication on the subject had been received from India, and therefore the Secretary of State could not consider it.

MR. GIBSON: Will he ask for it now?

[No answer was given.]

POOR LAW (IRELAND)—THE OLD-CASTLE UNION.

MR. TOTTENHAM asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether it is the case that, at a recent sworn investigation by the Local Government Board inspector into the conduct of the medical officer and infirmity nurse of the Oldcastle Union, county Meath, a Roman Catholic clergyman named Ward was permitted to be present and interfere in the proceedings; whether it is the case that the said clergyman holds no official position in connection with the Union, but has nevertheless been the medium of preferring charges against the aforesaid officials, which were pronounced by the Local Government Board to be unsubstantiated and vexatious; and, whether he will advise the Local Government Board to take steps to prevent the interference of unofficial persons with the administration of this Union?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, I am informed that, before the inquiry was opened, the Rev. Mr. Ward waited on the Inspector and requested permission to be present. This the Inspector consented to as a matter of courtesy, but without any understanding whatever that he would be permitted to take any part in the proceedings. In the course of the inquiry the Inspector's attention was

drawn to the fact that the Rev. Mr. Ward was offering suggestions to some members of the Board of Guardians present. This interference was at once stopped, and was not renewed. The Rev. Mr. Ward is the Roman Catholic curate of the parish; but except that as such he is assistant to the Roman Catholic Chaplain, he holds no official connection with the Union. It did not transpire during the inquiry, or in any of the Correspondence which has passed with the Local Government Board, that he was the medium of preferring charges against the Union officers.

PATENTS—REVISED INDEX OF PATENTS.

SIR EARDLEY WILMOT asked the President of the Board of Trade, Whether the revised Index of Patents, promised some time ago to the Associated Chambers of Commerce, has been completed; and, if so, when it will be published?

MR. CHAMBERLAIN, in reply, said, he was not aware that any promise had been made on the subject. But he was informed that a revised Index between 1817 and 1852 was nearly completed, and that the very important Index from 1852 to the present time would be proceeded with almost immediately. He had, in view of the passing of the Patents Bill, asked for a report of such matters as might be required if the Bill passed into law.

PARLIAMENT—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—POST OFFICE BILLS.

MR. FRANCIS BUXTON asked the Postmaster General, Whether, considering that the Post Office Bills numbers 16 and 16 on the Paper, contain very little contentious matter, and were of great public importance, he would make every effort to proceed with them to-night, or on an early day?

MR. FAWCETT, in reply, said, that he was most anxious the Bills should pass, because, though not of first-rate importance, they would confer great benefit on the public by facilitating the transmission of small sums, not only in this country, but in the Colonies, and would also afford additional security for property entrusted to the Post Office. There was no opposition to either measure but that offered by the hon. and learned Member for Bridport (Mr. War-

ton), and he hoped the hon. and learned Gentleman would allow the stage to be reached of the Speaker leaving the Chair, and in that case he would promise that sufficient time should be allowed to elapse before any progress was made in Committee as would enable the hon. and learned Member to place Amendments on the Paper which he would consider with a view, if possible, to their acceptance.

PARLIAMENT—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—NATIONAL DEBT BILL.

SIR JOSEPH M'KENNA: I beg to ask the right hon. Gentleman the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Whether, in face of the many Amendments set down to the National Debt Bill from all quarters of the House, he will persist in going into Committee on it?

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (MR. CHILDERS), in reply, said, that Amendments had been put on the Paper already. Considering the discussion which had taken place on the second reading, and the large majority by which it had been carried, he should not feel justified in withdrawing the Bill from consideration to-night.

PARLIAMENT—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE: I beg to ask the Prime Minister what will be the course of Business this week, when he proposes to go on with the Bankruptcy Bill, and how many nights will be devoted to Supply?

MR. GLADSTONE: With regard to Supply, I may, perhaps, be rather sanguine; but I do not abandon the hope of its being finished on Thursday. I do not speak with confidence; but if it be not finished then, we may add a third day this week, because its postponement till Monday will necessarily involve a postponement of the Prorogation over next week. With regard to the Bills, we are anxious, after Supply to-night and before Thursday, to proceed with the Bills immediately before the House. I exclude those that have come down from the Lords. To-morrow the first Order will be the Parliamentary Registration (Ireland) Bill, and the second Order the Report of the Bankruptcy Bill. After that we shall proceed with the Tramways (Ireland) Bill and the Local Government (Scotland) Bill, as-

suming that the National Debt Bill is disposed of this evening.

EGYPT—THE CHOLERA.

SIR WALTER B. BARTELOT asked the noble Lord the Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Whether he could inform the House that, as was stated in the newspapers, the cholera was rapidly abating in Egypt?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: Yes, Sir; there has been a decrease all over Egypt, except at Alexandria, where there is a slight increase. At Cairo there has been a very great decrease.

PARLIAMENT—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—DHULEEP SINGH—THE INDIAN BUDGET.

MR. ONSLOW gave Notice that he would on Thursday ask the Prime Minister, Whether it is true that Dhuleep Singh was about to visit India; if so, whether he should be allowed to go to the Punjab and the North-Western Provinces; and whether there was any truth in the report that treasonable letters connected with his visit had been seized at Lahore? He would also ask when the Indian Budget would be taken?

MR. GLADSTONE said, he must put the Question with respect to the Indian Budget in the same category as others. They must make some progress with the Bills before the House. If they made that progress he would give an answer on Thursday.

INLAND NAVIGATION AND DRAINAGE (IRELAND)—THE BLACKWATER (CO. CAVAN).

MR. BIGGAR asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Why have not the sluices at Pertenlohn, on the Ballyboy River, to prevent the overflow of the Blackwater up to Baunboy, county Cavan, been finished, although it was contracted to be so two years ago; and, is it a fact that a competent builder was not allowed by Mr. Pratt, the superintendent, to see the plans and specifications on 20th May 1880, although he travelled from Baunboy, county Cavan, to Drumsna, county Leitrim, it being advertised the plans would be seen at the latter place; and, if the fact is as stated, is he prepared to censure Mr. Pratt?

Mr. Gladstone

MR. TREVELYAN: Mr. Pratt, the Superintendent, reports as follows:—

"The work is in the hands of a competent contractor, and the Drainage Trustees will compel him to finish it. The plan and specification were never refused to anyone."

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS (CORRUPT AND ILLEGAL PRACTICES) BILL.

MR. HEALY asked Mr. Attorney General, Whether, in considering the wishes of Irish Members as to the modifications of the Schedule of expenses, he would act on the principle that the majority of 17 Irish Members was conclusive as against the minority of three?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (SIR HENRY JAMES), in reply, said, he would fulfil the promise he had made by causing Amendments to be inserted in the House of Lords.

PARLIAMENT—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—REVENUE AND FRIENDLY SOCIETIES BILL.

MR. BULWER asked Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Whether the Government intended to proceed with the Revenue and Friendly Societies Bill; and, whether Clause 15 would be pressed?

MR. COURTNEY said, that, in view of the opposition with which it was threatened, Clause 15 of this Bill would not be proceeded with.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD (SCOTLAND) BILL.

SIR JOHN HAY asked the Prime Minister, Whether it was intended to go on with the Local Government Board (Scotland) Bill to-night?

MR. GLADSTONE: No, Sir; I think we may safely say it cannot come on to-night.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

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SUPPLY.—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES.

SUPPLY—considered in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

CLASS III.—LAW AND JUSTICE.

(1.) Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That a sum, not exceeding £38,235, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on

the 31st day of March 1884, of Criminal Prosecutions and other Law Charges in Ireland, including certain Allowances under the Act 15 & 16 Vic. c. 83."

Mr. HEALY said, that with regard to this Vote he wished to express his opinion that there had been going on in Ireland, for a very considerable time past, proceedings under the Criminal Law which he could not but regard as an abuse and an evasion of the Habeas Corpus Act. It had been of late years in Ireland a custom with the Government to arrest men in large batches on vague and unsubstantial charges, to put them into prison, and to keep them there from week to week before bringing them up at the Assizes for the county in which they had been arrested. When so brought up their cases were adjourned from time to time, merely to suit the whim of the Government, as represented by their officials; and, as a result, he might say that at the present moment there were some 60 or 70 persons who had been lying in different prisons for the last six or seven months, and must remain there until January next, before they could have a chance of being brought to trial. There was a notable case in the County Meath, where some three or four individuals were arrested on the information of an informer, or rather informers, so infamous in character that Baron Dwyse, who heard the case, said that, in his view, they were the lowest type of human nature he had ever met, if even they could be said to possess human nature at all. In the County Mayo there had been a similar case—indeed, it was still going on; and he would ask what had been the conduct of the Crown with regard to the men who had been arrested, and who had been kept in durance and remanded, remanded and remanded again, on the evidence of an informer, which evidence had been spun out in order to keep the case alive, and, as a result, to keep these men in solitary confinement as long as it should suit the convenience of the Government so to do? They were not allowed to talk together, nor were they allowed to have what were to them luxuries—namely, tobacco and newspapers. When these men were first brought up, and on subsequent occasions, the bad French system was adopted of endeavouring to gain information, or rather to invent evidence, by

the method of treatment applied to the prisoners themselves. There could be no doubt that under the Prevention of Crime Act the man or men in custody might have been tried a month ago, if tried in the county of Dublin. Another matter of which he strongly complained was that in the case of one of the prisoners, P. W. Nally, a statement concerning him was carefully cut out of the newspapers and sent to his fellow-prisoners before those papers were allowed to reach them. He would not complain if these things were done with the country under Martial Law; if the country was teeming with crime, or if there was any evidence to show that there was any formidable conspiracy against the Government existing in the country. It was well known to everybody that agrarian crime was decreasing with great steadiness; a fact which was shown by the official statements issued from month to month; and yet these prosecutions were continued to be got up by the Government, or, as he feared, by the Government officials, whose only object was the making of large salaries and extra fees. The Votes were full of items which showed that the officials wished the Reign of Terror to continue. The Royal Irish Constabulary, because they thought it would secure rapid promotion, and the Resident Magistrates, because they knew that a collapse of the Reign of Terror would cause their offices to lapse and their salaries to cease, got up mere fishing investigations. It was, therefore, he thought, clear that it was by means of a patched-up prosecution of the kind to which he alluded that the Mayo prisoners were still kept in confinement, and that in Naas some 20 men were kept in gaol, on the evidence of a prostitute, for three or four months, there being no intention on the part of the Government to proceed with the prosecution. It was, to his mind, a curious thing that in cases where the Government actually did proceed they did so on the evidence of disreputable witnesses; and, as far as the case in King's County was concerned, these men were kept in prison on the unsupported testimony of an abandoned woman. The same state of things existed in the County Clare, where 20 or 30 men were kept in prison, and not brought to trial, on the information of a convict, who was himself undergoing a sentence

of penal servitude for life. In this county, however, there was an upright Judge on the Bench—he alluded to Mr. Justice Barry—and he refused an application made by the Crown for a lengthened postponement of the trial, and therefore the imprisonment would not, as in the case of the Mayo prisoners, extend for six months longer without trial. The Crown had refused to proceed with prosecutions at Assize after Assize, in the hope of inducing men to give evidence under the pressure of long spells of solitary confinement; and they had not failed to resort to all sorts of dodges to gain their ends. He was sure that the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary would not adopt or permit this system of the solitary confinement of unconvicted prisoners if he knew what it really meant; and he could not understand any man in the position of the right hon. Gentleman tolerating a system of the kind on the suggestion made to him by his underlings that it was in any way necessary in order to put down crime. Crime had, practically, ceased in the country in the form and to the extent in which it existed three years ago. In all countries where anything in the nature of civil war had arisen something in the nature also of an amnesty had followed when quiet had been restored; but it was not so in this case, although the country had, practically, returned to the paths of peace, as far as agrarian crime was concerned. In Sheffield, the Commission to inquire into the Trades' Union outrages, which were far more barbarous than any in Ireland, had full power to condone crime; and this had invariably been done there. There was no excuse for the course of proceedings which had been adopted by the Government; and he therefore claimed that the Estimates now put before the Committee were inflated Estimates, and were based on a system which, so long as it existed, would make it impossible for Ireland to return to a condition of peace and quiet.

MR. HARRINGTON said, he agreed with his hon. Friend (Mr. Healy) that it was the duty of the Crown in Ireland to do everything in its power for the repression of crime; and he maintained that it was also the duty of the Crown to do that in such a manner as to win respect on the part of the people for the law and its administration. But the

means by which the right hon. Gentleman had worked up the administration in Ireland, particularly during the last year, had done more to injure law and the administration of justice than any system which was ever introduced into any country of Europe. With respect to the murder at Loughrea, there was a man who was in gaol on the same charge, named Dilleen, and actually he was one of the witnesses employed by the Crown to bring home the case against these unfortunate men. They were arrested early in January last; they were remanded for eight days, and at the end of those eight days the Resident Magistrate had them before him in the office at Galway Gaol, where none of the friends of these unfortunate men were allowed to enter, and where there were no representatives of the Press present. In point of fact, a solicitor was the only person allowed by the courtesy of the Crown to be present. The men were put on their trial in that informal manner, and on the affidavit of a policeman that he expected shortly to have some further evidence they were again remanded. When they were next brought up the same formality was gone through, and they were remanded again; and so on until they had been remanded nine times, when they were eventually returned for trial on the evidence which had been adduced against them on the first day. He believed that that evidence was such as the Crown could not rely upon for bringing home guilt to either of the prisoners, and in no other country would it for a moment have been accepted as evidence which would justify a committal for trial. The case against M'Carthy was made out on the information of a man who had been a tenant of his for a small house in Loughrea. This man had, on several occasions, made himself obnoxious to M'Carthy, and M'Carthy's family; and, finally, it was found necessary to give him notice, and to evict him. This was immediately after the murder; and, knowing that this man had such evidence to give, was it likely that M'Carthy would have attempted to turn him out of his house? The story was one which ought to have plainly convinced the persons who got up the prosecution that it was a pure fabrication and a mere after-thought on the part of this man, who was really endeavouring to punish M'Carthy for

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having evicted him. There was another case of a somewhat similar nature, in connection with which a number of persons were imprisoned in Galway Gaol at the present moment. It was a case in which some seven or eight young men from the locality of Loughrea were arrested for a murder committed there about a year ago. He ventured to say that in the experience of hon. Members they never heard a more extraordinary story put forward by the Crown in justification of the arrest of any person than in the case of these men. They had acted entirely on the statement of an informer—one of those low-class informers, whom the Crown had so frequently to bring to its assistance in administering the law in Ireland. The allegation of the informer was that four or five of these young men, who were farmers' sons in the locality, joined and made common cause with a policeman who was engaged in protecting a bailiff in the locality, and finally committed the murder with the policeman and bailiff. The Crown not only arrested these six young men, but also the policeman; and at present the policeman and these farmers' sons, who were said to have allied themselves with him, were awaiting not their trial, but the pleasure of the Crown, to discharge them. In this case the statement of the informer was certainly directed, not against the policeman, but against these young men; and he had only introduced the name of the policeman into his statement because he believed that the policeman had gone to America. The name of the bailiff was also introduced, because he was also known to have gone to America. The difficulty the Crown had to contend with in this case was that if they found the men guilty they must also find the policeman guilty. The young men charged with this fearful murder were brought forward day after day in the office of the gaol, and were remanded time after time, until they had been remanded nine times in all—that was to say, that from the date of their first examination nine weeks elapsed, and the Crown had them put back each time, on the sworn oath of a policeman, that further evidence might be forthcoming. Up to the present moment, he believed that no further evidence had been forthcoming, and he was satisfied that none ever would be, because he believed the story of the in-

former, on the face of it, was so absurd and ridiculous that no persons, except those entrusted with the administration of justice in Ireland, would have acted upon it. He now came to the case of a man named Casey, lately in Tralee Gaol, charged with murder. This unfortunate man had been imprisoned on the statement of a little girl, 13 years of age, that on the day of the murder she had seen him in the locality where the crime was committed. It so happened that by some strange misfortune, young as she was in years, this girl did not go into Court with an irrefragable character. The Crown, for a period of 14 months, had been putting the prisoner off trial from Assize to Assize upon applications for adjournment, and they had now finally released him on bail, himself in £10, and two sureties in £5 each. On such information they had been able to remand this man for 14 months, in the vain hope that, in the end, they might have an opportunity of finding him guilty of murder. What were the means resorted to in order to find him guilty? During the time he was in Tralee Gaol he was brought up to the Assizes on two occasions; but the Crown failed to put him on his trial. One day, when he was imprisoned in Tralee Gaol, he was called upon to parade with other prisoners in the prison yard. The Sub-Inspector of the district went into the prison yard where this man and other prisoners were, accompanied by the Resident Magistrate and a low, ill-clothed tramp, who had been introduced evidently for the purpose of identifying the man. In going along the line of prisoners the Sub-Inspector preceded the tramp, and finally stopped at a point directly opposite this unfortunate man Casey. The would-be informer, following close up, stopped at the same place, laid his hand upon Casey, and said—"That is the man I saw murder Mr. Herbert." Now, if the informer had made that statement *bond fide*, why did not the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland put Casey upon his trial, and bring justice home to him? If, on the other hand, the statement of the informer was not correct, and there was no foundation for it, what was the defence of the right hon. and learned Gentleman for the employment of an infamous wretch of this kind to point out an innocent man as having

been guilty of murder? It had been alleged by his hon. Friend the Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) that in all the cases in which the Crown had found it necessary to bring prisoners to trial in Ireland during the past few years, they had been signally unfortunate in getting the assistance of the evidence of any respectable member of the community. It was a strange fact, and he should like to know how the Attorney General, or the Chief Secretary, accounted for it; but in all the cases which had been brought forward the Crown had never been able to get the evidence of a single witness whose character was unimpeachable. This subject was not now being drawn attention to for the first time in that House; but it had been the subject of comment from the Judicial Bench in Ireland, and not only the Press of the United Kingdom, but the Press all over the world, had expressed surprise that in the recent trials in Ireland the Crown had taken the evidence of the man who, above everybody else, was responsible for the barbarous crime which had been committed, and had made a compact with him in order to find guilty those who had been his dupes. The same tactics which the Crown had adopted in Dublin had been adopted in regard to several other cases in Ireland. Some time ago a murder was committed at Irishtown, near Mullingar, in the county of Westmeath. It was the murder of a young woman named Esther Croughan. At first, an attempt was made to show that the murder was of an agrarian character; but, subsequently, evidence proved that it had nothing agrarian about it. The Crown, for a long time, made an endeavour to bring some person to trial, and ultimately they succeeded. But who was the person employed as their chief witness, and what was his statement? His own statement was, that he was himself employed to commit the murder, and that he employed other persons who came forward at his instigation; that he placed a pistol in their hands; and that he believed they committed the murder. That was the man whom the Crown made a treaty with—the very man who, upon his own confession, was responsible, more than anyone else, for the crime which took place. He (Mr. Harrington) would read a portion of this man's evi-

dence, so that the Committee might form their own judgment with regard to it. It appeared that he had left the county of Westmeath for some time, and had been working in England, before the Crown, by some happy chance, lighted upon him, or before he found that the position of an informer in Ireland was becoming a very lucrative one. His statement was this—

“Previous to my going to England, I was working for the late John Croughan, who was brother of the murdered girl, for over seven years. I was working about the land and the stables. Anne, John, Esther, and the mother were the only persons then living there. Esther and her mother always joined us against John and Anne. There used to be frequent disputes against them. John Croughan died in October, 1881, and I did not work with the family after that. Some time after that I was digging potatoes in one of the fields belonging to the Croughan's, which crop of potatoes belonged to myself. Anne Croughan came to me on that occasion, and told me that she was put out of the house, and that she had got no food from her mother or sister. She then asked me could I get something done for her, and I told her I would see about it. When I asked her what she meant, she told me that she wanted her sister Essy done away with; and if I would do it, or get anyone else to do it, we would get money for it. I got 10s. subsequently from her by a messenger. After that I made appointments with certain persons to do away with Essy. The first I spoke to about it was a man from Irishtown, who said it would be well done, and that there would be plenty got to gain money on it. I also consulted two other men, one of whom said he would do it. I afterwards spoke to him on the subject, asking him would he go along with the other man to shoot Essy Croughan; he said he would. I mentioned to both of the parties about the money to be given, but not the amount, as Anne Croughan did not mention any amount to me; she said she would give me as much as she could get. Some time after I met these men in Mullingar, and I introduced the question of the shooting of Essy Croughan; one of them said he was ready, and proposed to do it at any time, and that he would do it soon; one of the others said he would go with him; the third said nothing at the time, but was listening to the conversation. A few days after, I saw my wife talking to Anne Croughan, who stopped that night with us, and for several subsequent nights; she asked me was I going to get anything done for her; or was I going to let it go by altogether? I said I was not; that I had spoken to men; and that they were satisfied to shoot Essy if she gave them money. She said she would give all the money she could get. A week before the murder, Anne Croughan came to my house, where she stopped for the night, and there was some conversation about the murder. She gave her reason for not stopping at home; that she would not like to be there, if possible, if anything occurred. Previous to this occurrence, a revolver was brought to me by a man who said he was told to bring it to me

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when he would have done with it. On the night before the murder, I met one of the men by chance near the railway station. He stopped a good while speaking about this affair. He told me that he would go in the morning and shoot her. On the day of the murder, I went into a public-house, where he gave a description of how it was done. He said—"Wasn't it well done?"—and I said it was."

He would ask hon. Members to consider whether, in any other country than Ireland, or under any other administration in the world, a man who, on his own showing, had planned a murder, and employed and paid the very persons who perpetrated it, would have been taken by the hand by the Crown, feasted by them in gaol, and thus employed to convict those whom he had led into the commission of crime? Even the learned Judge, when the case came before him for trial, commented upon the conduct of the prosecution in placing such a man in the witness-box to swear away the lives of others; and added, further, that he did not believe one word of his statement. He (Mr. Harrington) did not believe one word of his statement, or that any of the allegations contained in it were true; but what were they to say of the conduct of the Crown, who had placed him in the box to take away the lives of innocent men by perjury? No man in Ireland was more anxious than himself to put an end to the unfortunate state of crime which had existed there during the last few years; and, in his own humble way, he had done all he could, whenever he was travelling in Ireland, to endeavour to put down that state of crime. He had himself been a victim, and he had himself suffered the luxuries of a plank bed at the hands of the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary opposite; but, nevertheless, he challenged the Government to point to one word he had ever said, during the whole of the agitation in Ireland, that was calculated to encourage crime. Furthermore, he challenged them, although he had spent 12 months in gaol as a "suspect," under the administration of the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Bradford (Mr. W. E. Forster)—he challenged them to produce a single speech of his during the agitation in which he had not condemned crime and outrage. He came now to the case of another man, whose name was now pretty familiar to the House. As the case had been mentioned incidentally

in the House on various occasions, he would not trouble the Committee with full details, especially as he intended to go into them at length at a future time. The case he referred to was that of the unfortunate man, Myles Joyce. He did not propose to deal with the execution of Joyce at present; but he would simply draw the attention of the Committee to the manner of the trial. It was the theory of the law of England that a man, when he was put upon his trial, and had a jury of his fellow-countrymen to try him, should be tried by 12 of his peers. Let them see what was the practice in Ireland. This man was arrested, with a number of others, for an atrocious crime—the murder of an entire family in Maamtrasna, in the county of Galway. The murder was certainly of a most revolting character; and although three men paid the extreme penalty of the law for it, and four or five others were suffering penal servitude for life, he believed that the motives of the crime were shrouded in mystery. Indeed, it was difficult to define the motives, even at the present time, which prompted the murder at all. It was, however, quite evident that the murder was in no sense agrarian; and he thought that fact in itself tended to the condemnation of those who were administering the law in Ireland—namely, that in the case of a murder of this kind, a murder of a purely social character, they should have resorted to a mode of trial which they themselves said they found necessary in cases of agrarian murders, and of agrarian murders only. This unfortunate man and his fellow-prisoners were placed on their trial, not in their native county—not in the county where the murder was committed—but they were conveyed away from their homes for a distance of 200 miles, and brought up to Dublin, to be tried by a jury selected from a special jury panel. Hon. Members, who did not know much of the working of the law in Ireland, were often surprised that the law was not more respected in that country. All he could say was, that if they would study the working of the law in Ireland, instead of being surprised that the law was not respected, they would be surprised that the law was even so much obeyed as it was. Let them take the case of this unfortunate man, Myles Joyce. He was con-

veyed more than 200 miles from his home, and put upon his trial in Dublin. Not a single word of English was he able to speak; not a single word of his own language were the jury who tried him able to comprehend. The Judge, who tried him, was to him as much a foreigner as if he were a Turk trying the case in Constantinople. The very crier of the Court, and the counsel who represented him, were foreigners to him; and the whole trial, as far as he was concerned, was an empty show and a farce. As if to make the farce still more ludicrous, the very interpreter employed by the Crown to interpret the language of the Court to this unfortunate man was a policeman. Hon. Members asked why was not the law respected in Ireland; why did not the people assist in upholding the law and the administration of justice in Ireland? He would ask, in return, could any man of intelligence, or common sense, give his sanction to a system of law administered in such a manner as that in any country in the world? If this unfortunate man had had a foreign name, if he had been called Arabi, or Suleiman, his case would have drawn attention to it over and over again in the House of Commons. But, unfortunately, he had not lived in a climate sufficiently foreign to excite the philanthropic sympathy of hon. Gentlemen on the opposite side of the House. When that man was brought to trial—certainly, when he was arrested he was arrested on the evidence of two men, who stated that they left their house at night and tracked a party of men to the place where the murder was committed, and they gave his name as that of one of the men they recognized among the party. Previous to the day of the trial two other men who were charged became approvers, and gave evidence against the rest, the Crown, as the Crown always did in Ireland, closing with the informers. Now, this man had been conveyed more than 200 miles from his home. If he had been tried at home, in the very townland in which he had been born—he belonged to a class too poor and too humble to employ legal assistance; but when he was taken away from his home for a distance of 200 miles it was rendered absolutely impossible for him to bring up the witnesses who might be necessary for his defence. He

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(Mr. Harrington) knew perfectly well that the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland would say that the Crown, when it effected a change of venue in cases of this kind, would pay the expenses of witnesses; but any solicitor who had had to defend a prisoner in Ireland knew what trouble he was put to before he was able to obtain the cost of a single witness he might require upon a trial. Even if he got the expenses of the witnesses, he still had to bring them from their homes, and to keep them for two or three weeks, according to the pressure of business, at the place where the trial was held; and it was only on returning home and signing a requisition for the expenses incurred, that he could hope to receive some consideration for his outlay at the hands of the right hon. and learned Attorney General for Ireland. This man, being placed in this position, made an application, through his counsel, for the postponement of the trial. That application was, he thought, a very reasonable one, and such an application made in any country except Ireland would have been granted by the Judge, and would not have been opposed by the Law Officers of the Crown. The application was that, owing to the surprise created by the evidence of these men, who endeavoured to save their own lives by sacrificing those of others, it was necessary to go to the locality and examine the truth of the statements made, and, if necessary, to get witnesses to disprove them. When that application was made on behalf of the prisoners the Crown resisted it; and the Judge, as the Judges always did in Ireland, obeyed the direction of the Crown. What was the consequence? That unfortunate man, Myles Joyce, was tried by 12 men specially selected from a special jury panel—12 men actually packed for the trial, because the Crown, although they had a special jury panel, challenged 24 jurors before they succeeded in selecting a jury. The man so tried was found guilty, as also were the others, and they were subsequently executed. He would only say that two of the men found guilty with Myles Joyce, when they knew that they had no object themselves to gain, and that under Heaven they had no mercy to hope for, made a distinct and deliberate statement the day preceding their execution that they were

guilty, and that this man Myles Joyce was innocent. That statement was sent to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland; but the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland hanged the man. He knew the answer would be made, as it had already been made, that men who were wicked enough to commit such a crime would be wicked enough to make a false statement with regard to the murder. That allegation was made by the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland in that House, and he could only characterize it as the statement of cold-blooded officialism. It might be the belief of the right hon. and learned Gentleman; but his belief would not uphold government in Ireland, and it would not conduce to good government in that country. The people of Ireland, who were themselves interested in the administration of the law, and who wished to see their country happy and free from crime, declined to concur in it. He (Mr. Harrington) would assert that, so far from that statement being correct, the people of Ireland fully believed—the people in the locality in which the murder was committed fully believed, and he (Mr. Harrington), and many intelligent men with him, and many of the priesthood of Ireland also fully believed—that the man Joyce was foully done to death, and that perfect knowledge of his innocence was in the hands of the Lord Lieutenant. [*Cries of "Oh!" and "Order!"*]

THE CHAIRMAN: I do not know if the words of the hon. Gentleman reached me rightly; but I understood him to state that perfect knowledge of the innocence of the man was in the hands of the Lord Lieutenant. Are those the words which the hon. Gentleman used?

MR. HARRINGTON: I stated that perfect evidence of the innocence of Joyce was in the hands of the Lord Lieutenant, if he wished to examine it.

THE CHAIRMAN: I understood the hon. Gentleman to say "knowledge."

MR. HARRINGTON: No; "evidence."

MR. BULWER: The word used by the hon. Member was "knowledge."

MR. HARRINGTON continued: Well, materials for knowledge, if the Lord Lieutenant wished to make use of them. That was the way in which the law was administered in Ireland, and it was the manner in which it would always

be administered in regard to one class of people. And now let them see how the law was being administered by the Crown in regard to another class. Some time ago, in the county of Kerry, an agent of the Earl of Kenmare went with firearms to the farm of a tenant of that landlord, and, accompanied by the police, endeavoured to force his way into the man's farm for the purpose of opening a quarry to which he alleged he had a right of way. The tenant denied that any such right of way existed, and said that he had never given his permission for the exercise of it. At all events, it was a question of disputed title; but the agent of the Earl of Kenmare presented a loaded revolver at the breast of the unfortunate man, and forced his way into the farm, aided, abetted, and assisted by a policeman, who presented his rifle and tossed the tenant aside, after which they went and took possession of the quarry. Now, how did the Crown proceed in that case? Over and over again the Judges had commented on the manner in which unfortunate tenants who had been driven out of their homes had endeavoured, under shelter of the night, to gain possession of their dwellings, and the most severe sentences the law permitted to be passed were inflicted by the Irish Judges upon any unfortunate person who sought shelter from the inclemency of the weather in the only place in which he could obtain that shelter. But in the case of this man, who was bailiff of the Earl of Kenmare, Her Majesty's Chamberlain, because he happened to be the agent of that noble Lord—the Crown put him on his trial, it was true, the Resident Magistrate having returned both him and the policeman for trial; but the Attorney General sent down to the county of Kerry and asked the Crown prosecutor to withdraw the case. He would read to the Committee what occurred when the case was brought before Lord Justice Fitzgibbon, at Tralee, in March last—

"Mr. Moriarty, Q.C., applied to his Lordship for permission to send up a bill before the Grand Jury dealing with a charge of forcible entry and assault brought against Mr. Henry Doran, Lord Kenmare's agriculturist, and a sub-constable named Macallory, by a tenant farmer named Cornelius Casey, who resided on the Kenmare estate. His Lordship delivered a lengthened Charge to the Grand Jury, in which he reviewed the details of the case, and

ordered the jury that if they considered the case was one in which a criminal assault could be proved by the tenant Casey, it was their duty to send the case on for trial before the Court; but as the assault arose out of a quarrel which took place when Mr. Doran was trying to enter the lands forcibly, if they considered that the prosecution should be instituted as one of a disputed title before a Civil Court, their ignoring the bill would render the tenant Casey liable to an action for damages. All the same, even if it was a quarrel arising out of disputed title, the strong hand would not be exercised by anyone. With regard to Sub-Constable Macallory's case, it was for them to decide whether he was only doing his duty, or whether he outstepped it. The Grand Jury ignored the bill."

When the Grand Jury ignored the bill, one of the charges which, no doubt, the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary would be disposed to make against him (Mr. Harrington) was that a leading article appeared in his paper, asking why there was not some machinery put in force by the Crown to compel the Grand Jury in that case to find a bill, when it was so invariably put in force in other cases to compel Grand Juries to find bills? He was at that time a prisoner of the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary, and he was, therefore, not in a position to give his sanction to that article; but he did so now to the fullest extent. He believed that the article was a sensible and a rational one, and, with the exception of one sentence contained in it, which reflected on the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland, he fully concurred in it. But when the article appeared the representative of the Crown actually applied to the Judge for an indictment against himself and the paper, because he had drawn attention to the matter.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) asked who made the application?

MR. HARRINGTON said, the representative of the Crown, to whom he referred, was Mr. Atkinson; but he thought the right hon. and learned Gentleman was going to be very technical. Mr. Atkinson did not exactly make an application; but he drew the attention of the Court to the article, and said that, pending the decision of the Crown in the case, he would place himself in communication with the Attorney General, and he should not ask the Judge to proceed with it at present; but at the next Assizes he would be in a position to tell the Court what the Crown proposed to

do. He (Mr. Harrington) was afraid that he had troubled the Committee at too great length already; and he only wished to say, in conclusion, that he was as fully alive as the right hon. and learned Gentleman, or anyone else, to the importance of enforcing the law in Ireland, where the law required to be enforced; but he believed that the manner in which the law was being administered, and the manner in which it was being enforced in Ireland, tended more to demoralize the people of that country, to make them lawless, and to give them sympathy with crime, than anything previously practised in the country. Instead of making the law respected, instead of inducing those who were subjected to it to sanction, support, and sympathize with it, as was the case in every well-governed country in the world, the means resorted to by the Crown were alienating the people from the law, and compelling them to regard the officers entrusted with its administration not as the friends of justice, but the enemies of law, order, and good government in Ireland.

MR. O'SHEA said, he thought every hon. Member would have heard the declaration made by the hon. Gentleman who had just sat down, as to his desire that crime should be brought to justice in Ireland, with satisfaction; but he wished to call attention more particularly to what had fallen from the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy), with respect to the prosecutions which had recently taken place for conspiring in County Clare. There were two batches of men charged with conspiring—one from Crusheen, on the north side of the county, and on the borders of Galway; and the other from the extreme West, at Miltown Malbay. There was no Member of that House more anxious than he was to see murder, or any other crime, whether agrarian or not, severely and certainly punished in Ireland; but he thought that nothing tended less to the due administration of justice, and the implanting in the breasts of the Irish people a respect for law, than certain prosecutions which had lately taken place, and which had been called "fishing prosecutions." As long as there was straightforward evidence that was likely to bring home a crime to any malefactor, then, by all means, let every engine of the law be put in motion; but

Mr. Harrington

these "fishing prosecutions," these prosecutions in which a number of men were taken up, confined in different cells, and where every effort was made to induce one or another to give evidence, whether true or false, against the rest, in order to save his own skin, was really a system which, when made general, could not be too strongly condemned. A great many men who were determined to give every support in their power to law and order entertained a very strong opinion that this was a very bad system indeed. He wished the Committee to understand exactly what took place in regard to these two accusations of conspiring against two batches of men in County Clare. He would take the Crusheen case first. The men were arrested on the information of a convict, and brought to Ennis. The evidence of the informer was taken; but no reasonable evidence was brought forward to corroborate it. Nevertheless, the men were remanded over and over again, every obstacle was thrown in their way, so far as rebutting evidence was concerned; and the end of all of it was that, after the greatest excitement had been created in that part of the county, the Judge ordered them to be let out on bail, notwithstanding an application by the counsel of the Crown for a postponement of the trial until next Assizes. Then, what would happen? Why, naturally, that all the ill-disposed men in the neighbourhood would regard what had occurred as a triumph over law and order. He thought that circumstances of that kind ought to be taken into consideration by the Crown beforehand, and that they ought to feel that fishing investigations of this character were not likely to end in the punishment of the men who were charged. Fishing prosecutions, which were only undertaken on the off-chance of getting proof against a man, should certainly never be resorted to. The same kind of thing took place in the Miltown Malbay case, and the result was that the men were out on bail with the charges still hanging over them. He appealed to the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland to look into these cases; and if the facts were as he had stated them, then the prosecutions ought to be withdrawn immediately. There was one cruel circumstance which had been mentioned

in regard to these men—namely, that they were on the point of emigrating, and that they had actually taken their tickets. Could anything be more cruel than that, upon the chance of bringing the case to a favourable issue to the Crown, men who had already taken their passes for another land should be kept at home idling their time away, instead of being allowed to emigrate? He could not conceive anything more likely to drive men to the commission of crime than such a state of affairs; and he asked the Government seriously to consider if it would not be better to make up their minds and declare an amnesty against the persons who were the victims of these fishing prosecutions? Various cases had been brought forward by the hon. Gentleman who had spoken last (Mr. Harrington); but he would refer only to one of them—namely, the Maamtrasna murder. He would ask the Committee to reflect for a moment upon one of the statements which had been made by the hon. Member. He (Mr. O'Shea) had been present at one of these murder trials himself; but he could not say that it was that of Myles Joyce. The hon. Gentleman had, however, pointed out that that unfortunate man was a perfect stranger in the midst of a Court where no one understood him, and where he understood nobody, and where the interpreter employed was a policeman. He appealed to English Members whether it was right that a policeman should have occupied that capacity in such a case? He did not for a moment suppose that the arrangement was due to anything worse than want of reflection; but half the cruelty of the world was the outcome of want of reflection. It must have been a terrible thing for a man like Joyce to see that one whom he regarded as his natural enemy was the only person he could speak to. At the last Kilkenny Assizes, which was presided over by Baron Dowse, an informer who gave evidence was spoken of by the learned Judge in language that was seldom used in regard to a witness in a Court of Justice. The learned Judge told the jury that a more infamous specimen of humanity he had never seen than the man brought forward to sustain the prosecution. He (Mr. O'Shea) was of opinion that it was a great mistake on the part of the Crown to bring forward charges which they

could only support by the evidence of men who were described by the Judge in such terms. Many of these things seemed but small to the professional man engaged in securing a conviction; but they were things which sank deeply into the minds of the people.

MR. JOSEPH COWEN said, he had no desire to enter into a detailed discussion of the Vote under consideration. That would be done by the Irish Members themselves. But there was one point—which struck at the very springs of British justice, and in which English Members were as much, if not more, interested than the Irish—to which he wished to allude. The question had been referred to on previous occasions, but there had never been an adequate answer to it; and the present was the first, as it certainly was the fittest, opportunity for a full and adequate explanation respecting it. What he wished to say was this. When the Coercion Act now in operation was first submitted to the House, it contained provisions for certain trials being conducted by a Commission of Judges. The Irish Judges, however, greatly to their credit, refused to undertake the onerous and objectionable duties that the Government proposed to thrust upon them. In consequence of this refusal, the Ministry, at the end of the Bill, introduced new clauses which empowered the Attorney General to shift the trials from one end of the country to the other, and authorized him to jumble together the county and borough jurymen. In a word, to secure a verdict, he could change the scene of trial as well as the composition of the jury. The first Commission under this Act commenced its sittings in Dublin last autumn, and there were five cases set down for trial at it. For these trials there was a panel of 193 jurymen picked. Of this number, 112 were Protestants, 80 were Catholics, and one a Jew. The manner in which the jury panel was got was purely mechanical, and no objection was taken to it. The jurors themselves were selected from the panel by ballot, and this operation was also impartial. But, by some legal, arithmetical, political, or other legerdemain, it curiously happened that there was not a single Catholic juror allowed to serve on any of the five juries that were selected. This was a very extraordinary circumstance. It was a veri-

Mr. O'Shea

table Chinese puzzle. What he wished to learn from the Attorney General or the Irish Secretary was—how it came to pass that every Catholic was excluded, and that Protestants alone were allowed to act on these juries? Other cases of a like kind had occurred throughout the country. At Cork, where there were 200 jurymen summoned, 150 were Catholics and 50 were Protestants. By the same species of manipulation, however, 47 out of the 50 Protestants were required to serve on the juries, while only 35 out of the 150 Catholics were chosen. One of two things—either the Government had discovered a process by which they could draw Protestants from the ballot box at will, or they had packed the juries. There was no escape from this dilemma. They were either masters of some mystery, or they had broken what was supposed to be the letter, and certainly was the spirit of the law. The Irish Executive evidently felt that they had been guilty of procedure that they could not defend, because, when attention was called to the matter, they tried to evade it in a very paltry way. On the first two trials the names of the jurymen objected to were read out aloud in Court. *The Freeman's Journal* called attention to the exclusion of Catholics, and commented on it. At the next trials the names of the men objected to were not read out—only their numbers were called. This was done with a view of concealing the very dubious proceedings that the Irish Law Officers were guilty of. It had been asserted in that House that no man was disqualified in consequence of his religious opinions. According to Ministerial statements, it was the farthest thing from the thoughts of the Irish officials to exclude Catholics alone. This was the stereotyped answer. Jury-packing in olden times in Ireland was reduced to a fine art. It was done to perfection, and the manner of doing it was concealed. Every time the practice was referred to in the House of Commons, however, it was denied, although everybody knew it was resorted to. Hon. Members might recollect the case of Lord Fingall and the members of the Catholic Association. It was roundly denied that they were tried by a packed jury; and yet it was a fact that a list of the jurymen who did try them was afterwards found, in the handwriting of the Irish Secretary, in the posses-

sion of the Crown Prosecutor. Sir Robert Peel said, when they passed the Catholic Emancipation Act, that it was one thing to render Catholics eligible for political and judicial offices, but it was another thing to confer such offices upon them. He (Mr. Cowen) knew that spirit formerly animated the Irish Executive; but he had been led to believe that it had died out. He was certain of this—that the English people were averse to such religious distinctions being made. Conservatives and Liberals alike were opposed to it; and the only reason why it was tolerated in Ireland was because in this country people did not know of its existence. It was, nevertheless, a fact that—54 years after the passage of the Catholic Emancipation Act, and 14 years after the disestablishment of the Irish Church—the Irish Executive had so much distrust of Catholic jurymen that they would not allow them to take part in agrarian or political trials. Now, did the Government believe that by this species of exclusion they were likely to make the Catholics more loyal and more contented? If they did, they were greatly mistaken. Distrust beget distrust, and the distrust of the Catholics by the Government would lead to the distrust of the Government by the Catholics. It was a fact that, though nine-tenths of the people of Ireland were Catholics, as many as nineteen-twentieths of the magistracies and like offices were filled by Protestants. This was excused on the ground that the Catholics were usually poor, and otherwise unfit for such posts. But whatever disqualification there might be for filling the office of magistrate, the disqualification did not apply to filling the office of jurymen, because here was a case where Catholics were absolutely upon the jury panel, and yet they were prevented discharging the very duties that the Legislature had thrown upon them. He felt sure the Government—even from their own standpoint—were acting very unwisely in this matter. The indirect effects of the pure and impartial administration of law were much greater than the direct effects. Jurists and moral philosophers, from the time of Solon and Socrates to Paley and Jeremy Bentham, had all contended that it was better to allow an occasional criminal to escape than to create a distrust of the justice and impartiality of the

law in the minds of the community. Yet, here the largest portion of the Irish people were distrusted, and, by the action of the Executive, declared to be incapable of exercising the powers that by the Constitution they possessed. The moral teaching of the law ought to be such as not to alienate men's minds and sympathies from it, but to lead them to gravitate to it. The Government ought not to keep up the harassing prosecutions by which they were hunting the Irish peasantry to death, or, if not to death, at least engendering amongst them an undying hatred of the English rule. Other Governments in the case of civil wars had cried a truce. They had granted an amnesty after a certain measure of blood had been spilt; and surely the Irish Executive would do well to follow the example. There was another point he wished to call attention to. It was this—Nothing did more to excite popular odium against the Irish Executive than the system of secret inquiries that were conducted in Dublin by the police and the magistrates. One of the first requisites of a Court of Justice was that its proceedings should be public. It was the surest guarantee against corruption and cruelty. The Irish Government, however, persisted in shrouding all their preliminary inquiries in secrecy and mystery. There were two institutions in this world whose names always sent a thrill of horror through the popular imagination—the Star Chamber in England and the Bastille in France. Every feeling calculated to arouse indignation and excite animosity was stirred by the memory of these two hateful places. The Government might not be conscious of it; but it was a fact that the proceedings now being conducted in Dublin Castle were associating that building with the other two obnoxious institutions. The sooner they tried to shake themselves clear of that prejudice the better. Every Irish peasant at home, and every Irish emigrant abroad, looked upon the Castle with the same feelings of distrust and detestation that the French peasants in times past looked upon the Bastille in Paris. The Government would really serve their own ends better if they would at once proclaim martial law. Everybody knew that there were occasions in the history of the world when the safety of the State required that dictatorial power should be

vested in the hands of one man, or a small body of men. These men for a time wielded exceptional authority for the benefit of the community; but their action did not interfere with the ordinary law, or bring discredit upon the administration of justice. The Irish Executive had double powers. They had all the authority of the Dictator, and along with it they discredited the judicial institutions of the country. They created a feeling against the administration of justice, and against the English Ministry, that neither this generation nor the next would see die out. He knew they would not listen, or, if they did listen, they would not heed his counsel; but he was, nevertheless, satisfied that the future would show that what he was now saying was correct.

MR. O'KELLY said, he thought the hon. Gentleman the Member for Newcastle (Mr. Cowen) would appeal in vain for the secret of jury-packing in Ireland. It was a sort of Chinese puzzle; the secret lay with the Crown Prosecutors, who took care never to admit the public into their counsels. The evils which arose from the system of secret investigation were very great, and not confined to any particular Province. He had been obliged that day to call attention to the case of Mr. M'Hugh, which had arisen out of this system of fishing for crime. The right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, in his answer to the inquiry he had addressed to him on that subject, had denied certain statements contained in the Question. In so doing he admitted that the right hon. Gentleman had acted according to the best of his belief. The statement was that the man was arrested on the 22nd of June last, and then brought to the police barracks, where he was put into the Sub-Inspector's room with a stranger, who, addressing himself to the man M'Hugh, said—"We have evidence sufficient to convict you; but if you will surrender to justice the real author of the murder in this case you shall go to your home, and we shall do what we can for you." Mr. M'Hugh had written to him, and from what he knew of that man he believed his statement to be absolutely correct, that one of the curates of the district—Father O'Beirne—was sent for without any communication with him, and was introduced into his presence.

Mr. Joseph Cowen

M'Hugh said he believed the probable object of that on the part of the Government was to surprise any confidences that might take place between them; because some three years ago, when M'Hugh was arrested on the charge of murdering Mr. Young, this priest heard his confession in gaol. The man naturally assumed that the object of the Government, in bringing this priest into the room, was to surprise whatever little confidences might pass between the two men, so that they might be able to put the priest into the witness-box against M'Hugh. If anything worse than that happened in the Star Chamber he would like to know it. Did the right hon. Gentleman mean to say that there was the sworn evidence of Clarke the informer—Clarke the confessed murderer—against this man; was that the sworn evidence on which the right hon. Gentleman relied? Now, he wished to call the attention of the Committee to the way in which the law was administered in Ireland, and the story of the man M'Hugh was an excellent case in point to show with what vindictiveness and injustice the law was being used against individuals. Some three years ago this man was arrested with another man whose name he had forgotten. [An hon. MEMBER: Weldon.] He was charged on the evidence of a man named Clarke, an informer, with having murdered Mr. Young, a magistrate, who was very much respected, and was of an amiable character; the Government put him in prison, and kept him there for 18 months; after being remanded from time to time, he was put upon his trial and acquitted. He was acquitted on this evidence. Clarke confessed that he himself was one of the parties who plotted the murder of Mr. Young; he admitted that in the witness-box. When the case came to trial, a priest, a doctor of the town, and a policeman, came forward and swore that at the time the murder was committed M'Hugh was in the Castle-reagh Court House; he was acquitted, and disappeared from the scene for a little while until Mr. Forster's Coercion Act was put into operation, when he was put in prison and kept there for more than a year, although no crime had been committed in his locality, nor for miles around; he was one of the first men arrested on suspicion, and one of the last released from prison. On the 22nd

of June last he was again suddenly arrested upon the charge of conspiracy to murder. When it became apparent that the Government could not prove anything against him efforts were made to intimidate him to swear away the life of another person. During all the trial there was but one piece of conclusive evidence—there was evidence, of course, that a man had been killed; but it was never able to be proved that any human being had been a party to the murder. The man Clarke was known in the district to have a private grudge against Mr. Young; he was known to have threatened him. When Clarke came forward and attempted to swear away the life of this innocent man, the Government supported him; and when he failed to show that M'Hugh was a party to the conspiracy in which he (Clarke) admitted himself to have been engaged, the Government allowed him to go away, they took him under their protection, and in all probability had him in their pay still. The Government were using the power of the law to persecute M'Hugh, simply because he was distasteful to them. Those were the facts, and he thought Irish Members were entitled to some clear explanation of them, as well as an assurance that there would be something in the nature of a Statute of Limitations for the purpose of protecting this man from lifelong persecution on the evidence of a confessed murder.

MR. O'BRIEN said, he had been expecting some attempt on the part of the Attorney General for Ireland to reply to the series of damaging inferences and accusations brought forward by Irish Members, and to the still more damaging query raised by the hon. Member for Newcastle (Mr. Cowen). The whole system of Crown prosecutions in Ireland was so infamous that Irish Members could go on giving instances in point until morning, as bad as those which the Committee had listened to already. He said that the Government, by using this system, were responsible for all the crimes committed last winter in Ireland. The system created more crime than it punished, besides disgusting and disheartening anyone who desired to have respect for the law. What were the facts? From the early part of May, 1882, when the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Brad-

ford (Mr. Forster) left the country, the number of agrarian crimes in Ireland was diminishing by leaps and bounds—that was to say, during May, June, and July—and during those three months Earl Spencer did not try a single sort of repression—this peculiar system was not in force at all. There was the evidence of James Carey as to the state of things in July. He said that in that month he relinquished his connection with the "Invincible" Society, which was falling to pieces; its occupation was gone, the horror in the public mind caused by the Phoenix Park murder was unabated; and he ventured to say that if this system had not been put in force the murderous spirit which had developed since by its assistance would never have dared to raise its head. In August, however, Judge Lawson's Special Commission commenced, and so they had a new reign of violence in Ireland. Cases began to be handed over to juries, such as those described by the hon. Member for Newcastle (Mr. Cowen)—juries selected by the secret agent of the Conservative Association in Dublin—Mr. Walsh. [Colonel KING-HARMAN: I beg to deny that.] He took the denial for what it was worth. The Government, who knew better, had not denied it. There were scenes of scandalous foul play taking place on the Bench at the time he spoke of, in the selection of juries and in the jury room; and when the most eminent journalist in Ireland—the hon. Member for Carlow (Mr. Gray)—ventured to remonstrate mildly, and call for inquiry in his newspaper, he was thrust into prison with every circumstance of indecency and vindictiveness. Public opinion was thus driven from the surface, public indignation was smothered, and the expression by every means of lawful opinion was put an end to. The "Invincibles," of course, saw their chance, and began their work again. He asked, who was to blame for that cessation of improvement? In their hurry to hang murderers, by hook or crook, the Executive hanged men whom, as his hon. Friend said, the public sentiment in Ireland believed to that day to have been foully tried and unjustly condemned. What was the amount of credibility to be given to the informers' evidence? When they were in prison, policemen and spies were sent around to work on their weakness, and

get them to denounce one another; and, of course, the result was what might have been expected. It had gone on all the winter, and it was going on at the present moment; there had never been any attempt to deny it; the prisons were filled at that moment with men who for months had been awaiting trial, not because there was no evidence against them, but on the chance that before their trial they would be weakened, or suborned, or coerced into telling a story. It was almost flogging a dead horse to be denouncing these infamies when there had not been the slightest attempt to deny them. In dealing with this Vote he wished they could reduce it to the last farthing of its amount, because he believed the smallest coin of the Realm would be worth more than this system of criminal prosecution to the Irish people.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, he wished that some of the eloquent indignation which had been expressed by hon. Members opposite had been directed against the crime in Ireland which they all deplored, instead of against those who had been endeavouring, under circumstances of considerable difficulty, to vindicate the law and to punish crime. He was sure that if hon. Members would endeavour, whilst condemning crime and outrage, to give the law their sympathy and assistance, they would materially contribute to bring about the state of affairs they wished for. He had said that those concerned in the vindication of the law in Ireland had to deal with circumstances of very considerable difficulty, and he thought this was a proposition which was self-evident. Hon. Members opposite appeared to forget the crime which had existed in Ireland until recently. That crime had really been crime perpetrated by a secret and privy conspiracy. Outrage and crime had not been committed by assassins in the face of day. The outrages had not been committed in daylight in the presence of respectable witnesses; but gangs of men with blackened faces, or otherwise disguised, had gone about in the middle of the night destroying their victims, and, in some instances, leaving not a single human being behind to tell the tale of what had passed. If these men were to be convicted at all, they could hardly be expected to be brought to justice by the clergyman of the place,

Mr. O'Brien

or by the doctor, or by the magistrate, or by the landed gentry, or by the respectable farming classes, because these, as a rule, had not been the objects of attack, and, therefore, had no testimony to give on the subject. It was freely admitted that it was an unfortunate necessity, not peculiar to Irish law at all, but existing in other countries and other lands, that in cases of secret and privy crime recourse must be had to informers. He regretted that it was necessary in Ireland to obtain the assistance of such persons; and he would gladly have availed himself, had it been possible, of the assistance of persons not in any degree mixed up with crime. He regretted the necessity of having recourse to these men; but he, for one, could never consent to lay down a rule that, under no circumstances, could the assistance of persons, themselves implicated in crime, be used against their accomplices. One of the very circumstances which most strongly tended to produce a want of that confidence amongst secret conspirators which was necessary for the fulfilment of their fell designs was the possibility that, at some time or other, one of their number might turn against them. To that circumstance was largely due the success which had attended the vindication of the law in Ireland. He demurred to the statement which had been made by some hon. Members that in every case where convictions had been obtained they had been obtained on the evidence of informers. This had not been the case. There had been many cases in which such evidence had been used without conviction; there were many cases in which, although it had not been used at all, convictions had been obtained. Hon. Members had called attention to a great number of cases in which they complained of an abuse of the Criminal Law; and a complaint had also been made by the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) of the delay in bringing persons to trial. The hon. Gentleman had mentioned a number of instances. He (the Attorney General for Ireland) did not profess to recollect the facts of each and every one of those cases with minute accuracy; and if, in any respect, his memory turned out inaccurate, any error he might make was not intentional on his part. He found considerable difficulty in dealing with the cases which

the hon. Member had cited; because, in some instances, the prisoners had not yet been tried, and it would not be becoming and fair if he were, in the case of men untried, to express his opinion in relation to the evidence, either one way or the other. He, therefore, was under a restraint which hon. Members opposite had certainly not imposed upon themselves. It might be that some of the cases would result in acquittal. If the evidence was not strong enough to convict, he should be just as happy as any hon. Member opposite could be if an acquittal took place. He had no wish that there should be a conviction, either in the case of innocent persons, or in the case of insufficient evidence, and evidence on which it would not be reasonable to act. It was a matter for thankfulness to those concerned in public prosecutions to know that they had got a verdict from a jury in a case, and that the prisoner had got the benefit of the consideration of 12 of his countrymen. A verdict of acquittal was accepted just as loyally by the officers of the Crown as if the decision had been in the opposite direction. Reference had been made by the hon. Member for Monaghan to the case of the Mayo prisoners, in which, on the evidence of an informer, a number of men had been returned for trial; but the case had been postponed until the next Assizes. Hon. Members were, perhaps, not aware that when a prosecution was commenced, it was not possible, nor would it be right, to go on if the evidence was not complete. If they had complete, strong, and *prind facie* evidence, the case must be returned for trial. It often happened, even if a case had been returned for trial, that there still were threads of evidence which had not been followed up. Sometimes there turned up evidence on the eve of a trial; and in regard to the very case in respect of which the statement of the hon. Member for Monaghan was made—although he (the Attorney General for Ireland) was not in a position to express any opinion with regard to the evidence in that case—since the trial had been postponed very material and important evidence, which, in his opinion, ought to be submitted to a jury, had come to the knowledge of the authorities. He was sorry it was necessary to postpone criminal cases; but sometimes a postponement was very necessary. In all murder cases,

it was recognized by the law of the land that it was the right of the Crown to postpone a trial once without giving any reason. After that, it became the right of the prisoner to call upon the Crown to go on, and, if they failed to do so, to claim his discharge under the Habeas Corpus Act. He was sorry if any man had been detained in prison under circumstances in which he ought to have been liberated on bail. At the same time, it must be remembered that the Judges were absolutely independent, and were not under the control of those representing the Crown. They were absolutely independent, and could only be removed by means of an Address presented against them in both Houses of Parliament.

MR. O'KELLY: They are liable to promotion.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) said, he thought it was only necessary to say that the suggestion of the hon. Member for Roscommon (MR. O'Kelly) could hardly be intended to be taken seriously, for it could not be supposed that the conduct of the Judges would be affected by what a Crown Solicitor might think or do. As regarded the case of the Mayo prisoners, they were returned for trial not very long before the commencement of the Mayo Assizes. The cases were very complicated, and, as he had already said, additional important evidence had been procured since they were returned for trial. It appeared that the Crown authorities were charged with a slight inconsistency by hon. Gentlemen opposite. Hon. Members had insinuated that these applications for the postponement of trials had been made in consequence of a desire on the part of the Crown to prejudice the cases of the prisoners by having them tried before a particular Judge, and it was hinted that the Judge probably selected by the Crown to try the cases was Judge Murphy, the most recently appointed of the Judges. Now, as a matter of fact, it was Judge Murphy who postponed the cases, so that the trials would not take place hereafter before him. They were told, again, that these applications were made because persons profited by them. The Constabulary certainly did not profit by them, neither did the Crown Solicitors. The Crown Solicitors were paid by salaries, and they, there-

fore, did not profit to the extent of one farthing by a postponement. The witnesses certainly did not profit by postponements, neither did the counsel. The hon. Member for Monaghan had said that the Attorney General profited by them; but he (the Attorney General for Ireland) was willing, in the presence of the Committee, to have it decided whether he was likely to be a party to a proceeding whereby the imprisonment before trial of any person would be prolonged in order that a couple of guineas might go into his (the Attorney General for Ireland's) pocket. He asserted, with a full sense of his official responsibility, that, so far as he was aware, and so far as he could answer for the time of his Predecessor (Mr. Johnson), in no single instance had a postponement been asked for on the part of the Crown except for *bond fide* and real reasons. The hon. Member for Monaghan had referred to the Náas case. That was a case in which a policeman was murdered. A number of persons, undoubtedly, were concerned in that murder, and several prisoners were returned for trial, chiefly on the evidence of a young girl of the peasant class. He had considered the facts of the case, and had come to the conclusion that not one suggestion of personal impropriety against the girl's character had ever been proved. The Crusheen conspiracy and the Miltown Malbay case had also been referred to. In the Crusheen case there were two sets of persons arrested in different parts of the country. As regarded those arrested in Miltown Malbay, there was against them a very formidable case of conspiracy. The case, however, did not involve the actual commission of any individual outrage, although, undoubtedly, it was a most formidable case of conspiracy by persons who banded themselves together by an illegal oath for the purpose of committing outrages. When he came to read the information, he directed that the men should be discharged. The Crusheen case stood on a very different footing. There a dwelling-house had been attacked by a number of men armed to the teeth. The master of the cottage opened the door and fired in the dark in the direction of those who had fired at his house; and he (the Attorney General for Ireland) only wished that the example of that man were more generally

followed. One of the attacking party was shot in the back. He was immediately deserted by his comrades, was arrested, and was convicted of having taken part in the outrage. That man afterwards swore to the persons who were concerned with him in the attack on the house. [An hon. MEMBER: He was sent to penal servitude for life.] Of course he was sent into penal servitude, and why should he not be? He (the Attorney General for Ireland) presumed the man was still undergoing imprisonment. The man came forward, in the first instance, and mentioned the names of a number of persons who were with him on the occasion of the attack, and two persons of very respectable position gave evidence in the strongest degree confirmatory of the charge he had made, speaking to the very oath and the circumstances under which the conspirators were sworn in, and with reference to the general objects of the conspiracy. The man, however, afterwards went back on what he had sworn, and refused, ultimately, to appear as a witness at the trial. Under the circumstances, he (the Attorney General for Ireland) had no wish to go into the merits of the case with reference to the individuals who were still untried. The men had been sent for trial, and they were now out on bail. As to the result of the trial, he would say nothing; but he thought that if the men charged with the crime were guilty, it was highly important, in the interests of the public, that they should be convicted. A good deal of comment had been made with regard to another case—namely, that of John M'Carthy, who was now in prison on the charge of murdering Constable Linton while on duty in a street in Loughrea. It was quite true that other persons had been charged with the murder, and had been tried and acquitted. It was quite true, also, that two other persons were now on their trial with respect to the same murder. In regard to that case, however, it was necessary that the evidence should be complete, and there could be no hardship in adjourning the trial until the next Assizes. He assured the Committee that it was his most anxious desire to avoid any postponement which could by any possibility be avoided; and the case would, undoubtedly, be tried at the earliest possible moment.

MR. HARRINGTON said, there had been two postponements.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) thought the hon. Gentleman was in error on that point.

MR. HARRINGTON said, the magistrates remanded the prisoners from time to time until the Assizes were over.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) said, that, recollecting the kind of organizations with which the law had to contend in Ireland, it was not an unreasonable request that in this and several other cases the trials should be postponed. Another case was referred to by the hon. Member for Monaghan (MR. HEALY)—namely, that in which a number of persons were returned for trial in connection with the occurrence at Letterfract, in Galway. In that case, a number of persons went to the door of Lyton's house at about 8 o'clock in the evening, broke open the door, dragged Lyton and his son into the roadway, beat them, and fired shots at them, murdering them both. There were, undoubtedly, six or eight persons engaged in this outrage, although only one had been tried and had paid the penalty of his crime.

MR. HARRINGTON said, the man was not traced at all. The statement made at his trial was that he was at a wake at the time of the murder; and then his witnesses had been sent out of the country.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) said, that the statement that the man's witnesses had gone to America was not made at the trial. As a matter of fact, his witnesses were examined. There were half-a-dozen of them, and they swore that he was at the wake. The man's identity was proved by the dying declarations and the statement, sworn in his presence by the lad, who died within a fortnight, to have been present on the occasion, and to have murdered his father. As a matter of fact, a clearer case had never been submitted to a jury, and it was a case in which the prisoner very properly paid the penalty of his crime. It was not necessary for him to ask the Committee to come to a conclusion, one way or the other, as to this trial. The point was, that one person did not commit the crime alone, but that it was committed by a number of persons; and when posi-

tive and clear evidence was given of the complicity of several other persons in the crime, it was a matter demanding complete investigation, and it was receiving such complete investigation. If, in the case of persons now returned for trial, clear and plain evidence was not forthcoming, they would be acquitted. It had been said, more than once, that there ought to be a Statute of Limitation passed in respect of these crimes in Ireland.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR said, he heard the speech of his hon. Friend the Member for Monaghan (MR. HEALY), and certainly his hon. Friend did not recommend that a Statute of Limitation should be passed in reference to these crimes.

MR. O'KELLY said, that what his hon. Friend (MR. HEALY) had asked was that a Statute of Limitation should be passed with regard to the particular men who had been tried and acquitted.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) said, that in regard to crime of a purely political character he should be glad to pass an amnesty when the state of the country would permit of it. But he was not now dealing with political cases at all. He declined to accept the doctrine that midnight assassination, usually against persons who were absolutely unpolitical—against herds and poor peasants—was a political crime in any sense of the word. The hon. Member for Westmeath (MR. HARRINGTON) dwelt upon the case of the murder of the policeman, to which he (MR. PORTER) had already referred. There were several persons awaiting trial on that charge; and there was against them, undoubtedly, the evidence of an informer. That evidence was such as the Courts were accustomed to treat with great caution, and not to act upon except in so far as it was corroborated. The case in question, however, distinctly demanded investigation. There had also been mentioned the case of the murder in the vicinity of Loughrea. That was a terrible crime. A house was attacked at night, and amongst the assailants was a police-constable and a bailiff. The bailiff had escaped to America; but the constable had been returned for trial, along with a number of other persons.

MR. HARRINGTON asked how many remands had taken place; and whether, at the last remand, any additional evidence was brought forward?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, he was really unable to answer the question from memory. That was a matter which must rest with the magistrates. Of course, the Crown felt it their duty to apply for remands as long as there was a prospect of getting additional evidence. Witnesses had to be brought a considerable distance; and in this particular case the postponement had taken place with the consent of those who represented the prisoners. Again, reference had been made to the murder of Mr. Herbert in Kerry; and he (the Attorney General for Ireland) might say that in that case there was a clear and distinct charge against the man who had been returned for trial if the witnesses were to be believed. [*Ironical Home Rule cheers.*] Well, his experience was that a man of bad credit might tell the truth in a particular case; and it was quite possible that though a man was not a safe witness for a jury to rely upon, he might be telling the truth for all that, and it was the bounden duty of the police to investigate the case, and it was the bounden duty of the magistrate to return the man for trial. But when a case came before him (the Attorney General for Ireland) it was his duty, inasmuch as he should have felt if the man was convicted on the evidence of a doubtful witness that the conviction was very unsatisfactory—it was his duty to prevent the trial, and have the prisoner liberated. Under the circumstances, he did not permit the case to go on. Hon. Members said that the authorities ought to bring forward witnesses of unimpeachable character. Of course, they would do so if they could get such witnesses. But these murders were not planned and carried out upon persons of unimpeachable character. Reference had been made to the case of the persons charged with the murder at Mullingar. That case was tried before Baron Dowse at Kilkenny. The learned Judge formed an opinion, which he expressed in very strong language, as to the man Walsh, and he advised the jury to acquit him. He (the Attorney General for Ireland) could only say that with this advice he most heartily agreed. It was the duty of the Crown to act upon evidence which appeared sufficiently satisfactory and trustworthy; but in many cases they had no test of what was satisfactory and

trustworthy until the case was heard in Court, although there might be, in extreme cases, such tests as he had mentioned. The case he had just referred to went for trial upon the evidence of a man called Walsh, who, undoubtedly, on his own showing, was an accomplice. The police and the magistrate did their duty, and then the jury did theirs by refusing to convict, because the evidence was not satisfactory to them; but the remarks of the Judge on the character of the witness Walsh, made for the guidance of the jury, did not necessarily involve any condemnation of those who sent the case for trial. The hon. Member for Westmeath (Mr. Harrington) then referred to the case of the Maamtrasna murders. Of the details of that horrible crime the Committee had heard so much of late that he would not go into them again. The hon. Member particularly alluded to the execution of Myles Joyce, and he dwelt upon the circumstance that the prisoner did not speak English, and therefore did not understand the language in which the trial was conducted. The proceedings must necessarily take place in the English language; but the evidence, as the case went on, was interpreted into Irish. The objection which was now raised he had never heard put forward before. He could remind the hon. Member who had called attention to this matter that the policeman who interpreted was not one of those engaged in the investigation of the case. The officer was under the immediate control of the prisoner's attorney; and he had, no doubt, done his work faithfully and well, notwithstanding that differences of opinion had arisen as to the proper interpretation to be put upon certain words. When a horrible murder, such as that at Maamtrasna, occurred, they could not allow the man to escape trial on account of his being unacquainted with English; and anyone who was concerned in these trials, at which there had been Irish-speaking witnesses and Irish-speaking prisoners, would know that increased pains and care had been taken that nothing should be done to in any degree prejudice the prisoners. And he might say that an indictment was brought, on an occasion not very remote, in that House against the conduct of the trials in Dublin. The hon. Member who had brought the indict-

ment—he thought the hon. Member for Dungarvan (Mr. O'Donnell), who he did not now see in his place—had referred to the Maamtrasna case as one in which there had been no unfairness. The hon. Member was very much against what had taken place on the previous trials mentioned by the hon. Member for Newcastle (Mr. Cowen); but as to the Maamtrasna case, he was of opinion that it was the only one on which the public mind and conscience was satisfied as to its fairness. There was one part of the statement of the hon. Member opposite (Mr. Harrington) which he could not pass by without alluding to. The hon. Member had permitted himself to say that Myles Joyce had been “foully done to death by the Lord Lieutenant, who had evidence in his hands at the time to prove the man's innocence.” It would be hardly necessary to ask anybody but people blinded by prejudice—it certainly would not be necessary to ask the vast majority of Members of that House—to come to the conclusion that Lord Spencer, if he had not believed a man to be guilty, would not have allowed him to be executed. [Mr. BIGGAR: Oh, oh!] The hon. Member for Cavan was amongst those who made that charge. He did not know whether the hon. Member for Cavan believed it or not. [Mr. ARTHUR O'CONNOR: All Ireland believes it.] He did not know upon what these hon. Gentlemen founded their statement, for, on the evidence of those who attended the trial, he declared that a clearer or more conclusive case had never been proved in a Court of Justice against any man than that which had been proved against Myles Joyce. The man, with several others, had walked a long distance across fields to the house of his victims, for the purpose of assassinating a whole family—he had killed them all, except one, a boy, and he had left him behind, believing him to be dead. The assassins were watched, almost from the beginning to the end of the proceedings, by two persons, who gave evidence on the trial; moreover, some of the men implicated in the assassination had turned round and given evidence against the others. One of the principal witnesses who proved the presence of this man, Myles Joyce, amongst the gang of murderers in a walk of five miles across the fields and back, was his own cousin, a person who was also

related to him by marriage, and against whose veracity there could not be a shadow of suspicion. It was true that two of the prisoners had subsequently declared that Myles Joyce had not been a party to the assassination; but that was a statement to which the authorities could not for a moment attach weight, in the absence of any other ground to believe that the man had been unfairly convicted. That Myles Joyce was guilty of the murders they had upon the sworn evidence of those present at the time, one of them being his own cousin. However, he would not go more fully into this case, or ask the Committee to re-try it—he was only dealing with the charges that had been made against the Executive. The hon. Member for Westmeath (Mr. Harrington) had mentioned the case of the man Casey, complaining that whilst the Crown had prosecuted unnecessarily and convicted unfairly, in some instances, in this case they had unjustly refused to prosecute. In the case referred to—that of Casey—the farm was held by lease, Casey being the tenant, and Lord Kenmare the landlord. Casey had not produced the lease; but the fact, as it appeared in the information, was that for a period of 30 years Lord Kenmare, or his agents, had been in the habit of using the quarry in the tenant's field. On one occasion Mr. Doran going there, as had been his wont to do, found the gate locked. He sent at once for the police, who went to the spot; the gate was then pushed open by Mr. Doran. A statement had been made by one of the witnesses that Doran, the bailiff, drew a pistol when resisted by the man Casey; but there was no evidence on the part of the police that he had done such a thing. That was the entire case against Mr. Doran; there was nothing more than the assertion of a right which Lord Kenmare's agent claimed to have existed for 30 years which the man Casey was attempting to evade, and that right could have been demonstrated if the lease had been produced. It was obvious to anyone who knew anything about law that was the real point in dispute; and inasmuch as he (the Attorney General for Ireland) had come to the conclusion that it was a mere attempt to put the Criminal Law in motion for a purely civil purpose, he had refused to allow the case to go on.

A bill had been sent up to the Grand Jury, with the sanction of the learned Judge who presided, and the Grand Jury threw it out, and they were quite right in so doing. If in that one case, believing there was an attempt to use the Criminal Law for a civil purpose, he had refused the application of a tenant to proceed against a landlord or an agent, he had certainly on more than 20 occasions stopped proceedings by landlords against tenants where a similar attempt was being made.

MR. HARRINGTON: Has the right hon. and learned Gentleman stopped any such case which had been returned for trial?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER): Yes; many.

MR. PARNELL: Does the proportion the right hon. and learned Gentleman mentions bear any proportion to the respective applications to put in force the Criminal Law against tenants for civil purposes?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) said, he was not in a position to go into these figures at present. He said that; but, at the same time, he also said that he had never allowed himself to be swayed by any consideration as to whether an application was brought by a tenant or by a landlord. Whenever an action was brought in which seemed to him, either from motives of economy or from ill-will, it was desired to put the Criminal Law in motion for civil purposes, he had always stopped it, and he always should do so; and he believed his Predecessors had always done the same thing. As to the general administration of justice in Ireland, referred to by the hon. Member for Newcastle (MR. COWEN), and particularly with regard to the late trials in Dublin, it had been remarked that there had been an exceedingly small number of Catholics on the juries. He (the Attorney General for Ireland) had admitted that the small number of Catholics on the juries was a strange circumstance—[*Laughter from the Irish Members*]*—*but hon. Members who laughed must remember that last year, when he had the figures before him, he had gone exhaustively into this matter. Mention was made in particular of the earlier cases under the Prevention of Crime Act. It must not be forgotten that in each and every one of

these cases the prisoners had the right of challenge, and that they had the advice of persons who were perfectly competent to assist them in exercising that right, from the knowledge they had of the panels. Not in a single case had they exercised that right to the full extent; and that point had never yet been dealt with by Members of that House. He had pointed out that there was a rule which excluded from criminal juries a class of persons, who, no doubt, might be perfectly respectable, but whom it was not thought right to place upon the panel—namely, licensed vintners. That was an established rule, which had not been made by him, but by his Predecessors; but, at any rate, the instruction was positive that these persons should not be put upon the panel. These persons, who retailed spirits, were brought into contact more or less with persons engaged in criminal pursuits, and it was therefore supposed that their decisions would be partial. Anyone who knew Dublin knew perfectly well that this business of licensed vintners was very much more in the hands of Catholics than Protestants; he did not know the reason of it, but such was the fact. Let anybody take a jury list and examine it for himself, and he would see that the statement he (the Attorney General for Ireland) now made was perfectly accurate. It was also the fact that many of the farming class who had been actual sufferers under the conspiracies that had existed in the country were set aside for specific reasons. He did not say that some of those who were set aside might not have made very good jurors, and have returned very fair verdicts; but they were obliged to have jurymen who were altogether above suspicion—in the condition the country was in they were obliged to have jurymen who were above suspicion. The hon. Gentleman had made the same charge against many of the other trials that took place in Dublin recently, on which large numbers of Roman Catholics had been challenged by the prisoners themselves, though there was a desire on the part of the Crown to have Roman Catholics on the juries. In the last case the number was six Catholics against six Protestants—and, on the whole, he could say it had been the anxious desire of the Executive that no man should be excluded from the jury-box on account of his religion.

The Attorney General for Ireland

[“ Oh, oh ! ”] Well, he had taken every pains a man could take to ensure that result. He had been acting in concert with Roman Catholic colleagues throughout, and he appealed to everyone connected with them if it was not the most anxious desire on the part of the Crown—particularly on his own part, because he was charged here with being biassed in this matter—that there should be no distinction made on the ground of religion? Anyone who knew anything about him was perfectly aware that he had as many personal friends who were Roman Catholics as Protestants, and that he had no wish to give preference to one over the other. The hon. Member for Newcastle (Mr. Cowen) had referred to the process of secret investigation going on in Dublin Castle, and had asked how long was it to last, saying that it would be better to have Martial Law at once. He did not know what the hon. Member meant when he said—“ How long is this secret investigation at Dublin Castle to go on ? ”—he did not know to what the hon. Member referred, as he was not aware of any secret investigation going on. What he would say to the hon. Member was this—that so long as there was atrocities and horrible and disgraceful crime going abroad unpunished, so long as the law armed the Executive with modes of investigation and trial which were likely to prove efficacious in leading to the discoveries of outrage, so long would those powers be employed; and if it was necessary to proceed in the future as they had proceeded in the past, he would be prepared to do it without shrinking, as no doubt would his Successors as well as himself. The hon. Gentleman had said it was better that guilty men should escape than that innocent men should suffer, and he perfectly agreed in that view, and he challenged any fact that could be brought forward against the scrupulous fairness of the trials with which he had been connected. That was all he could do. He had always been actuated by a desire for fair play, and arriving at the justice of the case. It was in the firm vindication of the law that the absence of crime was to be looked for. The hon. Member for Mallow (Mr. O'Brien) had spoken of the remarkable diminution of crime that took place in the months immediately succeeding the Phoenix Park assassinations. The hon. Member had

quoted James Carey's remark in reference to that matter, and it was not the first time that the hon. Member had referred to Carey in terms of eulogy.

MR. O'BRIEN said, that if the Parliamentary vocabulary were a little enlarged, he would answer that with the retort it deserved. If it were repeated elsewhere, he would give it a very different answer to that which he was compelled to give it in that House.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) said, the hon. Member had written his desire to see James Carey lifted on men's shoulders to places where he would do them and the nation no discredit; he had said that Carey had no strength but in the deep heart of the people. He (the Attorney General for Ireland) did not mean to say that the hon. Member had eulogized James Carey after the fact of the man's complicity in the Phoenix Park murders had come to light; Carey was a man who was very jealous of his public reputation. He had stated that immediately after the 6th of May—at any rate, the inference of what he had stated was that immediately after the 6th of May he was drawn from the Invincible Organization, because he believed its end had been accomplished, and that it had nothing further to do; but the work of the Invincibles went on notwithstanding that James Carey withdrew from it. There was distinct proof that it went on on several subsequent occasions; but the increase of crime that went on until the murder trials in Dublin had almost ceased after the first conviction.

MR. O'BRIEN: Will the right hon. and learned Gentleman give the statistics of agrarian offences?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (MR. PORTER) said, that his right hon. Friend the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, no doubt, knew or possessed these statistics; but he himself had not got them. He had now dealt with the statements of hon. Members as far as he recollected them, with the exception of one by the hon. Member for Mallow, to the effect that the prosecutions that had been going on in Ireland were infamous. The Executive were strictly to vindicate the law, and he could not give any promise to the hon. Member that in the future there would be any deviation on the part of the Government for an anxious desire to bring

to justice those who were really guilty, and to acquit those who were really innocent.

MR. T. D. SULLIVAN said, the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland, in his long and able speech, had endeavoured to make things pleasant to the House of Commons. Was there ever a period in the history of the two countries when the Law Officers of the Crown were not found ready to take the same course when the Government of the country were challenged for misrule and wrong-doing? Whatever charges were brought against the Executive the Members of Her Majesty's Government in that House, and especially the Law Officers, at once came forward to show that Ireland was being ruled upon the most beneficent and just system it was possible for human ingenuity to devise. But when he looked back to the past, he knew that the verdict of history was of a far different character; and so it would be in the future. When the history of these times came to be written, notwithstanding the speeches of the Law Officers of the Crown in that House, the verdict would be the same as in the past—namely, that the people were misruled and oppressed, and that outrage and crime were the natural and inevitable consequences. Several of the statements of the right hon. Gentleman had struck him as not being very conclusive, and one of them in particular in reference to the case of Myles Joyce. The case of that unfortunate man was a very remarkable one. Let the right hon. and learned Gentleman say what he might, he (Mr. Sullivan) believed there was not an easy conscience about it in Dublin Castle. The right hon. and learned Gentleman said there was satisfactory evidence that this man, Myles Joyce, travelled five miles with the other men engaged in the murder in the dead of night. Now, he (Mr. Sullivan) believed that to be perfectly true; but what he was also convinced was perfectly true was that Myles Joyce had neither act nor part afterwards in the commission of that crime. It was quite possible for a man to go along with a party bent upon such a deed as that; but it was also possible that, repenting at the last hour, he might have had neither act nor part in it. In this case there was no evidence to show that Myles Joyce had anything to do with this

abominable deed. There might be evidence to show that he went along the road with the other men; but it was not clearly established that he was in the house, or that he took any part in the perpetration of that hideous crime. He (Mr. Sullivan) and his hon. Friends were not there pleading for immunity and protection for criminals against the consequences of crime. Nothing of the sort, and he hoped no such impression would go abroad. No men in the world had a greater interest in the preservation of peace in Ireland than the Irish people themselves. They desired to see Ireland peaceable and contented; they desired to see Ireland prosperous, virtuous, and happy; and what was driven into their hearts and souls was the conviction that she never could be so while the present system of government existed. [An Irish MEMBER: And they know it, too.] It had been complained in that House, over and over again, that the whole condition of the country was marred by the treatment the Irish people received. Everything was distorted; everything was set wrong; and it was not owing to England or to English law, but to the influence of the good Irishmen and the priesthood of Ireland that the country was not in a much sadder condition. Irish people were trying to make headway, as they had been for long years, against the evil influences which were acting upon them, and which came from England. It was complained that the name of the law was not revered and respected in Ireland. How could it be? When was it worthy of respect? Was it worthy of respect to-day? Nothing of the sort; the Irish people fully believed, for good reasons, that the law which was administered in Ireland to-day, although it might be called law, in very many cases could not be called justice. The law had persecuted the Irish people; the law had hunted them; the law had ground them down; it had destroyed their trade, their commerce, their Parliament, and everything they had worth keeping; and the wonder was that there was still in Ireland a people possessed of so much virtue as the Irish. The Irish people had no confidence in English law; they had no confidence in their Judges, no confidence in their juries, and there was neither regard nor affection for the Stipendiary Magistrates or the Consta-

bulary. Why should there be? The Crown was now on the rampage in Ireland, and was carrying things with a very high hand. The Crown determined that men should be convicted and punished. Some of them might be guilty, but some were innocent—and he believed many of them were innocent—but, however that was, the Crown must have them convicted. That was the state of the case. He protested against the idea that in Ireland they desired to shelter any criminal from the consequences of crime. They grieved over the horrible outrages which had taken place in the country. It was the hearts of Irish people that were wounded more than those of Englishmen. To them the character of their country was dear; but it was not so to this country, which had been defaming them for centuries, and which would continue to defame them to the end of the earth, spreading its lies and calumnies against them. There was a country of many sufferings and sorrows, and so it would continue to be as long as the iron hand and cold heart of England were the rulers of Ireland. Some day England would have to give up this brutal experiment, which had been tried so long, and which before God and man had proved such a hideous failure. His fear was that before they gave up their misrule of Ireland, England would have spoilt the people, and that when an Irish Parliament came to rule them it would find that its task had been made a hard one.

MR. BIGGAR wished to say a few words in regard to the Vote itself, and the administration of what passed for justice in Ireland. In reference to the question of economy, there was one thing which struck him very much in connection with criminal prosecutions in Ireland—namely, the system of throwing away extravagant sums of money upon lawyers. In the criminal prosecutions in Dublin it was quite common for four or five counsel to be engaged in a single case, although the prosecution itself was carried on by one or two of them. No doubt, legal gentlemen of Dublin looked upon that as a very good joke; and so it was from their point of view, although it was anything but a joke to the ratepayers. The practice was to engage four or five counsel, and to get the work done by one or two,

so that the others had a snug sinecure. Not only did these counsel get complimentary briefs, but all the expense of preparing the briefs, and so on, went into the pocket of the solicitor who was charged with the conduct of the prosecutions. There was another matter which had come under his own personal notice—namely, the system of sending down a Queen's Counsel, with a special fee, to conduct cases before the magistrates. He considered a practice of that kind wholly unnecessary, especially when it was a well-known fact that it was arranged beforehand what the decision should be. It would, therefore, be the easiest thing in the world to go through the formality of having the case conducted by an ordinary local solicitor, who for a few shillings would do all that was required, instead of sending down a special counsel from Dublin, whose fee amounted to a larger number of pounds than the shillings that would be necessary if the ordinary rule were followed. He was personally acquainted with instances of that kind in cases heard before the Mayor of Wexford, and also before the Mayor of Waterford. Seeing that in Dublin the Government could always have a jury carefully packed, and secure as many convictions as they liked, it was preposterous, he thought, to hire high-priced counsel, and a much larger number of them than was really required by the merits of the case. He had heard part of the speech of the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland upon this Vote, and there were one or two passages in that speech which had struck him as rather peculiar, and which he desired to point out to the Committee. It seemed to him extraordinary that the Attorney General should protest with such vehemence against the existence of such a thing as jury-packing. Why, the fact was so notorious that it scarcely required even to be stated. Everybody in Ireland knew that the packing of juries was carried on in that country in the most wholesale and barefaced manner. His own opinion was, that such a thing as an honest jury in criminal prosecutions in Dublin did not exist. These juries were selected for a particular purpose, and they made up their minds before they went into the docks to find a verdict of guilty, whether the evidence was slight or overwhelming, and thus to

carry out the arrangement under which they were selected by the Crown. There was another matter to which attention had been drawn by the Attorney General—namely, the postponement of trials. Applications were frequently made for postponement on behalf of prisoners, and also by the Crown, in the interests of the Crown, and the invariable custom was for the Court to decide as the Crown wished. If an application for postponement was made on behalf of the prisoner, and the Crown objected, the postponement was not allowed; but if, on the other hand, the Crown made any objection, as a matter of course the postponement was allowed. Again, when the Crown applied for a postponement it invariably got it at once, no matter what might be the case set up. He would not inquire into the motives by which these decisions were guided, because different motives would actuate different Judges; but he did know that a good many of the minor appointments in connection with the Law Courts in Dublin, and the administration of justice, were given away to the relatives and connections of the Judges. Nepotism ran rampant in the Law Courts of Dublin; and it was beyond doubt that the Irish Judges did distribute their favours in such a way that the small game, at any rate, found its way to their own relations and friends. He believed there were some honourable exceptions on the Irish Bench. He did not mean to insinuate that all were similarly tainted. As far as he could form an opinion, there were honourable men on the Irish Bench; but, on the other hand, he believed that a certain portion of the Judges were perfectly untrustworthy, and that they had no disposition to do justice to the prisoners who came up for trial before them. Reference had been made to some of the cases which had been recently tried in Ireland, and notice had been taken of the case of Myles Joyce, who was hanged at Galway. It was well known that two of the persons who were hanged for that offence acknowledged the day before the execution that they were guilty; but they declared, at the same time, that Myles Joyce was innocent. As had been pointed out, these men had no inducement to speak untruthfully in regard to Joyce; and he thought that in a case of that sort, where a prisoner

had been condemned to death, and where representations of his innocence were made to the Crown, the Crown was bound to give the prisoner the benefit of the doubt, and, at any rate, to allow his life to be spared, so that further evidence might be called for afterwards, in order to make the matter conclusive one way or the other. But it suited the exigencies of the Government at that time to have a large number of executions, and that was the real cause why this particular execution was allowed to take place. The object of the Executive was not to find out who was guilty, but how to obtain convictions on account of the revelations which had just been made in connection with the Phoenix Park murders. In his belief, those murders were a national calamity; and he had never heard any politician of the Irish National Party who did not express an opinion that the Phoenix Park murders were aimed more against the interests of the agitation with which they were connected, than against the English Government. Notwithstanding, there was a great outcry got up in this country, and Her Majesty's Government thought they could make political capital by securing a large number of convictions. They, therefore, pursued this system, and hanged every person convicted, whether the evidence was conclusive or not. In the case of young Walsh, who was tried for shooting a policeman at Letterfrack, he (Mr. Biggar) had himself heard the evidence against the prisoner, and he was prepared to say that it was of the most frivolous nature. One part of it was that the mud on Walsh's stockings and shoes was of a similar character to the mud in the street where the murder took place. Everyone knew that this young man was in the habit of going down that street day after day, and naturally the mud on his boots would be of a similar kind to that of the street in which the murder took place; but, although that was the strongest evidence against Walsh, the man was convicted by a packed jury, and was within an ace of being hanged. His brother was hanged, although, in his (Mr. Biggar's) opinion, his innocence was clearly proved, because it was shown that he was elsewhere at the time the murder was committed. The only pretence for a case against the man was a juggle about the different clocks

Mr. Biggar

of the district. Although it was perfectly certain that not one of the clocks in the whole of the locality was accurate, the Crown tried to show that it was possible that the man could have been at two places at the same time, although they were a considerable distance apart; and they sought to establish it by saying that one or two of the clocks in the country villages round about were right, and all the others were incorrect. It was upon such evidence that the man was hanged, although he declared his perfect innocence of the crime with which he was charged. Then, they had the case of Francis Hynes. There was no evidence against Hynes at all. The only person who said anything against him was the man who was shot, and his evidence was of anything but a conclusive nature. The statement made by him was made to a priest, who was attempting to hear his confession at a time when he was in *articulus mortis*, and could really make no statement whatever upon which reliance could be placed. No doubt, the man did mutter the name of Francis Hynes; but what was passing through the unfortunate man's mind at the time it was impossible to say, and certainly there was not sufficient evidence to convict the prisoner of the crime. In addition to this fact, a gross irregularity took place in regard to the jury which tried Francis Hynes. There could not be the slightest doubt that the jury were playing billiards and drinking at the Imperial Hotel during the time the trial was taking place; and he thought that ought to have been held absolutely fatal to the prosecution. What the Judge should have done was to have quashed the indictment, and put Hynes on his trial before another jury. But, in spite of all the facts laid before the Lord Lieutenant, Lord Spencer had Francis Hynes hanged, and this showed that the Lord Lieutenant was not so much engaged in administering justice as in the endeavour to make political capital out of these unfortunate murders. The informer, James Carey, had been held up to very great odium. Now, he (Mr. Biggar) had never had the pleasure of knowing that gentleman personally, and he had never said anything in his favour. He was disposed, however, now that he had an opportunity of doing so, to express the opinion that James Carey was

a rather ill-used man. No doubt, Carey was a blackguard for betraying his comrades; but it must be borne in mind that he was placed under great pressure. Carey turned informer for two reasons—first of all, he did so to save his own life; and, secondly, because he was led to understand that somebody else was going to give evidence against him, and he preferred to be the betrayer rather than the betrayed. Certainly, it was not a very high motive Carey had; but he (Mr. Biggar) contended that the motives of Carey were infinitely superior to those of the men who made use of Carey. The Lord Lieutenant, the Attorney General for Ireland, and the Chief Secretary, and, indeed, everybody connected with the Irish Government, used Carey in order to make political capital out of him. Bad as Carey was, the Irish Government were worse for making use of a man of Carey's stamp, because they used as a witness before packed juries a man whom they knew to be of the most despicable character. Not only did the Government make use of Carey to give evidence before juries whom they had packed, in order to ensure convictions whether the evidence was trustworthy or not; but he would go further and say that the men who were tried for the Phoenix Park murders were convicted by dishonest evidence, and he would tell the Committee why. The evidence of some of the witnesses was that they saw four men drive rapidly by upon an outside car whom they had never seen before, and whom they never saw again until 12 months afterwards. Nevertheless, they identified the whole of the men who were on that car. He contended that it was perfectly impossible, under such circumstances, in a large city like Dublin, to identify men whom the witnesses had never seen before, and whom they did not see again for 12 months. He, therefore, thought he was justified in saying that a jury which would convict on evidence of that sort was not disposed to act honestly. His own personal opinion was that the jury which tried these cases—including Mr. Field—were all of them guilty of deliberate perjury. They were put forward as men who had displayed great courage; whereas, in point of fact, they were acting in their own interest. They were men selected from a class who were under

police protection, and who were deriving benefit from the system of coercion adopted by the Government. He concurred that the present system was most dangerous to the administration of what passed for justice, and that it ought to be discouraged by all honest men, and especially by the House of Commons. Before he sat down he wished to refer to a case which took place last Assizes—a case in which a number of men connected with his own constituency in the county of Cavan were brought up and put on their trial at the Belfast Assizes. They were tried by Judge Harrison, a Conservative Judge, who told the jury, after hearing the evidence, that there was no case whatever against the prisoners. Nevertheless, the jury convicted them all the same. The jury had been carefully packed. He believed that Judge Harrison was no party to the packing of the jury; but it had been packed by persons who represented the Crown, and this packed jury found the prisoners guilty, notwithstanding the direction of the learned Judge that there was no case against them. This case strongly showed that the object of the Crown was not to obtain justice, but to secure convictions. If they could get a conviction by honest means they were prepared to accept it; but rather than not obtain a conviction they were prepared to give enormous bribes to dishonest witnesses, and then to pack the jury in order to obtain a verdict. It was absurd to talk of even-handed justice between the farmer class and the landlord class. Let them take into consideration what occurred at Ballina. He should like to know if equal justice had been done in regard to the murders committed by the police at Ballina as it would have been done if the accused persons had belonged to the farmer class? If the murders had been committed by the people the prisoners would have been put upon their trial and hanged. But instead of taking that course in regard to the police, the Attorney General took good care that they were allowed to go scot-free. He believed that a similar course had been taken in regard to the Wexford case, the police having been “whitewashed,” and no prosecution having taken place at all. It was the same at Ballyragget, in the county of Kilkenny, where an agent of Lord Kenmare, who was proved to have presented a pistol at a man’s head and to

have committed a breach of the Arms Act, was released without a prosecution. If, instead of being the representative of Lord Kenmare, who was a Member of the so-called Liberal Government, he had been a tenant farmer, he would have been in penal servitude at the present moment, and the Government would not have been so hard to satisfy about the evidence. In this case the evidence was perfectly clear. The man was seen with a pistol in his hand presenting it at the breast of the prosecutor; but because the policeman said he had not seen the act committed, the Attorney General took the part of this creature of Lord Kenmare, this so-called Liberal Catholic Member of Her Majesty’s Government, and no prosecution took place. In another case which occurred in the county of Kerry, certain innocent men were arrested because a woman, who was called at the inquest and denied strongly that the prisoners who were charged had committed the murder, when she had a prospect of a reward placed before her eyes, afterwards entirely changed her evidence, and said they were the murderers—upon which contradictory evidence the men were hanged. Under such circumstances, he could not consent to a Vote for Law and Justice as it was now administered in Ireland, and he thought that the Vote ought to be struck out of the Estimates altogether.

Mr. MAYNE said, the hon. Member for Newcastle (Mr. Cowen) had demanded of the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland an explanation of the extraordinary circumstances connected with the recent trials in Dublin, in which there were unmistakable proofs of jury-packing. The hon. Member had received from the right hon. and learned Gentleman the usual answer, or perhaps what might be more properly described the usual answer with a slight difference. The right hon. and learned Gentleman explained that he was not aware of what the religion or politics of any of the persons summoned upon the jury were.

Notice taken, that 40 Members were not present; Committee counted, and 40 Members being found present,

Mr. MAYNE continued. The Attorney General for Ireland had stated that he would be no party to any such proceeding as the packing of a jury.

Mr. Biggar

either in Dublin or elsewhere. The right hon. and learned Gentleman said, in another part of his speech, that some of the crimes alluded to were committed by men with blackened faces. The connection between the two statements was peculiar, and he (Mr. Mayne) scarcely knew what argument the right hon. and learned Gentleman endeavoured to build up upon that fact, unless it was this—the crimes were committed by persons who had blackened their faces, and, therefore, some sort of manipulation was necessary in connection with the jury before whom the criminals were put upon their trial. The natural inference, therefore, was that a jury ought to be selected that might be easily satisfied with the evidence as to identification adduced on behalf of the Crown. There appeared to be no other explanation of the two statements of the Attorney General. The right hon. and learned Gentleman also stated that he was unaware that any juror had ever been struck off from serving on account of his religion or politics. It was not necessary, and he could very well understand why, that Her Majesty's Attorney General for Ireland should be aware of the religion or politics of anybody upon the jury panel; but there were officials under him to manage the business who knew very well. Even if those officials did not feel quite certain about it, special steps were taken to obtain the knowledge from the Conservative Club in Dublin, who had persons connected with them who knew the religion and politics of every man on the rate book; and as the jury panel was made from the rate book, therefore, the religion and politics of every man on the jury panel in Dublin were known. Consequently, when a selection was made by the officials to whom he referred, it could be very easily understood what the grounds were on which they made their selection; but, without any proof at all, the selection absolutely made afforded sufficient evidence of itself. In a city like Dublin, where the vast majority of the inhabitants and a large majority of the gentlemen on the jury panel were Roman Catholics, the fact that a jury panel to try special cases must contain the name of Roman Catholics was a fact which required no explanation. Dublin jurors were more interested than, perhaps, any other body of jurors in the country in the adminis-

tration of justice, not only in Dublin, but all over the country, and in the preservation of law and order. Their interests, financially and otherwise, extended all over Ireland, and they could have no possible sympathy with crime in any part of the country. Therefore, if criminals against whom satisfactory evidence could be produced were brought before any section of Dublin jurors, no matter what their politics or religion might be, he believed there would be no difficulty in obtaining verdicts if the evidence was satisfactory. It had been a matter of great surprise to find that Roman Catholics had been excluded from the jury panel in the late Dublin trial; and although an explanation had been repeatedly asked for, it had never yet been given. There had been a kind of explanation given by the Attorney General—namely, that Roman Catholic jurors had been set aside not exactly because they were Roman Catholics, but because a large majority of the retail licences in Dublin were held by Roman Catholics, and it became necessary to be very particular in the selection of jurors on that account—in order that persons holding these retail spirit licences should not find their way into the jury box. Now, did the right hon. and learned Gentleman mean to assert that all the Roman Catholic jurors in Dublin were retail grocers; or did he argue on this line—that because the majority of the people dealing in spirits with retail licences happened to be Roman Catholics, that, therefore, all Roman Catholics ought to be kept out of the jury-box? That was the only explanation given by the right hon. and learned Gentleman to the inquiry made of him by the hon. Member for Newcastle (Mr. Cowen); and he (Mr. Mayne) certainly submitted that the matter still required some further explanation. The answer of the right hon. and learned Gentleman could not be accepted as a satisfactory reply to the very important question put by the hon. Member for Newcastle. That there was some truth in it was shown by the fact that in the first series of trials, when the juries were manipulated in this manner, the principal newspaper in Ireland alluded, in a strong manner, to the peculiar tactics which were being pursued in Green Street, and, instead of giving an explanation of any kind—retail licence or otherwise—the proprie-

tor of the paper was arrested and put into Richmond Gaol. If a satisfactory explanation could have been given, surely that was a desirable time to have given it, in order to have quieted the angry feeling then growing up against a manipulation of the jury panel which had started into life again, although it was considered to be dead and gone for ever in Ireland. The result of all this was that, perhaps, the greatest misfortune which had been produced out of all their recent troubles in Ireland—namely, want of confidence and want of respect for the administration of the Criminal Law in Ireland had sprung up—that want of confidence and respect so ably and so fitly deplored by Lord O'Hagan when he introduced his Juries Act. The recent improper and unfair administration of the law had certainly given the Juries Act its quietus, and all the maladministration much condemned in bygone years had come to the surface again. Indeed, at no time, for a long series of years, had the want of confidence in the due administration of criminal justice in Ireland been so pronounced as it was at present. He was able to make that statement with some sort of authority. He resided in Dublin, and carried on his business there, and he mixed with almost all grades of the population. If Lord O'Hagan would introduce any other measure now to put an end to the present state of feeling that existed, as it did when he introduced his Juries Act, he might repeat almost word for word the speech he made in introducing that Act. At no time had there been a more thorough want of confidence in the administration of criminal justice than that which existed at the present moment; and it would be most unfortunate if someone did not step in now to restore confidence. Describing the manipulation of jury panels in recent times as jury-packing, was describing it by the name by which it was known in old times; but it would be better if some more appropriate name could be invented. Jury-packing was done quietly in an office before the jury were summoned. Lord O'Hagan's Act had rendered it impossible for that procedure to be persevered in any longer; and the result was that a new and ingenious method had been adopted. In a recent Act of Parliament ample provision was made for summoning a suffi-

cient number of jurors to attend in certain cases, and those jurors must be of a special kind, and, according to recent experience, of a very special kind. When a jury was formed in accordance with the provisions of Lord O'Hagan's Act, they were taken in rotation alphabetically, so that it was impossible at that stage to exclude a Roman Catholic, or an advanced Liberal, or persons who had retail licences. Later on, there was another provision in that Act which was intended to put beyond all doubt the impartiality of any jury that might be called to try a case. The name of every one of the 200 jurors had to be written on a separate slip of card, all the slips being of the same size and pattern. These slips were placed in a ballot-box, and drawn out in the presence of the full Court and the public. They were called out one by one; and, generally speaking, any man put on his trial for any crime might feel quite easy in his mind that the first 12 taken out, being so mixed up, would, at all events, be perfectly impartial; but the Crown had, in certain cases, an unlimited discretion as to ordering jurors to stand aside. A Crown official could reject those whom he would not permit to serve by ordering them to stand by, and then he could allow those who were opposed in religion, in politics, and in every other interest to the prisoner, to serve. The right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland had that evening said the prisoner might challenge any jurors he pleased; but what was the use of a prisoner doing that? He could not challenge 200, or 100, or even 50; but the right hon. and learned Gentleman's under-strapper could order the whole 200 to stand by if he chose. A prisoner would be a fool to challenge jurors; it would be far better for him to take his chance, because if he did challenge them the under-strapper of the Government could still get the 12 he wished to have all the same. Was all this necessary? The right hon. and learned Gentleman had sufficient acquaintance with and experience of juries, special and otherwise, in Dublin, to justify the question whether all this was necessary in Dublin? Did he believe that if any jury were taken, even almost at random in Dublin, composed of men of any religion or politics whatever, or even of persons holding retail licences, and

that satisfactory evidence was put before them, they would find a verdict which was contrary to the facts, or to what the law and justice of the case demanded? His justification, if it might be called one, about licensed victuallers, did not hold with the persistent putting off of Thomas Leech, of Dame Street, for he was not a licensed victualler, and not even a Roman Catholic. He was one of the religious community known as the Moravian Brethren; and he was not dependent upon any class of the public, for he was a man of considerable wealth. Why was he put off? Was it because he was a conscientious man who would require to be satisfied of the guilt of the prisoners? If the prisoners were men with blackened faces, there might be some reason for keeping Mr. Leech off the jury; but the cases in Dublin were not cases of that kind. They were, in the majority of cases, persons against whom evidence seemed to be fairly clear, and in regard to which an ordinary jury could be trusted. But suppose they could not be trusted, would it not have been better that the men might have got off, and the Jury Law passed by Parliament at the instance of Lord O'Hagan have been left to enjoy the confidence of the people of Ireland which it had earned? In that case, the existing state of things would have been prevented, under which any man called to serve in a criminal case could not help feeling that some taint was put upon him if he was allowed to serve. He knew of men who had refused to go up, and had submitted to penalties rather than run the risk of being placed in the box. He put these views before the right hon. and learned Gentleman, who was responsible for much of what had taken place. He would urge the right hon. and learned Gentleman to devote as much of the remainder of his life as might be necessary to restore the confidence of the people of Ireland in the administration of the Criminal Law in that country.

Mr. DALY said, he had listened with very great attention to the speech of the Attorney General for Ireland, and he noticed that while the right hon. and learned Gentleman adverted in minute detail to the cases adduced by hon. Members, with the skill of a practised advocate, he avoided the weak points of the cases. While he referred, in great detail, to the observations of the first

three or four Members who spoke, when he came to consider the question put before him by the hon. Member for Newcastle (Mr. Cowen) he skimmed the subject. The right hon. and learned Gentleman imputed to the Irish Members that they gave no assistance to the law, and had no sympathy for the law. He might add that through the way in which the law was administered in Ireland, in respect to criminal juries, it did not command sympathy or respect. When the fate of a man's life was on trial, the Constitution of the United Kingdom gave him the promise of a fair jury; but, from his own personal experience, he could state that in the manner in which the law had been administered in the South of Ireland a prisoner did not get a fair trial. The Attorney General seemed to make a great point of a prisoner being able to challenge jurors, and not doing so. The reason of that was plain upon the surface. A solicitor for the prisoner, although he might do his best to obtain equity for the prisoner, was not bound to ensure an acquittal; but the Attorney General and the Crown were bound to secure a conviction. Therefore, when a man was not known to be very adverse in opinions to the prisoner, and bore a general good character, the solicitor would pass him by; but if a man of the most estimable character as a citizen came forward, and was suspected of the least national proclivities, the Solicitor for the Crown called upon him to stand by. He was familiar with the *modus operandi*, because he had witnessed the progress of trials in the Court at Cork. The panel was not a long one, and it was printed; but there was attached to it a statement of the proclivities of the persons there named, and any person suspected of unfair or doubtful tendencies was told by the Solicitor for the Crown to stand by. The Crown exercised not only arbitrary power, but a certain kind of unlimited power; because, while a prisoner could only challenge up to a certain time, the Crown could require any citizens actually on the trial to stand by. The Attorney General stated—and he quite acquitted the right hon. and learned Gentleman of having any personal feeling in these matters—that, to his knowledge, no persons were excluded on account of their religion. If he would refer to the complaints made at the time of the sit-

ting of the first Crimes Commission in Cork, he would find that on more than one occasion 40 jurors who had been summoned were ordered to stand by; and that by a singular coincidence 38 of these were Roman Catholics. That, in a panel of little more than 200, was a startling circumstance. So great was the feeling of indignation in Cork that a public meeting was intended to be held even while the Judge was sitting, to complain of the dishonour intended to be put upon Roman Catholic jurors; but by his advice it was not held. He did not think such a feeling of indignation could be excited in Cork without just grounds; and his own personal conviction was that the jurors were selected and manipulated for these trials. The Attorney General had that evening felt himself constrained to make the admission that many of the persons who had been rejected he did not doubt would have made good jurors. He himself had perfect knowledge that many of the men excluded by reason of suspected politics or religion would have given a verdict as truly as the most thorough Orangeman that ever sat in a jury-box. Was the law entitled to respect in the face of these circumstances? He believed that the law ought to be vindicated; but he also considered that by the manipulations practised by the Crown, whilst the law in the minds of some people was vindicated, it fell into very great disrepute with the majority. The Attorney General, seeking to skim over the weak part of his defence, alluded to the fact that a great many of the jurors on the special panel in Dublin were publicans; but he knew that men were excluded in Cork from the jury-box who were not publicans, and no more dependent on the public than any other mercantile men in the Empire. A system was carried on in Ireland which, in the humblest town of England, would have raised a storm of indignation. But he had some other objections to this Vote. For example, he wanted to know what was meant by Miscellaneous Charges in the Law Expenses? It seemed to him that the country was asked to vote £100,235 for what had not vindicated the law, but had brought the law into great disrepute. If it had given advantage to any persons, it had done so to the Attorney General and the Solicitor General, who were down for £9,000;

Mr. Daly

and there was an item of £15,520 for fees to counsel. It was a melancholy fact that the Vote for the administration of the law in Ireland should contain a charge of £53,520 for prosecutors, and that the total should amount to £100,235.

Mr. HEALY said, he wished to point out the extraordinary inflation of this Vote which had taken place. He found that the total Vote for Ireland was £100,235. Ireland was a small country, with 5,000,000 inhabitants, and England, with 30,000,000, only required £84,006.

Mr. COURTNEY said, the hon. Member should take the English Votes 1 and 3, to make a comparison—the Votes for Law Charges and Criminal Prosecutions.

Mr. HEALY said, he would take Criminal Prosecutions and Sheriffs' Expenses, and he found that they amounted to £260,000; but the population of England was six times greater than that of Ireland. He wondered what became of the political economists when this Vote came on. Where were the hon. Members for Burnley (Mr. Rylands) and for Swansea (Mr. Dillwyn)? He had expected them upon this Vote to have pointed out that here was Ireland, with few lawyers, and far fewer criminals, charged with this enormous sum. According to the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland, as regarded ordinary crime, no country was so pure as Ireland, and even agrarian crime was much less now than it had been at any time in the last three years. It seemed to him that political economy in that House had gone to the dogs; and so it was that when charges of this kind were brought before the House, the answer was—"Oh, it is only Ireland;" and the fact that it was Ireland was sufficient explanation of this state of things. He had not heard the whole of the Attorney General's statement; but, as he understood, the right hon. and learned Gentleman's defence was based on the infamous conduct of the Crown. In regard to Nally, his defence was that the Government had since got additional evidence of an important character. His answer to that was the answer that Gambetta made to McMahon—"I do not believe you." He did not apply that to the Attorney General, but to those who had supplied the right hon. and learned Gentleman with that information, because they

know that their statement was to go forward on the wings of the Press; and that *The Freeman's Journal*, with a copy of that statement, would go into every cell, carrying fear and terror to the unfortunate prisoners. But he would tell these men, in their prison cells, to distrust that statement, even though the Attorney General made it. He did not believe that statement as coming from the Irish officials; and he ventured to say that the right hon. and learned Gentleman was not skilful enough to affect the minds of the men who were now lying at his mercy in Castlebar Gaol. The right hon. and learned Gentleman was bound to get up and make statements of this kind. For what else did he draw the £9,000 for which he was asking the Committee? The right hon. and learned Gentleman, when he had to come to the Table to ask for his salary, ought to speak with bated breath when he was meeting the Representatives of the people whom he was oppressing. What was this £9,000 for? How much of it had he got in his pocket at the present moment? He came down to make statements in order to captivate that House; but it was his own salary that he was defending; and it would be a very surprising thing if, having pocketed £9,000, he did not come prepared to make out a very good case. £9,000 was a very large amount, and he did not know whether anyone on the Irish Benches could realize what it was; but, at all events, it was in addition to another salary which the right hon. and learned Gentleman drew under another portion of these Estimates; and he asserted that it was to this system of inflation of the Votes, under the head of fees, that caused all these bogus, fishing prosecutions. He had just received some information showing what was the action of the Attorney General for Ireland in respect to the prosecution of the men who were bayoneted and bludgeoned at Wexford. The Government, having put the men to the expense of engaging counsel for the defence, and then having postponed the case for three weeks, had now changed their mind, and, believing that they could get a conviction even under the Prevention of Crime Act, and by changing the venue, had brought the prosecution under that Act. A gentleman who was Mayor of Wexford last year stated that the Police had issued

fresh summonses under the Prevention of Crime Act, 1881.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, there was no prosecution whatever under the Prevention of Crime Act.

Mr. HEALY said, the right hon. and learned Gentleman had not added that if the prosecution was under the Prevention of Crime Act he would give instructions to have that changed.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, he could, of course, hardly undertake to say that; but he believed there was no such prosecution. If there were, it was not with his knowledge; but he was perfectly certain there was not.

Mr. HEALY said, he was obliged to the right hon. and learned Gentleman; but he had been very guarded. These men might to-morrow get from two magistrates six months' hard labour, although the right hon. and learned Gentleman would regret it very much; and perhaps when they had spent three weeks on plank beds he would let them off the remainder. He had, however, risen chiefly to call attention to circumstances connected with his own constituency—in regard to the Crossmaglen case. There were now undergoing penal servitude a number of men of respectable class—several of them tenant farmers, and one a National schoolmaster, and, therefore, a person of intelligence—on the evidence of an informer named Duffy. He would not quote any words of his own; he would quote the words of *The Dublin Express*, the chief Orange organ of Lord Spencer, and the editor of which was the Irish correspondent of *The Times*. The Government took these men in the county of Armagh, and placed them on trial before a jury in Belfast. They brought down Judge Lawson, and the only evidence against the men was the evidence of Duffy, and that of a certain book, which he alleged was built into a wall by himself and a man named Hanlon, who had also, at first, turned informer. *The Daily Express*—the most rabid organ of landlordism—in an article, two months ago, upon the conviction of these men, said that if the jury could have seen their way to any other result the public would have been inclined to quarrel with the verdict. If the evidence on which the Crown relied was not suffi-

cient to convince the rampant editor of *The Daily Express*, he thought the Government ought to give it up. But in spite of the *dictum* of the editor of *The Daily Express*, those unfortunate men were then undergoing a sentence of 10 years' penal servitude, and one of them, the schoolmaster, was dying of consumption in Mountjoy Prison; and it was notorious in the district that he was not the man implicated in this matter, but that it was the uncle of the man, who was away in America. Now, he often wished that the magistrates who sent men to prison, and the Judges who gave sentences of penal servitude and plank beds, could be sent for two or three days to endure that torture themselves, as a preliminary to their taking office; and if those persons who drew large salaries—the Chief Secretaries and Attorney Generals—for preserving law and order in Ireland could get a taste of prison regimen, they would be more merciful. But of all the horrible tortures to which a man could be subject, that of being convicted on false evidence, when he knew himself to be innocent, was the worst. With regard to these Crossmaglen people, as a matter of fact the Government offered a number of them, if they would plead guilty, that they should be released on their own recognizances. [The ATTORNEY GENERAL for IRELAND dissented.] The right hon. and learned Gentleman shook his head; he might shake it off if he liked. He asserted in that House that something was done to convey to these men that if they pleaded guilty they would be released on their own recognizances, and that the men, who preferred to throw themselves on their country—the Orange jury—were now undergoing penal servitude.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, the facts were these. After the conviction of the first prisoner the counsel for the defence asked the Crown Prosecutor to deal leniently with the others, on condition of their pleading guilty. The Crown said that they would, and the matter was to stand over until instructions came. But a person connected with the defence would not consent to no fee being taken, and said the case must go on. The result was that the unfortunate men were tried and convicted.

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Mr. HEALY said, the statement of the right hon. and learned Gentleman was correct as far as it went; but the circumstances he referred to were antecedent. But he accepted the statement, and, taking it for what it was worth, he asked what did it prove? It proved that the first batch of men were convicted by Orange juries, and the second as he had described. The Government put forward a certain set of men; they made a vague charge against them; they were found guilty; then they came to another set of men, and said to them—"Your predecessors were found guilty." And to justify what was done to the preceding lot the subsequent batch of men were to be induced to plead guilty. He was so suspicious of anything that the ordinary Crown officials said, that if Mr. Bolton and Mr. Anderson made a statement on oath of the facts in connection with this case he would disbelieve them. Hon. Members looked shocked; but who was Mr. Bolton? A most blackguard and profligate ruffian. The right hon. and learned Gentleman could not contradict him now. Let him get up and say at that Table that Mr. George Bolton was not the most blackguard and profligate ruffian in the service of the Crown.

COLONEL KING-HARMAN rose to Order. He asked whether the hon. Member was right in using the words "blackguard and profligate ruffian" in regard to any gentleman connected with the Government of Ireland?

Mr. CALLAN rose to Order. Before the question was answered he wished to know whether the hon. Gentleman was not in Order in repeating, in emphatic language, the *dictum* of an English Judge?

Mr. HEALY said, he would enforce his words by pointing out that they were practically the language of an English Judge in connection with Mr. Bolton.

THE CHAIRMAN said, he was not aware of the status of the gentleman of whom the hon. Member was speaking; but he must say that such language applied to anyone was very strong.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, the Chairman had stated that he was not aware of the status of Mr. Bolton. He was a public servant of the Crown, and one who had no connection whatever

with the circumstance mentioned by the hon. Member for Monaghan.

THE CHAIRMAN said, if the hon. Member made the observation with respect to an officer of the Crown, he thought the language was indecorous, and should be recalled.

MR. HEALY said, there was one thing he would not do—he would not be bullied by the hon. and gallant Gentleman the Member for Dublin County (Colonel King-Harman).

THE CHAIRMAN said, the hon. Gentleman must address himself to the Chair.

MR. HEALY said, he would do so. The right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland stated that Mr. Bolton was a public servant in Ireland. He regretted to say that he was; but he would not have been so long if an English Judge could have had his way—an English Judge who accused him of having, by means of a marriage settlement, cheated his wife, and of having committed adultery with another woman, and of having had a series of illegitimate children by two different women. That was the man—

MR. R. N. FOWLER rose to Order. He asked whether it was in Order that such a charge should be brought in that House against a gentleman in the Public Service?

THE CHAIRMAN said, he had already stated his opinion that if the language of the hon. Member applied to a gentleman in a responsible position under the Crown, it was highly indecorous. He thought the hon. Member was going beyond the Question before the Committee in entering into such matters.

MR. HARRINGTON asked whether it was not in Order for an hon. Member to discuss the conduct of officers of the Crown?

THE CHAIRMAN: Undoubtedly; but in proper language.

MR. HEALY said, the gentleman, or rather the official, in question—for he could not call him a gentleman—got his salary as Crown Prosecutor under this Vote, and acted as Crown Prosecutor in many places; in fact, he was almost ubiquitous when there was any dirty work to be done. He could not consider his official position apart from his private capacity. This was the man whom an English Judge described as a person unworthy to be kept on the Rolls as a

solicitor—as unworthy to be kept in the service of the Crown. It might be that the hon. and gallant Gentleman the Member for Dublin County (Colonel King-Harman) was not aware of these facts; but there was a great deal that he did not know, and he would learn a great deal in his career in that House, if he remained in it, especially if he attended carefully to what was said by Members below the Gangway. In discussing the conduct of Mr. Bolton, he wished to show that the convictions, obtained through the instrumentality of a man to whom an English Judge had applied language perhaps the strongest ever uttered on the Judicial Bench, were not clear. It was an unfortunate thing for persons of the high character of the right hon. and learned Gentleman opposite to have to rub shoulders with a person like Mr. Bolton, and to have to defend him in that House. If the actions of a person of such repute in this country were involved, they would not find the English Attorney General defending those actions. English officials always tried to keep clean hands; but Irish officials were willing to steep their hands in anything in defence of the system they were obliged to maintain. It was upon these grounds that he impeached the Vote. The right hon. and learned Gentleman had given no explanation of the jury-packing and changes of venue; he had not explained why men from Monaghan and Armagh were brought to Belfast, where a "true-blue" or Orange jury could be obtained.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER): It was not a special jury. A common jury was empanelled in every case tried at Belfast.

MR. HEALY said, the right hon. and learned Gentleman would, perhaps, deny the change of venue? The right hon. and learned Gentleman must have a very weak case indeed if he could not turn his flank on some point; he tried to do it in this instance by the statement that no cases were tried at Belfast by special juries. Very well; then he would give him another case—the case of the Emergency men who were tried for the Morroe outrages, and they were not convicted. Why? Because Mr. Peter O'Brien, who ought to have been earning his salary in Green Street, was brought down specially to

Cork, where he had no right to be at all, and he would not challenge a single individual, though these men, having the right, challenged all the Catholics of the jury, and were acquitted after a disagreement. When the prejudices of the ruling classes were concerned a special jury was empannelled; but when Emergency men went round with arms and blackened faces, and committed acts for which they were brought up, then, either by means of the Grand Jury or some other machinery, they were sure to get off. He asserted this as an axiom with reference to Ireland—that the Chief Secretary might shoot a man in the street, simply for amusement, and he would not be convicted, because, in the first place, as was done in the case of a policeman, if a Coroner's Jury returned a verdict of wilful murder the Attorney General would put his power into operation and quash the inquisition; and, secondly, if it were not quashed, and the Crown sent up the case, as his hon. Friend had pointed out, the Grand Jury would ignore the Bill. Thus, against that numerous class of men in Ireland—namely, the Emergency men and bailiffs who strayed about the country with revolvers in their hands—no justice was to be had. This state of thing was the realization of the old proverb that one man might steal a horse, but another might not look over a hedge. The Emergency men and the bailiffs might do what they liked, and no one seemed to have any power or control over them. The right hon. and learned Gentleman who replied to his Question of Friday last, said that the men convicted in the Castleisland case were not convicted by direction of the Judge. Now, he presumed the right hon. and learned Gentleman would accept upon that point the reports from *The Cork Daily Herald* of the 21st, 23rd, and 24th of July last, to which he would ask his attention. Seven or eight men were charged, and two were convicted; the prosecutor swore he could not recognize a single one of the men who fired at him. The right hon. and learned Gentleman stated that these men were not found guilty by direction of the Judge. Now, the report of the case with which he had fortified himself said the jury were about to retire when a juror, Mr. Harris, asked for a printed copy of the depositions, and asked if upon that they might find

a verdict. His Lordship (Judge O'Brien) replied—"Most certainly; and I so advise and direct you." And yet the right hon. and learned Gentleman got up and said at the Table of the House that the men were not convicted by direction of the Judge.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER): The Question was as to whether the Judge directed a verdict, which anyone who knows anything of legal procedure must be aware means the withdrawal of the case from the jury.

MR. HEALY said, he would make the right hon. and learned Gentleman a present of the cheerful ambiguity of the Judge's remarks. But what was the effect of that language upon the minds of the jurymen? With trained lawyers in the House the right hon. and learned Gentleman might make good his plea; everyone who had studied works on special pleading would know that. If the Judge had not said what he meant, why did he not make it clear what his language was intended to convey? Then the right hon. and learned Gentleman had made an excuse with regard to the date of the adjournment of the trial. He (Mr. Healy) made the charge that at Cork these cases were adjourned on the fourth day of the trial, whereupon up jumped the right hon. and learned Gentleman and said it was not the fourth day, but the eighth day of the trial. Technically, the right hon. and learned Gentleman was correct; but, strictly, he (Mr. Healy) was right, because, although it was the eighth day of the Assize, it was only the fourth day of the criminal business. No doubt, the right hon. and learned Gentleman felt uncomfortable under these statements; but he regretted to say that they were plain and unvarnished truths. He would call the attention of the Committee to the character of the evidence on which the men were found guilty. Seven men were brought up from the county of Kerry to Cork, which might be called a change of venue, for Cork was not in Kerry, nor was Kerry in Cork. They were brought up on the evidence of a man named Walsh, who made a deposition identifying some of them. This man was cross-examined by Mr. Atkinson, and he then said he did not know the man who shot him; he had never seen him before that morning. Mr. Atkinson then asked him to look

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round and say if he could see him then ; and the witness, looking at the dock for the third time, said—"I do not, my Lord." The man who was shot was sitting on the witness table, and, being asked if he could recognize the men, said, "No." If he were disposed to trouble the Committee he would read the report of the case in *The Cork Herald* ; but he would simply say that a more flagitious case in the annals of criminal procedure in Ireland was not to be found. The men were found guilty ; but did the Judge believe they were found guilty properly ? If he did, what sentence ought he to have passed on them ? Castleisland, it should be remembered, was the most disturbed district in Ireland ; let it be remembered that a series of outrages had taken place in that district, and that the Crown had strained every nerve to strike terror into the population. The men were convicted, and one would have thought they would have been sentenced to penal servitude for life, or, at least, to a term of 20 years' imprisonment ; but how much did they get ? Two years' imprisonment with hard labour ; clearly showing that the Judge who tried them, and who directed the jury to find them guilty, did not believe in the verdict which he directed the jury to find. Mr. Justice O'Brien, too, it should be remembered, was not believed to be a very tender Judge who looked to the side of the prisoner. He put it to the Attorney General for Ireland whether, if he were a Judge on the Bench, and a number of men were brought before him charged with shooting a caretaker on a farm, he would believe that two years' hard labour was an adequate sentence ? Why, even in England, if you kicked your wife to death you got two years' hard labour, although here that was thought to be the smallest offence known to the law. But granted that, he said that two years' hard labour was an extremely lenient sentence, clearly showing that the Judge did not believe the men guilty. Two were found guilty ; but what became of the other five ? The adjournment took place, as they knew, on the fourth day of the criminal business in Cork. The right hon. and learned Gentleman said it was the eighth day of the Assize. He (Mr. Healy) did not believe that more than 36 men had been put in the jury box out of a panel of 200. Well, the trials were adjourned, and the

men were sent back to Tralee and allowed to remain in gaol for 12 days, certainly not because they were believed to be guilty, for in that case they would have been tried in Cork. They remained in Tralee Gaol until he put a Question in the House of Commons, and then they were released. A Question in that House made Irish officials jump. He said that life would be intolerable in Ireland if Irish Members had not a certain amount of check on the proceedings in Ireland through the discussions on the Estimates, owing to which they were able to let some light into the souls and consciences of English Members. Even though they might march into the Division Lobby to support the Vote, he ventured to say there were few of them who had not their doubts on the subject.

Mr. MAGNIAC rose to Order. He asked whether it was in Order that a Member should make personal charges against hon. Gentlemen sitting on that side of the House as to the conscientious discharge of their duties ?

Mr. HEALY said, the hon. Member was mistaken ; he had made no personal charge on hon. Gentlemen opposite. He simply said they had souls and consciences. If the hon. Member did not belong to that category he would be happy to except him. However, having concluded his remarks when the hon. Gentleman interrupted him, he had only to thank the Committee for having so kindly listened to what he had to say.

Mr. GIBSON said, it was one of the most painful incidents of recent occurrences in Ireland that those who, in a difficult crisis, had endeavoured to discharge responsible duties as Judges, prosecutors, and witnesses, which many of them had done with great danger to their lives, should, in addition, have to listen to their conduct being aspersed and their motives impugned. The hon. Member who had just spoken (Mr. Healy), availing himself to the full of the freedom which the House accorded to its Members, had used the strongest adjectives and the most vigorous form of invective against those whose arduous task it had been to assert the law, in a great crisis, against persons, whom everyone who had studied the cases knew to be guilty. ["Oh, oh !"] If hon. Members below the Gangway objected, they could wait until he had finished what he intended to say. Within the limits

of moderation, which his own self respect suggested, he should make use of that right which belonged to him, to occupy the time of the Committee for a limited period, while he expressed, upon the present subject, those feelings which he believed to be just and proper. The hon. Member had said something about letting in a gleam of light upon the consciences and souls of hon. Members. That was a very nice expression for the curious form of light which the hon. Gentleman introduced; but he (Mr. Gibson) thought the attitude of the hon. Member might very well be judged from another expression which he used—that of making the Crown officials jump. One of the Crown officials selected by the hon. Member for attack was Mr. Bolton. He (Mr. Gibson) would be entirely cowardly, and utterly unworthy of standing in that House, knowing, as he did, Mr. Bolton perhaps longer than did anyone present, if he listened in silence to the charges made against him. Long before he had anything to say in that House, long before he had any connection with official life, his experience of Mr. Bolton on the Leinster Circuit was that he was firm in his prosecutions, but also fair. That was his (Mr. Gibson's) opinion, when he was engaged with all the energy and ability he possessed in defence of the prisoners. Later on, when circumstances placed him in official relation with Mr. Bolton, it became his duty to review his prosecutions—during the three and-a-half years he was in the Office which his right hon. and learned Friend the Attorney General for Ireland now held with such conspicuous advantage to the public service, he had never known a single case in which Mr. Bolton had not conducted the prosecutions in a way which might stand review and criticism by any impartial tribunal. Now, the case selected by the hon. Member for special reference with regard to Mr. Bolton occurred in 1879. At that time none of the occurrences had taken place which had brought his name into prominence.

Mr. HEALY said, he referred to the trial which took place in England three months ago.

Mr. GIBSON said, he was perfectly familiar with the entire matter. The trial in England was about a will; and that will, and the incidents that took place, were only important to the hon.

Member's point of view in so far as they referred to what took place in 1879. All those incidents were brought to the notice of the Lord Chancellor, that distinguished man, Dr. Ball, who calmly and impartially, as befitted his habit of mind and the high position which he filled, and after consulting with his Colleagues, arrived at the conclusion that there was nothing in the facts brought to his knowledge which required interference on the part of the Executive Government. But the crime of Mr. Bolton was more recent than that; it was within the last two years that it had developed. When the troubles in Ireland increased, and the services of a man of exceptional ability were required, the Executive appealed to Mr. Bolton, and gained his assistance; and the exercise of his ability; his nerve, and his experience was to be found in very many of the recent trials in Ireland. So that really the most conspicuous offence of Mr. Bolton was that he had efficiently and vigorously served the Crown at the time when the Crown needed efficient and vigorous assistance. Now, passing away from Mr. Bolton, the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and the Attorney General for Ireland had answered several questions on the subject of these trials, and had answered them fully and completely. The Attorney General for Ireland, who fulfilled the difficult and arduous position of Public Prosecutor in Ireland, and who, it must be clear, was directly responsible for such a charge, had answered the questions openly, frankly, and fearlessly; his appearance was not that of a man desirous of keeping back anything; and he (Mr. Gibson) ventured to think that, later on, he would be prepared to give full and detailed information with respect to any specific trial brought under the notice of the House. But when the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy), in no way deficient in acuteness, was brought to task for the recklessness and boldness of his charges, when he was going on making charges in the hope that he would presently hit upon something, he (Mr. Gibson) noted that, on three occasions, he rushed rashly into a position from which he had at once to recede. In the Crossmaglen case, he insisted that special juries were summoned, until the Attorney General for Ireland rose in

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his place, and showed that the matter was past argument, because there were no special juries summoned, whereupon the hon. Member for Monaghan, with an indifference that reached the point of sublimity, said it was a matter of no consequence. If the Attorney General for Ireland had not been in his place to insist upon the denial, in spite of the assertion of the hon. Member, he (Mr. Gibson) should like to know whether his statement would not have gone forth to the country as constituting a grave charge against the Government which could not be refuted? The hon. Member had another point—namely, that one of the Judges in Ireland directed a conviction in a criminal case—[Mr. HEALY: I will read the report again.] No; he would not trouble the hon. Member; he had a fair recollection of his clear and vigorous language in making his statement. The charge was that a Judge in Ireland had so far forgotten his duty as to direct a conviction in a criminal case; that was stated specifically; and when the charge was grappled with, as it was at once, the hon. Member said it was a very small matter. The point of the right hon. and learned Gentleman's reply was that the Judge had not directed a conviction; that he used certain words, simply directing the jury on a matter of law. He said that, on particular evidence, if they believed it, on which they asked guidance, they were entitled, as a matter of law, to convict. There was no room for doubt about the matter, which was as clear as crystal; and the Judge who would not have given that answer would have been considered fitted to sit on the Bench but for a very short time. He ventured to say there was not a single hon. Member in that House who could not see with absolute distinctness what it was the Judge was asked by the jury, and what was the legal guidance given by the Judge to the jury. He (Mr. Gibson) could not help thinking that the gleam of light the hon. Member had spoken of was a little deficient in strength; because, in respect of this charge, the hon. Member again fell back on an excuse which they were familiar with in the ordinary transactions of life—he said it was a very small matter. The final charge was one more remarkable still; it related to a very important case that came before Mr. Justice O'Brien. At the risk of winning an easy cheer from a certain

quarter of the House, he was glad to say that Mr. Justice O'Brien was a friend of his, and he would add that he believed him to be as able and upright a man as ever adorned the Irish Bench. The charge was, that when he had the power of inflicting a sentence of penal servitude for 20 years, or for life, he could only bring his courage to the point of inflicting two years' imprisonment with hard labour. Let it be remembered that the charge now was, that the trials in Ireland had been conducted with such a ruthless spirit, and with so little regard to justice, that the poor innocent prisoners, instead of getting a maximum sentence of penal servitude, were let off with a very much smaller punishment. The Judges being given by law a wise discretion, which enabled them to give a sentence, either of penal servitude, or of imprisonment, it was certainly rather hard to complain that the Judge who tried the case, and who was acquainted with all the facts and with all the evidence, should have dispensed with the graver punishment. He was bound to recognize the great acuteness of the hon. Member; he failed to see how the specific points which he brought up, and which he subsequently had to abandon, justified the harsh language which he used. The hon. Member spoke of crimes against law and order, as if he were entitled to command cheers from the Committee. He (Mr. Gibson) would like to know what would become of civil society if there were no punishment for crimes against law and order, which the hon. Member paraphrased as crimes against the prejudices of that House? What did the prejudices of that House mean in the mouth of the hon. Member? Did he mean by that what the House of Commons had, by overwhelming majorities, declared to be the law of the land? Did he mean that the laws passed in that House, and by the House of Lords, and sanctioned by the Queen, were prejudices when they were used to assert law and order? [Mr. HEALY rose in his place.] He did not wish to be catechized by the hon. Member; if he had mis-stated his words, or misrepresented his meaning, he would yield to him at once; but if the hon. Member wanted only to interpolate an extremely brilliant reply, he must leave him to sum up when he had finished speaking. The next case referred to struck him as being

the most remarkable of all. There were two men charged with going about disguised at night, and demanding arms and money. When the case came before the magistrates it was dismissed; the attention of the Crown being directed to it, the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and his right hon. and learned Friend desired the matter to be further investigated; they sent up two Special Magistrates, and by their action the men were returned for trial at the Cork Assizes, where the Crown Counsel, not satisfied with the result of the first trial, which was due to the disagreement of the jury, put the men forward for a second trial. He could see no case against the Crown that they had not held the balance fairly with respect to the trial of these persons charged with a violation of the law. There were other points which he could refer to; but he did not think it necessary to go into them at that moment. He did not for a moment dispute the right of any hon. Members from Ireland to institute a searching criticism into the way in which prosecutions in Ireland were conducted. He had never objected to that, and he was certain no one in that House would object to the fullest and most ample criticism of the circumstances of all the trials which had taken place. But he said that such an examination should be conducted in a calm, reasonable, and judicial manner. He felt sure that hereafter the impartial verdict would be that, in a time of great danger and unexampled crime, when a vigorous and just administration of the law was absolutely necessary, the officials of the Government, both in Ireland and in that House, had been actuated by an anxious desire to do right, and to avoid, even in appearance, injustice and unfairness.

Mr. T. P. O'CONNOR said, he had no desire to discuss these matters in anything but the calm spirit which the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for the University of Dublin (Mr. Gibson) had recommended to the Committee; but he was bound to say that, if he were the Liberal Secretary of State for the Home Department or the Liberal Attorney General, he should have some suspicion that his administration was conspicuously a failure from the generous eulogies poured upon it by the Conservative speakers. There was

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not a single Conservative gathering which took place in Ireland, whether it were an Orange display in Ulster, or a Conservative banquet in Dublin, but the names of the Chief Secretary and Earl Spencer, the Viceroy, were received with prolonged cheering, which contrasted strangely with the pronounced hisses with which the name of the Prime Minister was received. He had lately been reading a report of a Conservative gathering in Ireland—namely, a meeting of the Constitutional Club; and he found that the highest encomium that they were able to bestow upon the Lord Lieutenant was that he was an Orange Viceroy, doing Orange work in spite of the Liberal Administration. The right hon. and learned Gentleman had made light of some of the statements of the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy); and he would take one or two of the right hon. and learned Gentleman's points in passing, though they did not seem to bear very much upon the matter before the House. The right hon. and learned Gentleman had referred to the Murroe outrage, though he had not referred to the fact that the Government did not enter upon that prosecution until they had been driven into it by Questions put in the House of Commons. The prisoners in that case were tried in Cork. They were Emergency men; but were they tried by Catholic tenants? No; Catholic tenants who were accused of crime and tried in Dublin had their cases submitted, in almost every instance, to 12 Emergency jurors; but what was sauce for the Catholic goose was not sauce for the Emergency gander. Seeing that Catholic prisoners were tried by persons of a different life, of different creed, and of a different class, it was only just that, when Emergency men were to be tried, the juries should have been composed of 12 Catholic tenants. The right hon. and learned Gentleman who had just spoken had paid a high compliment to the demeanour of the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland, and he (Mr. T. P. O'Connor) acknowledged at once the right hon. and learned Gentleman's qualities in that direction; but he would go from his manner to his matter, and say that the right hon. and learned Gentleman had been guilty of as unfair—he would not say dishonourable—a piece of strategy

against the hon. Member for Mallow (Mr. O'Brien) as had ever been witnessed in that House. The right hon. and learned Gentleman had quoted two extracts from the paper edited by the hon. Member for Mallow, referring to James Carey. Being interrupted by the hon. Member for Mallow, the right hon. and learned Gentleman added that these things were written and published long before Carey's connection with the Phoenix Park murders was known or thought of. Why, then, had the right hon. and learned Gentleman quoted these extracts, unless it were to excite prejudice and hatred against his hon. Friend (Mr. O'Brien), by recalling statements which were made when, so far as the people of Dublin knew, the murder was not dreamt of? The forgiveness of Carey, and Carey's being put in the witness-box, was one of the grossest acts of infamy on record; and he would tell the Committee why Carey was put in the box. It was not that his evidence was required to convict the other prisoners—they could have been convicted without his evidence; but the fact was, Carey was wanted to besmirch the Party who sat on those (the Home Rule) Benches. What had happened when Carey was put into the witness-box? Why, he had said, in his evidence, that the Invincible Society was started at a time when all Constitutional liberty was at an end in Ireland, when the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell), Mr. Dillon, and other Leaders of the Constitutional movement were in prison; he had said the Society had its origin in a feeling of something like despair at the non-success attending Constitutional efforts to improve the condition of the country; he had said that the Invincible Society was created by Mr. Forster's policy. It was the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Bradford who ought to have been put upon his trial upon the evidence of Carey. For a fortnight every newspaper article, and every speech made in the country by Members of the Government, even by the noble Marquess the Secretary of State for War (the Marquess of Hartington), who sometimes occupied the position of Leader of that House, rung with the insinuation that the hon. Member for the City of Cork was connected with these vile assassins; and, to his (Mr. T. P. O'Connor's) mind,

never was there a more atrocious, a more cowardly, or a more wicked set of tactics adopted by one class of political politicians against another. What were the admissions of the right hon. and learned Gentleman? Why, he had had to admit that some of the persons whom the Government had put upon their trial for murder had been acquitted by the juries. The right hon. and learned Gentleman got up and said—"Thank God for that," and asked what could be a more reasonable action than for a common prosecutor to bring a charge of murder against a man if there was evidence upon which to found that charge. But the Committee must remember that a charge of that kind, even if rebutted, left a stigma upon a man all his life. Had not the Irish Members, therefore, a right to charge the Government with neglect of duty; with not having more carefully sifted the evidence, before putting such stigmas upon the character of Irishmen? The man M'Carthy, and his wife, had been brought up on a charge of murder and remanded time after time—three Assizes were allowed to pass over, and at the end of a year's imprisonment the Government were unable to bring home the charge. At that very moment two other persons were in custody charged with the murder; and what were they doing with these two persons? They were adopting a similar course, remanding them as they had remanded M'Carthy and his companions. Eight times they were remanded, the evidence on the eighth remand being the same as on the first. Why did they remand prisoners like this? The rational explanation was that when a remand was asked for, additional evidence would be forthcoming on the next hearing; but here they remanded men week after week, and month after month; at the end of that time having no further evidence to bring forward than was produced at the first hearing. The Government had a perfect right to track out crime and punish it, and no Member of the Irish Party denied them that right. So far as he (Mr. T. P. O'Connor) was concerned, he heartily wished the Government success in any legitimate efforts to bring malefactors to justice. He would congratulate the Government, and cheer them on in work of that kind; but in the matter to which he was referring,

their conduct was what it ought not to be. They had no right, he maintained, to obtain convictions by torturing prisoners. When they had these men in solitary confinement, month after month, with these terrible charges hanging over them, unproved, when they had them interviewed by their policemen and their doctors—if they did employ doctors, as his hon. Friend said they did, for the purpose of putting the prisoners through a daily torture—they could not be surprised at the Government being able to get persons to swear against people who were innocent. The Executive, by their mode of conducting these prosecutions, were reviving the torture of the Dark Ages—or, rather, were introducing an ancient principle in a modern form. They were torturing untried prisoners in the face of one of the most solemn declarations ever embodied in the Statute Law. The 39th section of the Prisons' Act of 1877 emphatically declared that a clear difference should be made between the treatment of persons unconvicted of crime, and in law presumably innocent, during the period of their detention in prison for their safe custody, and the treatment of prisoners convicted of crime, during the period of their detention for the purpose of punishment. That Act provided for the making of Prison Rules for the treatment of untried prisoners. In spite of that Act, they had kept prisoners unconvicted of crime for 12 months in prison, and deprived them of the privileges conferred upon them by both Houses of Parliament, and all that in the name of law and order. What would the hon. Gentleman the Member for the County of Clare (Mr. O'Shea) say to that? He was not a Member of the Party to which he (Mr. T. P. O'Connor) belonged. He was not remarkable for vehement hostility to the present Government, and yet what did he say? Why, he said that the country was getting sick of the "fishing prosecutions." That was a most apt description of the policy of the Government; they first imprisoned the man, and then defined his offence. The presumption of law used to be that a man was innocent until he was proved to be guilty; but the Government had reversed the whole process, and their officials presumed people to be guilty before they had one jot of evidence against them, and kept them in gaol

until they had induced some miserable wretch, by fear of death, or by offer of bribery, to give evidence against someone else. The right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland had attempted to answer the charge brought by Members of the Irish Party with regard to the packing of juries. In common with the right hon. and learned Gentleman who had just spoken (Mr. Gibson), he (Mr. T. P. O'Connor), must compliment the right hon. and learned Gentleman on his demeanour in reference to this question. It did seem rather strange—but his candour had allowed him to go that far—that he should have admitted that the juries were taken from the same religion. On this matter, the right hon. and learned Gentleman had given a grudging testimony of the truth. It was not the complaint of the Irish Members that all these persons were taken from the same religion. Some Protestants had been asked to stand aside, it might be thought for decency's sake; but it was nothing of the kind—it was not for decency's sake; but because these people did not belong to the Orange Party. The right hon. and learned Gentleman had given two reasons in support of the method on which juries had been formed. In the first place, he had said they had been bound to exclude from the panels licensed victuallers, the large majority of whom were Catholics. Could anyone in his senses believe that because a man sold whisky he should not be allowed to act as a juryman, and to try a case? There was a distiller on four of these juries, so that the new moral code of the Irish Attorney General was, that a man who sold whisky by retail could not be safely trusted to act upon a jury, while a man who sold it wholesale was an excellent man to act upon a jury—so excellent, indeed, that he could sit upon the trial of four cases. What was the second reason of the right hon. and learned Gentleman? Why, that prisoners had not exhausted their right of challenge. Was there ever a more unfair statement, even for an Irish Attorney General, speaking in reference to State trials? What was the use of a prisoner, or his representative, challenging 20 jurors, when, if they were challenged, the Government had 20 more; or when, if they were challenged, they still had another 20 out

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of the 60, 90, or 100 jurors at their disposal? What would have been the use of exercising the right of challenge, even had they the right of ordering 40 or 60 to stand aside, instead of 20? What state of things was it, when a Law Officer, responsible for the peace of Ireland, could get up, without a feeling of shame, and without a blush, and present so flimsy, and so miserable, and so false an excuse as that? What was the impression that they produced in Ireland by these trials?—because, after all, the object of punishment was to produce a state of permanent peacefulness in the country. What was the impression produced upon the people, when these miserable, unfortunate creatures—many of them unable to speak English—were brought up before Judges and juries, such as were appointed to try them—when they were brought up before four members of Orange institutions, or the “Boycotted” landlords associations? What did the people think? Why, that these unfortunate prisoners had just as much chance of justice and mercy at the hands of those who tried them as a cow had in the shambles. The Executive had degraded the Court of Justice to the level of an Orange lodge. When Lord Spencer took up the task of governing Ireland, he had before him a task of great difficulty; and his right hand, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, had then a splendid opportunity of establishing law and order on the sure basis of popular feeling. The noble Earl had shown a most commendable public spirit and great bravery by taking the position he did; and he and the Chief Secretary for Ireland had a splendid opportunity of giving Ireland permanent peace and permanent tranquillity, and of establishing law and order on the secure basis of popular elements. The country was in a state of horror and disgust over crime. He (Mr. T. P. O'Connor) knew there was a large premium put upon crime in Ireland, especially when there was a Liberal Administration in power, because it always seemed necessary, according to the *dicta* of their own statesmen, that a certain amount of horrible crime should precede any measure of reform. He said, therefore, that in spite of the large premium upon crime, the heart of Ireland was full of disgust with crime, and especially with some of

its recent and most wicked examples. Did not the Prime Minister himself acknowledge the unanimity of horror with which the people of Ireland regarded the Phoenix Park tragedy? Were not the people horrified and disgusted at the Maamtrasna murders—had not these terrible occurrences wrung the feelings of those who had the welfare of their country at heart? Lord Spencer, therefore, had public sympathy on his side; and what did he do? He said that crime should be put down; that was the first thing he said; but then he also stated that it should be put down anyhow—he said—“We must not choose our means; but we must put it down.” Packed juries had been resorted to. He did not bring the charge of such injustice against Lord Spencer of having ordered that method of proceeding; but, certainly, his Lordship would not hold his ear too wide open to cries of mercy, and not only to cries of mercy, but to cries for justice. He was determined to obtain convictions anyhow; and having obtained convictions, no amount of entreaty, no amount of representation—aye, and no amount of proof—would induce him to spare the life of a man who had been declared to be guilty, and by this means the noble Lord was believed by some to have succeeded in producing an appearance of tranquillity in Ireland. To his (Mr. T. P. O'Connor's) mind, it was the operation of the Land Act, and the feeling of horror and disgust of the Irish people, to which he had alluded, which had a great deal more to do with tranquillity in Ireland than the efforts adopted by Lord Spencer. It was one of the gravest charges against English rule in Ireland that they had always governed the people by dividing them, by setting class against class, and religion against religion. He (Mr. T. P. O'Connor) had thought that that awful and terrible system had been done away with; but he was wrong; they had revived all these old sentiments, all these old differences; and what was the result? They had revived in Ireland a system of torture which was abolished in every other civilized country, a system of torture on a par with the mediæval practice of the Star Chamber. They had revived the very worst system of jury-packing, which had never had a more earnest or a more eloquent denunciator than the uncle of

the present Chief Secretary for Ireland; above all things they had postponed indefinitely the advent of that day when people, regarding justice as their safeguard and protector, would give it the strength of their confidence and their support.

Mr. TREVELYAN said, that after the eloquent speech which they had just heard from the hon. Member for Galway (Mr. T. P. O'Connor), he would wish to recall the attention of the Committee to a more sober style of argument, and—he spoke with all respect for the opinions of hon. Members—one more befitting the nature of the question before the Committee. He had come down to the House to-day prepared for a very different style of discussion to that which had taken place. However, it had been for hon. Gentlemen who raised the discussion to dictate the manner in which it should be conducted. He had followed, with the greatest interest, the arguments of hon. Members, and he thought the debate had turned into one upon crime. They had heard from several hon. Members that they were anxious that criminals should be punished; but he had yet to learn that any individual criminal, whom the Irish Members thought ought to have been punished, had not been punished. Their remarks upon crime had consisted entirely of one long palliation of everyone who had been accused of crime, except the comparatively small number of accused persons who had eventually given evidence against others—palliation, in fact, of everyone who had been convicted of crime; and accusations couched in very severe, and he thought very unjust, terms against everyone who had been concerned in bringing criminals to justice, from the Judge to the jurymen in the box, and to all the counsel and witnesses who had been concerned. He had not been able to sit for 15 months opposite to those hon. Members without being very much interested in watching the direction of their thoughts, and without obtaining some sort of personal insight into the views of the different hon. Members to whom he was sometimes opposed, and with whom he sometimes agreed. He had listened to this debate with, he must own, a rather melancholy interest, and had endeavoured to extract from it what were the opinions of hon. Gentlemen on

the question of crime. He wanted to know why they were so very angry with the efforts of the Irish Executive to put down crime? The hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) had made two speeches to-night; and, in the second, he gave expression to one or two sentences which he (the Chief Secretary for Ireland) must confess rather took his breath away, upon the subject of crime; for if the hon. Member really held the opinions he had then put forward, he did not wonder that the hon. Member was angry, and irreconcilably angry, with the Government. The hon. Member said that whenever a man committed a crime, the Irish Government were very severe upon him; and he described a crime against law and order as a crime against the prejudices of the ruling classes. That sentence hardly required comment; but a few minutes afterwards the hon. Member, in an incidental way, referred to the outrages that had been committed in the South of Ireland, and said they might be described as having been occasioned by Amendments to the Land Act brought forward by Whigs below the Gangway. If the hon. Member seriously thought that any Amendment whatever to the Land Act could be any justification, or even a tenable excuse, for crime or outrage, all he (Mr. Trevelyan) could say was that he felt that all common ground of argument was gone. In his first speech, the hon. Member put forward a very simple theory, but still a theory. He said crime had practically ceased throughout Ireland. He allowed that the old crimes had not been punished to any great extent—at any rate, that a large number of them had not been punished; but then he went on to say that in every civilized country after a war was over an amnesty was granted. Did the hon. Member seriously reflect upon what this argument led him to? He (the Chief Secretary for Ireland) could just conceive, although he was not sure that he was justified in saying so, a state of things in which a civil war should take the form of a desperate conflict between the masses of the people in some districts and the police and military; and that, although there might be no battle in the field, there might be raids.

Mr. HEALY said, he had been referring to what was done in England in

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regard to the Sheffield outrages, which were practically condoned by the Government.

MR. TREVELYAN said, the hon. Member did not give that case as an instance at the time; but he gave as an instance what was much more like a civil war. He gave as an instance the American War, and said there was a good deal of killing and burning in that war. But that war was conducted according to the ordinary principles of warfare, and between two Parties who were recognized belligerents; but in regard to this warfare in Ireland, even though it was an irregular warfare between landlords and tenants, and the landlords were backed up by the police, he should have a great deal to say before assenting to a general amnesty. He could not forget that the first 10 men who were punished capitally for murder were punished not for killing landlords or policemen, but for killing poor peasants. The hon. Member for Galway (Mr. T. P. O'Connor) talked of Lord Spencer setting class against class, and religion against religion. It was to protect the homes of the small farmers and peasants that Lord Spencer had exercised severity—severity very much exaggerated; because, wherever there was opportunity without danger to the State and to the personal safety of the individual, Lord Spencer on every occasion remitted capital punishment. Setting class against class, and religion against religion! Not only were those persons for whose death punishment was exacted on the gallows poor peasants, but they were likewise Roman Catholics; and it happened that the very first Protestant whose death was made the subject of inquiry under the new Act was a farmer named East, and for his death a Roman Catholic of his own rank was arraigned, but was acquitted. The hon. Member for Monaghan, referring to himself, had said he pitied any hon. Member of humane mind who took part in such a system. It might, or it might not, be a pleasant duty to hold the place he (the Chief Secretary for Ireland) now occupied. He believed hon. Members could imagine what it had been to have to sit next to a trusted Colleague like his right hon. and learned Friend the Attorney General for Ireland, and hear him attacked as he had been that night. It was not so pleasant a

place as one in which one had to make arrangements for the military and naval defences of the country, or conduct the administration of the Colonies or India; but he could not imagine a service which a man of honour and humanity would consider it more his duty to take up than, in spite of all this abuse, to make the life of a poor Irishman who was at variance with the people around him a life of comparative security, compared with what it had been. The Government were charged by the hon. Member for Westmeath (Mr. Harrington) with having used exceptional means to bring Myles Joyce to justice. What earthly political or religious motive could they have had to bring him to justice? The hon. Member for Monaghan cheered that statement in a very marked manner; but Myles Joyce had not taken any part in this civil war. He was accused of having killed a peasant like himself. The hon. Member for Westmeath said the motives of the person who he admitted had committed that murder were unknown to that day, and were probably not agrarian; but, in spite of that, he thought it necessary to try that case over again in the House of Commons, and when he had done so, and when he had brought forward and analyzed the evidence given by witnesses whom they had never seen, and whom they could not cross-examine—evidence which they had to take on the *ipse dixit* of the hon. Member—an *ipse dixit* given, no doubt, with every desire to be fair—

MR. HARRINGTON said, he had referred to documents in the possession of the Viceroy.

MR. TREVELYAN said, that still it was evidence brought forward without the possibility of cross-examination; and, after all this was stated in a manner in which no judicial case ought to be stated, the Committee learned that the Government had absolutely no motive in that case whatever, except to protect the lives of the poorest Irishmen. The hon. Member had tried that case over again, and other hon. Members who followed him had tried it over again, and had tried other cases over again, in the House of Commons. He must say he thought that a very dangerous precedent. He knew it was strictly Parliamentary, and that no hon. Member, however strong his language, had exceeded the bounds of what was strictly

Parliamentary; but, on the other hand, he could not think it tended to the credit of Parliament, and he was quite sure it was not to the advantage of justice, that in that Assembly, which was not a Court of Law at all where men sat judicially, where witnesses were not present to be heard, and where nobody knew anything except such fragments of the case as hon. Members might choose to put forward, and where they never heard anything except *ex parte* statements on judicial cases. Under those circumstances, how could they undertake to hear over again all these cases that had been tried by Courts of Law, on the flimsy pretext of deciding whether or not they should vote certain judicial salaries? He must refer to some remarks made by the hon. Member for Mallow (Mr. O'Brien), because, if they were justified, then the Government would have very little to say as to what had been taking place during the last few months. He had not the Returns of outrages at hand; but the remarks he would make would be borne out by the Returns, and hon. Members would find that those general remarks were substantially correct. The hon. Member for Mallow said the outrages had diminished throughout May, June, and July—through the months that followed the Phoenix Park massacre. To show the hon. Gentleman that he did not wish to be unfair, he would not only concede that, but he would tell him the exact proportions. In March last year there were 531 outrages; in July there were 231. They had diminished by an exact series of 75 per month. Crime generally had diminished; but the hon. Member for Mallow was quite mistaken in thinking that murder was diminishing. So far from that, it was increasing. He could recall at this moment two terrible murders at that period—the murder of Mr. Bourke, and of Mr. Lane and his protector. But the general fact was that murders not only had not diminished, but had increased up to a certain date. They increased up to August last year. In the first eight months of last year there were 25 agrarian murders; since August there had been only two; and in August the first man was capitally punished for murder. Now, he would tell the hon. Member for Mallow the general drift of the figures. Since August the outrages had

gone on steadily falling; and the general result was that, whereas at the time the hon. Member had mentioned there were 200 outrages a month, for several months the average had been very much less than 100. In the first six months of this year there had been fewer outrages than there were in the month of January last year. Last year, up to October there were 25 murders; since October there had been only one. Last year there were 56 cases of firing at the person; in the first six months of this year there were only 3. Last August there were about 200 outrages; but this month, in the first 12 days, there had been 24 outrages, of which 16 were threatening letters. The machinery by which that had been brought about—in great part he was proud to allow that it had been brought about by healing measures—but this result had been effected by machinery which might be represented in that House as cruel, and the people who had worked it might be represented in an odious light, but which he was satisfied the country at large regarded as, on the whole, for the public advantage. They believed that life was now safer in Ireland than it was 12 months ago; that persons were very much less liable to outrage and to the tyranny of their more violent neighbours; that people were now allowed to follow what vocation they liked, to labour for anybody who paid them, and to take any farm that was vacant much more freely and with less fear of consequences than in the old days. These were the objects of the Government—these were the objects they believed they had attained; and although occasionally mistakes might have been made, though in such a large field and with such a number of agents there might have been occasional severities, and there might have been occasional injustice, and, perhaps, more inconvenience to individuals, still, taking Ireland as a whole, he did not believe anything had been done beyond what was absolutely necessary for the purpose of punishing crime and outrage, and restoring peace to the country.

MR. PARNELL said, he regretted to perceive that the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland had copied almost exactly the phrases and method of approaching Irish questions which used to belong to the right

Mr. Trevelyan

hon. Gentleman his Predecessor (Mr. W. E. Forster). The right hon. Member for Bradford would have stated just as well—perhaps not quite so eloquently—but with just as much appearance of belief in what he was saying as the right hon. Gentleman had now done, that the objects of the Government had been, so far as the administration of the Prevention of Crime Act went, to protect the humbler people—the peasantry of Ireland—in their every day pursuits and in their legal rights. He (Mr. Parnell) did not believe that that Act was enacted, or ever would have been enacted, for the purpose of protecting the humbler classes in Ireland, and he did not believe that it had been used for their protection. He believed that that Act had been used, in an unexampled way, for the oppression of the humbler classes of Ireland. The right hon. Gentleman accused Irish Members of always denouncing everybody who had been instrumental in bringing anyone to justice. He (Mr. Parnell) denied that statement; and the right hon. Gentleman, instead of making such a sweeping assertion, would, he thought, have occupied his time a little better, if he (Mr. Parnell) might venture to express his opinion, by bringing forward some proof of that sweeping statement. Irish Members that day brought forward cases of hardship to individuals of a most extraordinary character. They had pointed out examples of people in Ireland who had been kept month after month in solitary confinement awaiting their trial, all the while subject to horrible mental torture by the hints and innuendoes of their gaolers of evidence, in many cases false, that was being given behind their backs, which would result in their execution, or sentence to long terms of imprisonment. He (Mr. Parnell) could not imagine any description of torture worse than the mental torture which he knew many innocent people who had been awaiting their trial had been subject to during the last 12 months. His hon. Friend (Mr. T. P. O'Connor) had mentioned the case of a man who had spent the last four years of his life in Irish prisons awaiting his trial, and who had been acquitted by the jury on the only occasion on which the Government thought fit to bring him to trial. Many other cases had been mentioned; but no reply had been given—no reply had

been attempted, either by the Chief Secretary for Ireland or the Attorney General for Ireland. He (Mr. Parnell) wanted to know what was the defence of the Government in regard to the cases of conspiracy to murder in Clare, in Galway, in Mayo, and in King's County? In every single case large numbers of men had been arrested. The reporters of the newspapers were instructed to say that one of the number had turned informer. Rumours of a most extraordinary character had been sedulously promulgated by the Press, and these had been laid before the prisoners themselves; and yet, notwithstanding this, and all the power of the Crown and the vast resources which, under the Prevention of Crime Act, and all the extraordinary machinery for the prevention of crime which they were able to bring to bear to that end in Ireland, the case for the Crown had practically broken down, although the men charged were bandied about from one Petty Sessions to another, remanded time after time, and when their cases reached the Assize Court they were postponed to some future time which, in all probability, would never arrive. The right hon. Member for Bradford imprisoned 1,000 persons in Ireland, whom he did not intend to bring to trial, under the late Coercion Act. Public opinion in this country rose up and revolted against the use made of that Act; and he (Mr. Parnell) asserted deliberately that the use which had been made of that Act, in his judgment, was not one-tenth part so atrocious as the use which the Government were making of the ordinary law at that moment, by holding large numbers of men in prison against whom they had no evidence, and whom they did not intend to bring to trial, thus practically suspending the Habeas Corpus Act. He wanted to know what was going to be done in the case of the men who had been committed for trial recently in Ireland; who were brought up at the last Assizes, with reference to whom no evidence had been brought forward, and who had been for months suffering all the horrors of solitary confinement as prisoners—in the words of the Act of 1877—the law presumed to be innocent; whom the officials of the Crown in Ireland were treating as if they were guilty, and whom they were striving to make

the public mind believe they were guilty of the crimes alleged against them. What was going to be done in the case of the King's County prisoners, who were arrested many months ago? Was not the only evidence the Government had against them the evidence of a woman who was well known to the police as a prostitute? Was not the only evidence they had against the persons charged with conspiracy in Mayo the evidence of a wretched informer, who admitted that he had been hired to commit several assassinations? He wanted to know if the only evidence the Government had in the case of the Clare prisoners was the evidence of another informer, who had been convicted and who was sentenced to penal servitude for life for taking part in a disgraceful moonlight attack against an unoffending farmer, and who got a charge of buckshot as he ran away? These were questions which arose in the administration of law in Ireland. Irish Members had shown that the Act, great as it was and extensive as were its powers, was being grossly misused, and that the Government, not satisfied with all the machinery of packed jury panels and secret inquiries, had actually re-enacted in its worst form, and without the sanction of Parliament, the old provisions of the Peace Preservation Act, the administration of which, in a much milder and more lenient way, brought discredit upon, and caused the loss of Office by, the right hon. Member for Bradford. The Irish Members were acting on behalf of the poorer and the humbler classes in Ireland. He had carefully watched the administration of justice under Lord Spencer, and he did not believe that any person in a humble position who was not well known to the English public, and the public abroad, was at present safe against unfounded and false accusations, if the local police or other local authorities in Ireland chose to bring false accusations against him. The right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland had asked them why they attacked the administration of the Government in Ireland. They did not attack the administration of the Irish Government because criminals had been detected and brought to justice. Many criminals had been detected and most properly brought to justice and punished. But they at-

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tacked that administration because public opinion in Ireland perfectly well knew that more than one innocent person had been condemned to death, and actually executed; and because they knew that, at the present moment, there were many persons suffering the horrible penalties of penal servitude for offences which they no more committed than the right hon. Gentleman himself. It was because they felt that there was no protection for individuals in Ireland who were obscure—who were weak and defenceless. The right hon. Gentleman mentioned the case of Careen, and prided himself upon the fact that Careen's was the first case in which a man was brought to trial for murdering a Protestant. But the right hon. Gentleman forgot to mention that Careen was twice tried before a special jury in Dublin; that he was kept in gaol for nine or ten months before he received his second trial and his eventual acquittal; that, at the first trial, 30 jurors, out of a panel of 200, were ordered to stand aside; that the jury then disagreed; that, at the next trial, so convinced were the Crown of the guilt of the unfortunate man, 40 jurors—special jurors drawn from the select special panels of Dublin—and the lawyers of the Crown did their very best to hang the man; but, notwithstanding that, because the man had a fair Judge, who put the case fairly and with impartiality before the jury, as an English Judge would have done, the man was acquitted and was now at large. There were, perhaps, other reasons also why the man was able to present his case to the mind of the jury in such a way as to enable better justice to be done to himself. He (Mr. Parnell) might, perhaps, be allowed to mention that this was one of the very few cases in which he advanced money out of the fund that was under his control for the defence of prisoners. But he was so convinced of Careen's innocence that he not only fed him while he was in gaol, but advanced money to a solicitor to work up his case, and to collect evidence which could not have been collected otherwise, owing to the change of venue, and to the poverty of the man. He believed it was owing to that fact that Careen had an advantage which many other prisoners, who were without funds, and on whose behalf the disposers of the prisoners' fund did not interfere, did not possess, and

consequently Careen was able to obtain his acquittal. Had it not been that the particular Judge who tried the case put the matter fairly before the jury—had it not been for that, and for the other circumstances which he (Mr. Parnell) had mentioned, he believed that Careen would have been strangled to death within the walls of a prison. There was an old maxim that it was better that 99 guilty persons should escape than that one innocent person should be executed; but last year—at the close of the Session of 1882—he could not help seeing that there was a feeling in this country that it would be far better that two or three innocent persons should be executed, rather than that any more guilty persons should escape. He believed that public opinion in this country was so alarmed by the assassinations in the Phoenix Park and the attempt to murder the juror Field, that a feeling got abroad that even though it were necessary to execute an innocent man some person should be executed, in order to strike terror into the hearts of evil-doers in Ireland. Now, he (Mr. Parnell) did not believe that the execution of innocent persons at all intimidated the guilty—he thought, on the contrary, that the guilty person, when he saw that an innocent man had been executed for what he had really done, would be so much the more emboldened to go on and repeat his crime. He would ask the Government one question. Did they think that by the passing of the Prevention of Crime Act, or by its administration, they had advanced one single inch nearer to that which ought to be the endeavour of all Governments in any country—did they think they had advanced one single step nearer to gaining the respect and assistance of the Irish people in the maintenance of law and order? He felt convinced that it was to the administration of the Land Act, to the Arrears Act, to the good harvests, that they had been having for the last year or two, and very much also to the good prices which had been obtained for cattle, that in a large degree was to be attributed the comparative restoration of law and order in Ireland. But as to the respect and reverence of the people for the law—the respect which sprung from the belief that the law was being justly administered, and that it was as much on the side of the great mass of

the people as it was on the side of the minority of the country—he believed that the present Irish Administration had done more to retard that respect which he had hoped would have commenced, and, therefore, more to bring about the assassinations in Phoenix Park than any Government would be able to undo for a great many years to come. In past times they had tried coercion over and over again. It was true that this was the only time in which they had not depended entirely upon coercion for the results which they hoped to obtain; they had also made certain concessions. It was true that coercion might intimidate for awhile; but they could not govern by intimidation. The examples which were being set over all the country—the unjust accusations which were being brought against individuals—the unjust and cruel sentences which were being inflicted upon innocent persons—all this would, undoubtedly, do very much to discredit the good results which were dependent on the measures of concession. He submitted that the Committee ought to have some definite reply to the distinct charges which had been brought against the Irish Government in respect of the individual cases which had now been brought under notice, and that it would be neither fitting nor proper to pass this Vote until the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland had explained why the Habeas Corpus Act had been disregarded in Ireland, and why the cruelties and horrors which had been described had been daily inflicted upon many persons.

Mr. HARRINGTON said, he had listened with very great surprise to the speech of the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland; for he had thought, after the very grave charges which had been made against the right hon. Gentleman there that evening, and after the long and, he would venture to say, convincing array of facts that had been laid before the Committee—he had thought that the right hon. Gentleman would, at least, have made some effort to meet separately the charges which had been made against the Administration in Ireland. There was one very remarkable omission from the observations which the right hon. Gentleman addressed to the Committee in reply to those charges, and that was

with respect to that system of jury-packing which was going on in Ireland under the right hon. Gentleman's administration. When the right hon. Gentleman appealed to hon. Members to assist him in upholding the law, he was very careful to ride over, as quickly as he could, the machinery which he had put in force in Ireland for the administration of the law. The right hon. Gentleman's memory might be short upon those points; but, fortunately, there were other hon. Members whose memories were not so short, and they were determined that, before the House rose, the Committee should be placed in possession of some of the iniquities which were perpetrated in Ireland in the name of law, and, as was declared, for the purpose, forsooth, of making the law respected there. Upon one of the cases that attention had been drawn to that evening the statements of the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland and those of the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary were completely at variance—he referred to the case of that unfortunate man, Myles Joyce. When he (Mr. Harrington) stated that the Lord Lieutenant had in his possession evidence which, if he had perused it, would have borne to him convincing proof of the innocence of the man who was executed, the Attorney General for Ireland said that those statements, not given in Court, but handed in afterwards, were such as the Lord Lieutenant should not act upon. But the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland, when questioned some time since in that House with regard to those very statements, made quite a different assertion about them, for he said that those statements did not set forth the innocence of the man Myles Joyce. That evening, in reply to his (Mr. Harrington's) observations, the right hon. Gentleman had got up and told the Committee—"We have not the evidence before us; we have not the facts with regard to this case." The right hon. Gentleman, therefore, declared that it was impossible for the Committee to form an opinion upon the case. But why had they not the evidence before them? Simply because the right hon. Gentleman, or his Colleague in Dublin Castle, was determined to keep it back, and would not allow the House to have the means of forming

an opinion. The right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland had declared that the statements made were such as could not be acted upon. But they were not mere newspaper reports or verbal statements—they were authentic depositions made upon oath by men who, the next day, were going to face their God; and such depositions would have infinitely more weight with the masses of the people in Ireland than any denial of a right hon. Gentleman on the Treasury Bench. The right hon. and learned Attorney General for Ireland had told them that the Crown was especially careful, in the case of this unfortunate man, and of the others who were tried with him, that they should have a fair trial. But how was the Crown particularly careful when, two days before the trial, two of the men who were charged with the murder became informers, and when that unfortunate man, who did not know a word of English, and had no one in Court to interpret the evidence, except a policeman employed by the Crown as interpreter—when that unfortunate man applied by counsel for an adjournment of his trial, that adjournment which the Crown so frequently applied for themselves, even when the evidence was complete, was denied him, and he was hurried on to trial and to execution. One of the sets of cases tried by the Special Commission in Dublin was particularly deserving of the notice of the House, as it showed something of the system of jury-packing employed by the Crown in Ireland; and he might mention in passing, with reference to the very high character which the right hon. and learned Attorney General for Ireland had given to the Judge who presided over those trials, that almost every newspaper in Great Britain of Liberal views condemned the language which that Judge used on an occasion when one man had been found guilty, and—some other prisoners being set on their trial—he declared that the man who had been found guilty was the least guilty of them all. He (Mr. Harrington) would now give a list of the jury who were empannelled to try these cases. The jury was selected from the special jury, and here were the names and religions of the men who tried the cases during that Special Commission. Seven cases were placed before the Commission, and some of them were more and

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some less important and serious. The names and religions of the jurors were these:—

Frederick Blood, Protestant; Henry C. Bloxam, Protestant; John F. Boake, Protestant; Henry Booth, Methodist; George Booth, Methodist; Richard Booth, Methodist; Joshua Bewley, Protestant; Samuel H. Close, Protestant; Francis J. Coghlan, Protestant; John Colclough, Protestant; George J. Cockle, Protestant; William Glen, Protestant; W. R. F. Godley, Protestant; John Hatchell, Protestant; Robert Hatten, Protestant; Henry Hayes, Protestant; Alfred G. Jones, Protestant; James King, Catholic; Charles King, Protestant; Charles Kendall, Protestant; John Logue, Protestant; W. F. Lennon, Catholic; Charles Martelli, Protestant; Robert C. Mason, Protestant; Frederick Maple, Protestant; Joseph Manly, Protestant; John Martin, Protestant; John Millar, Protestant; David North, Protestant; Joseph R. O'Reilly, Catholic; James P. O'Reilly, Catholic; William Owen, Protestant; Francis Ormsby, Protestant; George O'Neill, Catholic; William B. Prescott, Protestant; H. A. Phillipson, Protestant; Thomas J. Plunket, Catholic; Patrick J. Plunket, Catholic; James Talbot Power, Catholic; John Rigby, Protestant; Michael Roe, Catholic; Thomas W. Russell, Protestant; Henry Shaw, Protestant; Robert Shaw, Protestant; Henry Smith, Protestant; Isaac J. Smallman, Protestant; Arthur Rotheram, Protestant; William G. Sloane, Protestant; Charles Uniacke Townsend, Protestant; R. S. Tresillian, Protestant; John Alfred Trench, Protestant; Benjamin Warren, Protestant; Robert Whyte, Protestant; William Whyte, Junior, Protestant; Captain Kearney White, Protestant; and Henry Warren, Protestant.

Those were the jurors selected by the Crown to try the cases at one of the Special Commissions in Dublin; and in the face of that state of facts, which he defied the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland to contradict, the right hon. Gentleman stood up and did not offer to the Committee one single word in justification or defence of such a system of jury-packing. Nay, more; when such a state of things was arraigned by the Irish papers, which de-

clared that, instead of winning respect for law, it was weakening the administration of the law and demoralizing the people of Ireland, the authorities sent into prison the hon. Member for Carlow, the proprietor of *The Freeman's Journal* (Mr. Gray), and put upon his trial, for a criminal libel, the hon. Member for Mallow (Mr. O'Brien). And when the hon. Member for Mallow was put upon his trial, even though he declared that, as he had challenged the system of jury-packing, he would not challenge a single juror, or do anything to give his sanction to the system—though he challenged no juror, however hostile, the Crown packed the jury until they succeeded in getting into the jury box 10 Protestants and two Catholics, one of those two being a Catholic who had found a verdict of guilty for them on the preceding day. There was one other fact which had been mentioned by the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for the University of Dublin (Mr. Gibson) to which he (Mr. Harrington wished to draw attention. He always found that when lawyers were attacked other lawyers were sure to be lying around to take their part—it was so in that House and everywhere else; they were highly gregarious, and they rushed to assist each other. The right hon. and learned Gentleman, in referring to an observation made by the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy), with regard to the direction of a jury in a case on trial, gave the Committee a glimpse of what was done in these cases. The hon. Member for Monaghan pointed out that the Judge directed a verdict of guilty virtually by the direction which he gave to the jury; and the right hon. and learned Member for the University of Dublin drew attention, in his own legal manner, to the fact that that direction was in accordance with the usual custom when such a question was asked by a jury. But he (Mr. Harrington) would point out that the question asked in the case was this—whether they were justified in the verdict upon the depositions? It was necessary for the Committee to know that the deposition with regard to which the jury asked the question in this case was a contradiction of the evidence given by the man on the trial who had originally made the deposition. Here, then, was the point and force of the criticism made by the hon.

Member for Monaghan. This man had originally made a deposition incriminating the prisoner who was on his trial; but when the case was actually tried in Court at the Assizes, the man went back in that deposition, and stated that he could not recognize the man who fired; and when the jury asked—"Are we to disregard the evidence given before us here now, and to find a verdict on the deposition alone?" the Judge answered, "Yes;" and a verdict of guilty was returned. It was impossible, therefore, for the right hon. and learned Member for the University of Dublin or anybody else to say that this was anything other than a simple direction to the jury to find a verdict of guilty against the poor man who was on his trial.

COLONEL NOLAN said, he wished to explain the reason why he was unwilling to give the Government the money they asked for. The Government gave him, practically, no influence whatever in the administration of affairs in Ireland. He knew that in one case, about four months ago, he and certain other hon. Members were listened to, when they sent a Memorial to the Lord Lieutenant in the interests of three or four prisoners; but, with that exception, he had been perfectly helpless as a Member of Parliament, and he was anxious to say that, because he wished his constituents to know it, and he thought other hon. Members could say the same. If they stopped the Supplies until they got proper treatment, that would have a very powerful effect. That point had not been sufficiently attended to by many Irish Members in Parliament, and that was his reason for voting in the present case against this grant of money. The whole reason for that want of influence was to be found in the constitution of the Irish Government. Instead of having a Chief Secretary here with full powers, they were really governed from the House of Lords. If they went to speak to the Chief Secretary for Ireland, that right hon. Gentleman paid the greatest attention to them; but they could soon see that the central power was elsewhere, and the Chief Secretary for Ireland, not being in the Cabinet, had no sufficient influence or authority. The Irish Members ought to have considerable influence, if not in the administration of justice, at all events in the revision of sentences. When it was found

that they recommended any good cases to the mercy of the Crown, their representations should be attended to. He was sorry that more Irish Members would not vote against this. He knew there were dozens of men who would not vote there to-night, but who had been treated just as he had been, and whose views had not been a bit attended to, although they had done their best to bring them forward.

MR. CALLAN said, he deeply regretted that a debate on a Vote for Law Charges and Criminal Prosecutions should have developed into a discussion on crimes in Ireland, as he thought it was better to keep the charges connected with the administration of the Irish Executive apart, and not mix them up with other matters. He did not wish to refer to any of the trials or to any of the Judges, except to pay a tribute of respect to a firm, conscientious, just, and honourable man, Mr. Justice O'Brien. He would only refer to one trial, which he wished to have cleared up, as it seemed to him to be a most infamous transaction, which had reflected more disgrace and discredit upon Earl Spencer than any other act of which he had ever been the known author—the acceptance of information from James Carey, the Crown informer. It was well known that the Phoenix Park murderers could have been brought to justice without the intervention of Mr. James Carey. Why, then, was his evidence accepted by the Lord Lieutenant? There was a rumour, and he hoped it was a true one, that this step was forced on the Irish Executive by a Sub-Committee of the Cabinet; and he must say it was the Secretary of State for the Home Department, to whom all such things were attributed, who got, and perhaps who deserved, the credit of selecting James Carey as an informer, for the purpose of endeavouring to bring into the mesh, as the right hon. Gentleman thought, certain Members of that House. But he (Mr. Callan) wished principally to refer to the packing of juries, of which he knew something, and he would give an instance which occurred in his own presence at the Assizes this year in County Louth. A Catholic was ordered to stand aside; a licensed vintner, who was a Protestant and who lived four doors off, was sworn. That was a fact, and nothing had been

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done about it. Would the right hon. and learned Attorney General for Ireland say that he would not be a party to packing juries by excluding Catholics? The right hon. and learned Gentleman had been present at some of the most infamous cases of exclusion of Catholics from juries. He was present when a most infamous case occurred, and he (Mr. Callan) would speak of the matter in very moderate language; because, just 12 months ago, when he referred to it, a Member of the Government asserted that one of the first signs of the return of peace in Ireland was that it was possible to form juries who, when the evidence was plain and without contradiction, returned verdicts in accordance with the facts. He said—

“As soon, however, as that took place, a certain section of the Irish Press and certain Members from Ireland set to work to renew the agitation against the administration of justice, in order to secure for crime that immunity it had previously enjoyed.”

He (Mr. Callan) gave, at the time, to that statement the proper term it deserved. He was suspended from the service of the House for doing so; and, when attention was called to his language, the Chairman (Sir Lyon Playfair) said it did not deserve censure. Having, however, in view what occurred 12 months ago, he would not do otherwise, on the present occasion, than employ Parliamentary language. The first trial to which he wished to direct attention was that of John O'Connell and three others on the 10th of August. At that trial a number of Catholics were ordered to stand aside. The right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland was present.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER): I was present; but I had nothing to do with the empanelling of the jury.

MR. CALLAN said, that 20 men were ordered to stand aside—18 Catholics and two Protestants. One of the men was Thomas Phillips, tailor, of Dame Street. The next day the Hynes' trial took place, and *The Freeman's Journal* wrote—

“Yesterday, at the Commission Court, the first jury trial took place. John O'Connell and three others, all natives of Kerry, were placed in the dock, charged with having attacked a house on the 17th of March. Under the ordinary law, the men would have to be tried in Kerry; but the Attorney General removed all the cases to Dublin, and the Crown exercised their right to

challenge on a wholesale scale; and no less than 13 persons, some amongst our most respectable citizens, were ordered to stand aside. The facts of the case are reported in another column. All the prisoners were acquitted.”

In that article there was no reference to religion. Speaking of the article, the right hon. and learned Attorney General said it was a most improper interference with the administration of justice; and he added, stamping his foot, that it was intolerable it should be permitted. The very day that article was published, the Hynes' case was tried; and what took place at that trial? There were 26 jurors ordered to stand aside, 22 of whom were Catholics, and the jury sworn was constituted exclusively of Protestants. On the next day *The Freeman's Journal* said they were unwilling to credit the rumour that the Crown had resolved that juries exclusively, or almost exclusively Protestant, should determine, in some cases the liberty, and in other cases the lives, of the prisoners on trial in Green Street; but they could not understand the fact that in the Hynes' trial 22 Catholics were ordered to stand aside, and that the jury was composed of Protestants only. He (Mr. Callan) believed, as firmly as he believed that God was in Heaven, that the men were shunted aside simply and solely because they were Roman Catholics, and such was the opinion of the Irish people. The action of the Crown in this case very naturally caused considerable indignation in Catholic circles. The matter certainly required explanation. On Monday, the 14th of August—the hon. Member for Carlow (Mr. Gray) having on the Saturday drawn attention in *The Freeman's Journal* to the wholesale exclusion of Catholics from the juries—Kelly was tried for shooting at a man at Mullingar, and upon his jury were empannelled five Catholics, who had been ordered to stand aside on the Thursday and Friday before. These men were considered by the Law Officers of the Crown unfit to try a case of midnight marauding and murder; but they were thought competent to try a case of attempt to murder. He believed the jury found a verdict of guilty, and that the prisoner was sentenced to imprisonment for life. The next trial took place on the 18th of August, and, again, five Catholics were permitted to serve on the jury. At the following trial, on the 19th

of August, four Catholics were allowed to sit on the jury. But by this time the owner of *The Freeman's Journal*, the hon. Member for Carlow, had been sent to Richmond Prison for the part he had played in criticizing the action of the Law Officers of the Crown. Then came Patrick Walsh's first trial, and they heard, for the first time, something about retail licences. The holder of one retail licence, however, was allowed to go on the jury, although Catholics were ordered to stand aside. On Walsh's trial he could not say who was ordered to stand aside, because the names were not called over. To what he was now going to say he requested the attention of the Chief Secretary for Ireland, in whom he had some confidence, and of the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland, in whom he had no confidence at all. Now, Patrick Walsh's trial took place, and Mr. George Bolton was the Crown Solicitor in charge of the empannelling of the jury. There were two men sitting together—Thomas Phillips, tailor, of Dame Street, and Michael O'Laughlin, butcher, of South Richmond Street. O'Laughlin was first called, and he was ordered to stand by. "Lucky fellow," said Phillips to O'Laughlin, "there is no chance of my getting off." Phillips, however, was astonished when he was ordered to stand by. Immediately one of the clerks of the Conservative Association in Dublin rushed over to Bolton, and said something to him. It was evident a mistake had been made; indeed, he (Mr. Callan) believed Phillips had been mistaken for someone else. Mr. Bolton took care to rectify the mistake, for, at the next trial, Michael O'Laughlin was ordered to stand by; but Thomas Phillips, who had been three times challenged, was sworn a good man and true, George Bolton having discovered his error. Well, they were told that at Walsh's first trial there were no licensed victuallers on the jury. The reason alleged by the right hon. and learned Attorney General for Ireland was that a large number of Catholics were publicans. It was a common thing in Ireland to call a licensed victualler, who happened to be a Catholic, a publican; but if a licensed victualler was a sound and respectable Protestant, he was called a merchant. It was amusing

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to find that Edward Johnson, of 43, Grafton Street, hotel keeper and Protestant, was allowed to go on the jury; while Michael Callan, an hotel keeper and a Roman Catholic, was ordered to stand by. Both were the holders of retail licences, and they were equally respectable. At the next trial a Protestant grocer was sworn on the jury; but nine Catholic grocers were ordered to stand by. Could that be a mere accident? The right hon. and learned Attorney General for Ireland came down to the House and asserted he would be no party to packing a jury. He (Mr. Callan) supposed the right hon. and learned Gentleman's chaste and virtuous friend, George Bolton, would say exactly the same thing. Why was not the same system pursued in the Phoenix Park trials? Because the Judge, William O'Brien, was a Catholic, and he knew the tendency there was to pack juries. The learned Judge himself had said that the greatest difficulty he had to contend with in Green Street, whenever a Party trial came on, was to prevent the Crown Solicitors from endeavouring to pack the jury. It was all very well for the right hon. and learned Attorney General and the Crown officials to say they would not be parties to jury-packing; but there had been jury-packing, and they were responsible, because they had not tried to prevent it, although it took place in their presence. The infamous case of jury-packing in which Phillips and O'Laughlin were concerned took place in the presence of the right hon. and learned Attorney General for Ireland, and the man at fault was George Bolton, the chaste and virtuous friend of the Irish Executive; but not one word of censure had ever been passed upon him. He (Mr. Callan) never would believe, so long as Catholics were systematically excluded by the under-strappers of the Government, that the right hon. and learned Attorney General for Ireland was not a party to the packing of juries. In spite of the protestations of the hon. and learned Gentleman, he was firmly of opinion that he could prevent these malpractices, if he so desired.

Mr. PARNELL said, that, as a protest against the Vote, and in consequence of the entire absence of any defence by the Government against the charges

brought by the Irish Members in reference to the administration of justice in Ireland, he begged to move the reduction of the Vote by £9,000 under Sub-head E, being the fees to the Attorney General, the Solicitor General, and the Law Advisers in Ireland for directing Crown prosecutions and other contentious Business.

Motion made, and Question put,

"That a sum, not exceeding £29,235, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, of Criminal Prosecutions and other Law Charges in Ireland, including certain Allowances under the Act 15 and 16 Vic. c. 83."—(*Mr Parnell.*)

The Committee divided:—Ayes 24; Noes 93: Majority 69. — (*Div. List, No. 287.*)

Original Question put, and agreed to.

(2.) £55,651, to complete the sum for the Supreme Court of Judicature in Ireland.

(3.) £6,813, to complete the sum for the Court of Bankruptcy, Ireland.

MR. CALLAN said, he should like to direct the attention of the Prime Minister to the first item under Sub-head "A" with respect to salaries. During the past few weeks they had had their attention very closely drawn to Bankruptcy proceedings in Ireland; and some of them, himself amongst the number, had studied the question very carefully. As the result of his investigation, he had found that at present the business of the Court was so small that it was insufficient to occupy the time of one Judge. It was a matter of surprise to everyone who possessed any knowledge of the Irish Bar that the Hon. Frederick Walsh should have accepted the office of Judge of this Court, though, no doubt, the acceptance had been in anticipation of a better appointment, such as that of Mr. Justice Harrison, who, having given evidence of his capacity in the Court of Bankruptcy, had been promoted to the Supreme Court. No doubt, the example set in the one case would be followed in the other. Mr. Walsh had shown ample capacity, and was a trained Equity lawyer. As there was no prospect of an increase of business in the Court, and as, if the Bankruptcy Bill was found to work well in England, it would, in all

probability, be extended to Ireland in the course of a few years, and there would only be business in the Bankruptcy Court of Ireland for one Judge one day a-week, he (Mr. Callan) would ask whether the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland would take into consideration—and he would appeal to the magnanimity of the right hon. and learned Gentleman—the desirability of recommending for the next vacancy on the Irish Bench one of the Judges of the Bankruptcy Court in Ireland. In this way some thousands a-year might be saved to Her Majesty's Exchequer.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER): Does the hon. Gentleman appeal to me?

MR. CALLAN said, he would not appeal to the right hon. and learned Gentleman under the circumstances, as it would be invidious to expect him to relinquish his natural promotion. He would appeal to the Prime Minister.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) said, he had some experience of the Bankruptcy Court in Ireland; and he could assure hon. Members that it would be impossible to do without two Judges.

MR. FINDLATER said, he agreed with what had fallen from the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland with regard to the necessity of having two Judges in the Court of Bankruptcy in Ireland. They could not do without them.

Vote agreed to.

(4.) £845, to complete the sum for the Admiralty Court Registry, Ireland.

(5.) £10,927, to complete the sum for the Registry of Deeds, Ireland.

(6.) £1,464, to complete the sum for the Registry of Judgments, Ireland.

(7.) £60,720, to complete the sum for County Court Officers, &c. Ireland.

(8.) £72,498, to complete the sum for the Dublin Metropolitan Police.

(9.) £51,968, to complete the sum for Reformatory and Industrial Schools, Ireland.

(10.) £4,345, to complete the sum for the Dunder Criminal Lunatic Asylum, Ireland.

CLASS IV.—EDUCATION, SCIENCE, AND ART.

(11.) Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That a sum, not exceeding £241,690, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the Salaries and Expenses of the Science and Art Department, and of the Establishments connected therewith."

MR. CAVENDISH BENTINCK said, he hoped Her Majesty's Government did not propose to go on with this Vote at that hour of the night. It was a Vote of immense importance, and he intended to propose an Amendment to it. It would be most unreasonable to go on with it now, especially having regard to the recent statement of the Prime Minister, that, in view of the great facilities the Government possessed in the future, these Votes would not be discussed late at night. Seeing that the Government had now the whole day for Supply, it surely was unreasonable that Votes of this kind should be taken after midnight. He had no hesitation in moving to report Progress, especially when he heard that it was the intention of the Government to take the National Debt Bill to-night. He made the Motion in the interest of the public service. He had no objection to affording all facilities to the Government which were reasonable; but, on the present occasion, he did not think it was reasonable that the House should be asked to go on with Supply.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Chairman do report Progress, and ask leave to sit again."—(*Mr. Cavendish Bentinck.*)

MR. COURTNEY expressed a hope that the right hon. and learned Gentleman would allow the Vote to be taken. He (Mr. Courtney) knew the right hon. and learned Gentleman took an interest in one part of the Science and Art Department Vote—namely, that relating to purchases. The period of the evening was, however, still quite early; and he trusted the Committee would allow further progress to be made with the Votes.

MR. LABOUCHERE: Where is the Minister who represents the Department?

MR. CAVENDISH BENTINCK said, he remembered a Member of the Government saying that half-past 11 o'clock was a late hour to commence the discussion of very important Votes. He should not withdraw his Motion, because of the lateness of the hour, and because they had already voted away thousands of pounds of the public money.

Question put.

The Committee *divided*:—Ayes 15; Noes 74: Majority 59. — (Div. List, No. 288.)

Original Question again proposed.

MR. CAVENDISH BENTINCK said, he felt it his duty to make some observations, to show in what a small degree the performances of the Government corresponded with their promises. He had endeavoured to obtain for them more than merely answers to Questions. He had called attention to the frescoes in the South Kensington Museum, which had already been mentioned once, when a most unsatisfactory answer was given by the Representative of Her Majesty's Government in the absence of the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. Mundella), who especially represented the Department interested. He (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) was glad to see the right hon. Gentleman now in his place, because he believed he would be able to give fuller information than had been accorded by his Colleagues. He (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) believed that £3,000 was the Estimate for this work—although he did not now wish to trouble the Committee by going into detail upon it.

MR. COURTNEY: To what does the right hon. and learned Gentleman now refer?

MR. CAVENDISH BENTINCK: To the £3,000 for the painting by Sir Frederick Leighton.

MR. COURTNEY: It is not in this Vote.

MR. CAVENDISH BENTINCK: Then I shall not proceed.

MR. LABOUCHERE said, he had not voted with the right hon. and learned Gentleman (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck), because at that period of the Session he thought it just as well that they should go on to a late hour. He did not think, however, that, as a rule, persons who looked on these matters with the eyes of economy cared about going on

with the Votes at that late hour of the night (1.45 a.m.). He should have been glad, if they could have had sufficient time to discuss the Vote, to have devoted three hours of the proceedings to it; but, at any rate, it should not be allowed to pass without the Government giving some explanation of what went on at South Kensington. His primary objection to that Museum was that it existed at all. It was a mistake—at least to his mind—to build it in a fashionable part of the Metropolis. They had the British Museum, and it would have been much more satisfactory if, wanting increased space, they had enlarged that Museum, instead of constructing another in the same town—another competing Museum. When he mentioned competition, he did not mean to say that there was competition in regard to the price of articles, one Museum competing against the other; but what he meant was that when a particularly good article was obtained by one Museum, a sort of *amour propre* suggested to the other that it should procure a similar article. That was the case with South Kensington Museum in regard to the Limoges crockery ware. [MR. CAINE: Enamels.] Well, Limoges enamels. Why were they wanted for South Kensington? Simply because South Kensington might have as good a collection as the British Museum. Then as to the Rembrandt etchings. There was a fine collection of those at the British Museum, and what did South Kensington say? Why—"We must have as fine a collection," going by quantity rather than quality. What was the use of having these double collections? It appeared to him (Mr. Labouchere) to be a mistake, and it would be a great advantage if both the British Museum and the South Kensington Museum were not only in name, but in reality, under the same management. Such a system as that would most probably put a stop to these duplicate collections. Another objection he had to South Kensington Museum was because it cultivated a taste for *bric à brac*; and everyone knew that when a person got a passion for that sort of thing there was no satisfying it—that it became a perfect mania. The right hon. Gentleman the Vice President of the Council (Mr. Mundella) having been at the head of the South Kensington Museum, of course

had this mania. He (Mr. Labouchere) knew that that was the case, for he had talked to the right hon. Gentleman about this "æsthetic nonsense;" and the right hon. Gentleman had said to him—"What! would you have the country without a Cabinet?" He should not like to speak of the Cabinet as anything *rococo*—speaking in a Parliamentary sense; and as to the other cabinets, he should not object to them, if their collection in any way benefited Art; but it did not. When they told him that it was necessary, from artistic considerations, to purchase cabinets of *Louis Quinze* or *Louis Quatorze* he took the liberty of doubting the assertion—it was of no benefit either to Art or Science. All that happened through their exhibition was this—people went to see them, and, knowing that for such things there was a ready sale amongst the rich, they imitated them and sold them as old specimens. The other day the Museum authorities gave £900 and odd for a cabinet which he was informed had been manufactured out of the pieces of an old sedan chair. Who was it that bought these things, and who was it that sold them? Was it not done by asking the dealers to go into the market, and buy on commission? Did the right hon. Gentleman not suppose that the dealers and commission agents hung together—was he not aware that it was pretty well known what South Kensington Museum had its eyes on, and that the amount asked for an article was brought up to what South Kensington was likely to give? He had no doubt a great deal spent by South Kensington in making purchases was reasonably spent; but, at the same time, he thought it would be well if they had more than one specimen of a thing, to give Leeds, Birmingham, Manchester or some other large town the benefit of the duplicate, instead of keeping it in a second Museum in the same town. Who were benefited by armour? Then, there were snuff-boxes and other things, which a rich man might buy, because he did not know what to do with his money; but, owing to competition, a great deal more was paid for them than they were worth. The right hon. Gentleman would, perhaps, say the purchases had been made most judiciously, and that the articles could be sold at a profit. Very likely that might be so; but there was no intention to sell them.

What things were bought should be things that were useful to Art and intrinsically beautiful; but, even then, he should complain of there being these two Museums. Another consideration was, that most of these things were paid for out of taxes; but most of the taxpayers were not able to go to these Museums, except on Sunday; and he wished that, instead of spending this money, and talking Art-culture, and all that sort of nonsense, the right hon. Gentleman would devote himself to opening the Museums on Sunday. If he would do that, and buy things which people would be benefited by seeing, he would confer some advantage upon the country. But the right hon. Gentleman was going from bad to worse. He was getting silly with this *bric-à-brac* mania of buying things because they were old. Then, as to pottery, there was a large collection; but it was notoriously bad. Where was it bought, and why was so large a sum of money given for it? The right hon. Gentleman gave shelter to every species of Art loans; but he hoped the right hon. Gentleman would decide that these things should be turned out, and let some useful Works of Art take their place. There was a great deal to be said in favour of having one instead of two Museums; and a great deal more to be said in favour of buying things that were useful or beautiful, and not merely things that were competed for by wealthy men.

Mr. CAVENDISH BENTINCK said, he could not agree with the hon. Member for Northampton (Mr. Labouchere); for, if it meant anything, or had any solid foundation, it would apply to all Works of Art, and particularly to works of the ancient schools, which must form part of any Museum of Art. The point he wished to urge was in connection with British painting, and here he would join with the hon. Member, and inquire who was responsible for the purchase of these paintings? He thought it a great evil that this duty should be placed in the hands of more than one body. There were the Trustees of the National Gallery on the one hand, and the Trustees of the National Portrait Gallery on the other. He believed the Trustees of the National Portrait Gallery had no power to purchase the works of living and British artists. He did not find fault with the South Kensington Museum,

Mr. Labouchere

for he felt that the authorities of that Museum had made an admirable collection with as little expense to the country as possible; but it was of public importance to know who were the people who were responsible for the purchase of paintings, and where some paintings purchased this year had been obtained—paintings which had been severely criticized by persons who were more instructed in the Fine Arts than he was. It was desirable that the right hon. Gentleman should give this information, and he should move the reduction of the Vote by £1,000.

Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That a sum, not exceeding £240,690, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the Salaries and Expenses of the Science and Art Department, and of the Establishments connected therewith."—(*Mr. Cavendish Bentinck.*)

Mr. STUART-WORTLEY asked for some information as to the new arrangements for the Patents Museum, and said he hoped the conditions under which the working classes could see the Museum would be the same as hitherto.

Mr. MUNDELLA said, that, when the Patents Bill was passed, the contents of that Museum would be transferred to the authorities of the South Kensington Museum. There they would be shown to great advantage, and that Museum was the only Museum in England which was kept open every day in the year, except Sunday, and until 8 in the evening, so that everything was done to make the Museum as useful and as popular as possible. With regard to the observations of the hon. Member for Northampton (Mr. Labouchere), he was one of the few people—and the few were getting very much fewer every day—whose primary objection to South Kensington Museum was that it existed at all. In his last Report, the Secretary to the Museum had summarized the whole of the cost of the work done; and he wished hon. Members would take the pains to look into the subject of Science and Art. The influence of that Museum on the Art and industries of this country had been something marvellous. It had affected every kind of industrial art, and there was nothing else in the country that had done what this Museum had done. Hon. Members talked of the enormous

cost of *bric-à-brac*; but everything purchased for the Museum was not purchased because it was rare, but with a view to illustrating the industrial arts of this country. Such articles were circulated throughout the country in thousands of copies. The hon. Member for Limerick would ask what had been done for that City and for Cork; but one other hon. Member had stated that the South Kensington Museum had completely changed the jet industry, and several Irish Members, and among them the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell), had spoken of the great advantages that had resulted from the lace exhibition, and had appealed to him to arrange for a small Museum in Ireland, and for the Director of that Department to go over and instruct the people. He (Mr. Mundella) could himself speak as to what was going on in the large towns of England, such as Nottingham, with its lace manufacture, and his own constituency (Sheffield), where this Museum had had marvellous influence. Every shop in London gave evidence of the change that had come over Art in this country, and it was extraordinary how few people seemed to realize that. The hon. Member for Northampton had said there were two Museums competing with each other; but there was nothing of the sort, for they strictly avoided competition. With respect to purchases, not a shilling had been spent without the greatest care and sense of responsibility. In the first place, the Art Collector was asked to consider every object, and there were a number of experts to examine every article and sign their estimate of its value; and the Lord President, and himself, and Sir Francis Sandford met once a-week to see what purchases had been made. They rejected everything that was not first rate, and the whole cost had been £300,000, and for that they had got what could be sold for 10 times the amount. The despair of many people was that they could not purchase these things at the same price as the Museum could. There were two gifts last year, which were worth all the money that had been spent since the Museum was opened; one of them being the Jones Collection, which itself was worth £300,000. Their system of circulation had been examined by the French Government, and the South Kensington Museum could not be competed with by any other countries, because they could

not get the objects which it had secured. With regard to British paintings, there were 1,400 water colours, and no collection had ever been better purchased.

Mr. DILLWYN said, a good deal of money had been spent on objects that seemed to him to be of very little advantage; and he wished to call attention to the extraordinary amount paid to the Professors in the Science Departments. It was proposed to create a Metropolitan School of Art and Science, applicable to industries; but he should like first to have a Committee of Inquiry into the whole expenditure for Professors, many of whom held more than one office. Then it was proposed to remove the Jones Collection altogether to South Kensington; but that would entail a very large expenditure. At the Jermyn Street School the scale of pay was very moderate—Lecturers receiving about £200 a-year, Teachers of Mechanical Drawing £100, Chemical Lecturers £300—altogether not a very large sum, and the work was well done and available to everyone. But at South Kensington he found there were five Professors at £800 a-year, one at £300, and another at £200; so that it would be at once seen that the scale of pay at South Kensington was much more extravagant than at Jermyn Street. He wished the Committee would look into this question of expenditure. He (Mr. Dillwyn) agreed with the hon. Member for Northampton (Mr. Labouchere); and he was one of the few who, according to the right hon. Gentleman, did not very greatly approve of the South Kensington Museum; and he did not believe so much in the improvement of Art which had taken place in the country being due to that Institution. He thought it was much more due to English people mixing with foreigners; in fact, he did not think the test of South Kensington was any very good test at all. He would urge strongly the necessity of an inquiry being made into this expenditure; and he was satisfied that if that was done by an independent Committee, and not by a Committee for mutual admiration, great good would result.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, he wished to ask why there was an increase of £12,799 in this Vote this year? What the hon. Gentleman opposite (Mr. Dillwyn) had said as to the

enormous expenditure seemed to be true. In the Science and Art Department the Assistant Secretary received £1,200 a-year *plus* his pay as a Director of Science, which was £700 a-year. An Assistant Secretary, who was also a Director of Science, might be a very valuable man; but this seemed to him an exorbitant salary, if he received the two amounts together. Did he receive both salaries?

MR. MUNDELLA: No. He combines the two.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, at the same time the total Vote had risen by £12,799; and of that £1,507 were for the administration of loans, and £6,663 for the Museum division—and that irrespective of purchases and circulation, which required £1,000 extra; whereas the Schools of Science and Art, which were very valuable, were only accountable for £3,000 of this increase. He should like to know the reason of this discrepancy.

MR. MUNDELLA said, the £3,000 were for increased payments for results by Science students in the country. Then there was £6,974, which included all the grants and all the expenses connected with them for the Art Department, the Museum, and the administration. That was where the increase in the Art Schools went on every year. There were now over 900,000 persons studying Art in connection with South Kensington. This would go on every year—there was no doubt about it—by increasing grants, which would extend to the whole of the United Kingdom. The total cost of the whole Science and Art Department of the country was much less than that of some other countries he could name.

MR. CAINE said, he hoped the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. Mundella) would arrange for this Vote to come on at 5 o'clock next Session instead of half-past 1. If he did so, and enabled the Committee to debate it properly, there was so much to be said by hon. Members who represented constituencies which owed so much to the South Kensington Museum that there would be no difficulty in satisfying the hon. Member for Northampton (Mr. Labouchere) of the usefulness and advantages of that Institution. The hon. Member had said he had been to the South Kensington Museum; but it could only be supposed, from his statement as to the two Mu-

seums being in competition, that he had not spent more than half-an-hour in the building. It was clear that the hon. Member's acquaintance with the subject of his observations was not very extensive, when he spoke of "Limoges pottery," and of not knowing where a certain section was to be found. The *Henri Doux* pottery had been of the utmost value in enabling us in this country to study an interesting branch of Art. The study of this pottery had been of the greatest service to those interested in the English potteries. He (Mr. Caine) had no hesitation in saying that South Kensington had done more to revive industries in this country during the past 15 years than any other Art Institution.

MR. DAWSON said, he wished to ask a question as to the position in which the Science and Art Department of Ireland stood at the present moment. They had been waiting for years in Ireland to hear of some practical step being taken in this matter. The Lord Lieutenant had been in communication with the Corporation of the City of Dublin and other public bodies; and he had been asked to adopt some suggestion which had been made as to the Committee for examining designs, and also to give the Science and Art Department an autonomous and independent management. Looking at what had been said about South Kensington by some English Members, it would not be surprising if the Irish Members did not hold it in the highest estimation. At any rate, the Lord Lieutenant had been asked to give them an independent Museum with an independent control. The right hon. Gentleman the Vice President of the Council (Mr. Mundella) had constantly stated, when this question had been mooted, that if they had autonomous and independent management in Ireland, they would lose the benefit they derived from South Kensington, and that they would not take away from South Kensington as much as South Kensington would be obliged to take away from Dublin, in the shape of rare and valuable articles. Whether that would be the case or not, the right hon. Gentleman knew the opinion held and expressed by the members of the Royal Irish Academy and the other public bodies in Ireland. A Committee of citizens and scientific men had met

Sir H. Drummond Wolff

together at the Mansion House in Dublin, had shown great anxiety on this, and had asked the Government to give them an independent control of their Art Museum. The Lord Lieutenant, however, had not declared what step the Government were going to take in regard to this autonomous management. He would ask Her Majesty's Government to state now whether or not they would allow that separate independent management, on which principle alone the Dublin Museum could prosper.

MR. CAVENDISH BENTINCK said, he wished to point out—["Oh, oh!"] Hon. Members seemed to be impatient, which was owing to the unfair policy of breaking through the Rules of the House by going on with the Votes at that hour. He wished to point out that the question he had put as to the purchase of pictures had not been answered. Who was responsible for those purchases? It was most most important to the taxpayers that they should know who was responsible. In the case of the National Gallery and the National Portrait Gallery they know perfectly well who were responsible; and if objection was taken to what was done the responsibility could be at once brought home. It had been pointed out that South Kensington Museum was responsible for the purchase of modern pictures; but it had not been stated what individual or individuals actually made the choice and authorized the expenditure. He wished to know from the right hon. Gentleman who was responsible, and whether the advice of experts was taken?

MR. MUNDELLA said, the advice of experts was always taken. In his time they had received advice from Pointer, and they had received advice from Armstrong, Leighton, and others—the best experts they could consult. With regard to the question put by the hon. Member below the Gangway opposite (Mr. Dawson), the question as to the Dublin Museum had been settled by the Lord Lieutenant and a Committee, on the lines on which they were all agreed, in a most satisfactory manner. Autonomy was not contemplated. If it were granted, Ireland would lose the advantage in regard to duplicates' circulation which she got now from her connection with South Kensington. The system at present adopted was this—If

they had an agent in Persia, Cyprus, or elsewhere, procuring specimens for them, they said to him—"If you can procure for us three specimens of a certain article, do so; we want one for South Kensington, one for Edinburgh, and one for Dublin." Dublin thus derived constant advantage from her connection with South Kensington, and by the system of interchange; and it could hardly be called interchange, as the giving was all on one side.

SIR JOHN LUBBOCK said, the hon. Member for Portsmouth (Sir H. Drummond Wolff) had stated that the scientific Professors were overpaid. He could not agree with that at all. One of them received £300 a-year, and another £200; and, considering that they were amongst the most eminent scientific authorities in the country, he thought the charge could hardly hold good that they were overpaid. As to competition between the South Kensington and the British Museums, which the hon. Member for Northampton (Mr. Labouchere) had referred to, he (Sir John Lubbock) could confirm the reply which had already been given on the subject, to the effect that steps had been taken to avoid any such thing.

MR. BUCHANAN said, he wished to know when the new works in connection with the Museum of Science and Art in Edinburgh would be begun, the money for which was voted last year? He should also be glad if the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. Mundella) would give him some explanation in regard to the Scotch Geological Survey. The right hon. Gentleman, in reply to a Question which he (Mr. Buchanan) had addressed to him some time ago, had stated that the staff engaged upon that survey was still very much below par; and he (Mr. Buchanan) trusted the right hon. Gentleman would reconsider what he had said as to postponing the increase of the Staff.

MR. RITCHIE said, a great deal had been stated on the subject of the South Kensington Museum; but there was a great deal included in the Vote about which nothing had been said—the Bethnal Green Museum, for instance. He agreed with what had been said, in answer to the hon. Member for Northampton (Mr. Labouchere), as to the value of the South Kensington Museum, and should be glad to see the Bethnal

Green Museum made as useful. No doubt, there was a very large collection of very useful objects to be seen at Bethnal Green Museum; but there was a remarkable absence of artistic objects. He did not mean to say that there was an entire absence of such objects; but anyone who chose to visit that Museum would see that it was almost entirely confined to useful articles, and those, however desirable, were not all that was wanted in a Museum. Anyone who knew the remarkable interest evinced by the people of the East End of London in collections sent amongst them—such as the Wallace Collection of Pictures—would regret that there were not more opportunities given to those people to see such things. Could not the authorities of South Kensington Museum arrange to occasionally send over some of their objects of Art and utility to Bethnal Green Museum? If they could, the result would be greatly beneficial to the people of the East End.

Mr. LABOUCHERE said, he had to complain that anyone who failed to see any special beauty in those æsthetic objects to which he had referred earlier on, and who ventured to protest against their idolatry, was regarded as a Philistine and a barbarian. Well he (Mr. Labouchere) confessed he was a barbarian in these matters—he saw nothing to admire in Queen Anne Mansions, hideous papers, old plates, china monstrosities, æsthetic colours, and all such nonsense. The right hon. Gentleman the Vice President of the Council (Mr. Mundella) wished to develop the South Kensington Museum, which was to develop all this pernicious nonsense. If the right hon. Gentleman set himself to collect for South Kensington articles really useful and really beautiful, he (Mr. Labouchere) should not object. ["Agreed!"] Yes; "agreed" if the Committee wished it—but agreed to report Progress. If the Committee would not discuss the vote fairly he should be obliged to move to report Progress. The right hon. Gentleman had practically endorsed his view, for what had he said when he (Mr. Labouchere) had complained of this Old Curiosity Shop at South Kensington—this collection of sedan chairs, snuff-boxes, old cabinets, and Heaven knew what nonsense besides? Why, he had said—"Have we not jet objects at the Museum, and is

Mr. Ritchie

not that a benefit to the jet manufacturers at Whitby?" That was all very well; but of what use to the manufacturers of jet, or the manufacturers of anything else, were these old cabinets which were treasured up at the South Kensington Museum? What Art was there in these things, and what object could the authorities possibly have in keeping such a lot of old china, which was neither useful nor beautiful, on their hands? These things were only valuable because there were so few of them—thank goodness! One Museum had an old and very ugly plate, and the other Museum must have one like it, because there were but 20 or 30 in the world. So far as he was concerned, he should always protest against this monstrous waste of money on the part of Gentlemen who came forward here and bragged and blustered about the advance of Art and what they had done for South Kensington. So far as he was concerned, whatever these Gentlemen had done for South Kensington, South Kensington had done nothing for the country. If the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. Mundella) wished the collections in South Kensington to be useful to the country, let him send them—those which were really worth sending—round the country to other Exhibitions, so that the people in the manufacturing districts might derive from them that benefit which was to be derived. Let him devote all the money at the command of the Department to the purchase of articles of this kind—let him have Museums and artistic and industrial collections; but do not, for goodness sake, let him go on wasting the money of the country in such idle and foolish purchases as many of those they saw being made at South Kensington.

Mr. DAWSON said, it would be very ungrateful if he were to overlook the fact that the Lord Lieutenant, in a very fair manner, had called together, for the first time in Ireland, a Council of representative men. They had met in Dublin Castle, and had come to a decision as to the new building, its dimensions, and the purchase of land. These points had been agreed to without prejudice to the greater question, still undecided, as to the Irish management of the Institution. Well, he would say this to the right hon. Gentleman—let him put what collections he liked in Dublin, however

man was driving at until the Government, in another Paper, gave them an inkling of it. He regretted that the right hon. Gentleman, at such an hour that they could not expect that a report of the proceedings would appear in the papers, should move that the Speaker leave the Chair. Before they arrived at the second reading of the Bill, the Premier stated gravely to the House that he would not proceed with the measure, if he believed there were serious objections to it in many quarters of the House. It was not then open to him (Sir Joseph M'Kenna) to make use of the argument which he could now employ; but he had now no hesitation in saying that there was no one in favour of the Bill except a few hon. Gentlemen sitting immediately behind the Treasury Bench. As a matter of fact, the right hon. Gentleman the Chancellor of the Exchequer, as well as many of the staunchest Liberals, was opposed in every way to the Act of Parliament to which the Bill professed to be a logical sequence; whilst on the Opposition side of the House, the only Member who had offered even a lukewarm support to the Bill was the hon. Baronet the Member for Chippenham (Sir Gabriel Goldney), who did say a word or two in favour of proceeding with the measure. The Bill was in no sense called for; it would deal with a state of facts which would not arise until 1885; and it was intended, if passed into law, to fetter the action of that House for the next 20 years; while, as brought in in the first instance, it had been intended to fetter the discretion of the House for ever. He would do the right hon. Gentleman the Chancellor of the Exchequer the justice to say that he had extended to them a small amount of mercy in conceding that the Act should only operate up to 1904. The right hon. Gentleman, however, had not made any statement as to what length of time, under the operation of such a Bill as this, it would take to pay off the National Debt. The measure was one which might be fairly described as a Bill to saddle the Income Tax on the country for the next 40 or 50 years. It might be described as a Bill requiring the present inhabitants of the country to pay somewhere about £750,000,000 or £770,000,000 sterling. Let them take the first sum which the Chancellor of the Exchequer proposed to deal with—

the Annuities amounting to £3,600,000. If the right hon. Gentleman stopped there in his scheme of appropriation, that sum, annually reserved and invested, would, during the lifetime of one man, pay off the whole of the National Debt. £3,600,000 a-year, applied for the purpose of the extinction of the National Debt, would pay off, at the highest price we need to pay, something like £200,000,000 in 37 years; and the £3,600,000, with the interest of the £200,000,000 of Consols, would pay off in 30 more years the whole of the principal of the National Debt. He asked, would not that be a fair and sufficient measure to take to pay off a Debt which had been the accumulation of centuries—a Debt which it had been the custom of that House to deal with from time to time by small appropriations to a Sinking Fund? He asked whether it would not be better to conduct themselves upon lines of moderation, and be content to put by some £3,600,000 a-year out of present taxation, instead of embarking upon the elaborate scheme suggested by the Government. When the right hon. Gentleman at the head of the Government spoke as if there was no opposition in the House to the Bill, he (Sir Joseph M'Kenna) supposed that the right hon. Gentleman assumed that the Amendment of the hon. Member for Burnley (Mr. Rylands) would be withdrawn. It was evident that the right hon. Gentleman scarcely calculated at that time upon the opposition of the hon. Member for Bradford (Mr. Illingworth); and, moreover, he could scarcely have calculated upon the opposition of the hon. Member for Wolverhampton (Mr. H. H. Fowler). He (Sir Joseph M'Kenna) asked whether now, at a quarter to 3 in the morning, and on the 14th of August, there were not strong reasons for withdrawing the Bill altogether? The right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister was not present to hear any arguments that might be advanced against the measure; and he did not do him (Sir Joseph M'Kenna) the honour to hear what he had to say in opposing the second reading of the Bill. The measure was surely not wanted in the country; but if it were passed into law, and acted upon, it would lay the foundation of a fund which would be seized upon by Parliament whenever occasion arose, or temptation occurred to expend

the money. The people of England would not relish paying the Income Tax in order that they might, out of their industry, in the case of the working classes, and out of their life tenancies, in the cases of the propertied class, pay off a Debt charged upon the inheritance. ["Oh, oh!"] Hon. Members who interrupted ought to bear in mind that he had exhibited a great deal of patience while their Business was proceeding. He could assure the House that the interruption with which he was being menaced would only make it necessary for him to dilate at greater length upon the Bill than he had otherwise intended. He wished it particularly to be understood that he did not, in the least degree, disclaim the advisableness of taking real measures to reduce the National Debt; his opposition was directed against a scheme bound to break down in consequence of its singular unfairness. The right hon. Baronet the Member for North Devon (Sir Stafford Northcote) introduced a Bill in 1875, and that Bill was the law at present. Nothing, however, was needful to be done till 1885; and, seeing that they were always entitled, at one year's notice, to pay off the Consols, he did not know what objection there could be to postponing the consideration of the Bill till next Session, when they could deal with it at their leisure. He trusted that the House would agree to the postponement of the debate; and he would move that the House should resolve itself into a Committee on that day three months.

Amendment proposed.

To leave out from the word "That" to the end of the Question, in order to add the words, "this House will, upon this day three months, resolve itself into the said Committee,"—(*Sir Joseph M'Kenna*.)

—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question."

MR. WARTON said, it really was too late in the Session to proceed with a Bill of such great importance as that now before the House—a Bill which would really have the effect of tying down our financial system for 20 years to come. The occasion for the Bill would only arise two years hence, and it was surely hardly prudent for the Government to anticipate matters by two years. At

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the present moment, the Revenue was £4,000,000 less than they could reasonably have expected it to be three years ago; and with a diminishing Revenue it was certainly unwise for the Government to propose what really would amount to a very heavy burden upon the people. Who could tell that the present pacific state of Europe could continue? The Egyptian Question was by no means settled. In fact, in plain words, what sensible man could forecast the future? It was utterly imprudent to anticipate what would be the condition of the Revenue two years hence. Under the Act of 1875, the reduction of the National Debt was proceeding steadily and regularly; and it was perfectly clear that, in about three or four years' time, the Debt would be reduced to about £700,000,000. It was more than likely that in 47 years' time, if they were to proceed at the present rate, the whole of the Debt would be cleared off. He, however, was disposed to ask the House whether it was of the utmost importance that the Debt should be paid off? Consols formed a sound investment for trustees and others; and, indeed, in many ways it was well that the country should have a Debt. Our Debt made us the bankers of the world, for, as a matter of fact, there were many Sovereigns who would not invest money in their own funds, while they would do so in the funds of this country. He trusted that the House would agree to the proposition of the hon. Member for Youghal (*Sir Joseph M'Kenna*).

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (*Mr. Childers*) said, that all he need remark was that the House had, by a large majority, passed the second reading of the Bill. He had adopted the suggestion then made to insert words in order to limit the operation of the rolling-up Annuities to a fixed number of years; and, having done that, he did not think he was acting at all unreasonably in asking the House to proceed with the Bill at the present time. The hon. and learned Member for Bridport (*Mr. Warton*) had raised the question whether it was a good thing to pay off the Debt at all. He (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) thought that was a matter which, at this stage, the House would hardly be inclined to discuss. He trusted the House would assent to the proposal to go into Committee.

Mr. J. G. HUBBARD said, that at 3 o'clock in the morning on the 14th of August they were asked to go into Committee on this Bill—a Bill which was to fix for 20 years to come a burden of taxation upon the taxpayers for the redemption of Debt, that redemption of Debt amounting to something like £160,000,000 sterling. Such a burden ought not to be imposed upon the people except after most careful consideration. The right hon. Gentleman the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. Childers) seemed to consider that he had done all he need do in adopting the Amendment of the right hon. Gentleman the Member for North Devon (Sir Stafford Northcote). It was true that right hon. Gentleman did make a suggestion which the Chancellor of the Exchequer had adopted. But it must be remembered that, in 1875, the present Chancellor of the Exchequer opposed the measure of the then Chancellor of the Exchequer for the redemption of the National Debt as utterly wrong and mischievous. The right hon. Gentleman the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. Childers) at that time opposed, with the utmost vigour, the measure which he now proposed, because it came from the right hon. Gentleman the Member for North Devon; and he was so clear and express in his declaration that, not satisfied with discountenancing the Bill altogether as impracticable, he stated that "the measure of redemption which the Bill proposed was an impossibility." These words were uttered in 1875 by the right hon. Gentleman in charge of the present Bill (Mr. Childers). He (Mr. Hubbard) had no wish to call to account public men because they changed their opinions. Public men had changed their opinions very often indeed; but, in a question of this kind, there was a principle involved which must be either right or wrong. The right hon. Gentleman the Chancellor of the Exchequer was either right or wrong when he said that the measure of redemption provided for in the Bill of 1875 was an impossibility; and in asking the House to pass this Bill he was asking the House to pass a measure the aims of which he himself had granted were impossible. He (Mr. Hubbard) spoke upon the Bill with no little experience. He ought to be as familiar with financial questions as any man in

the House, for they had been his almost daily study for 40 years past. He knew what the Stock Market was, and they had all seen, within the last seven years, how the price of Consols had varied. He desired the extinction of the National Debt quite as much as his right hon. Friend the Chancellor of the Exchequer; but he wanted the thing to be done in a business-like way. He considered that £7,000,000 a-year was as large a sum as they could, with prudence, impose as a burden upon the taxpayers of the country. He had lately taken the opinion on this point of some very eminent members of the Stock Exchange; and they certainly believed that if more than £7,000,000 a-year were employed in the extinction of the Debt the price of Consols would be inconveniently driven up. What were they going to do? If they attempted to increase the redemption of the Debt to £8,000,000, £9,000,000, £10,000,000, £12,000,000, or £13,000,000, where would Consols be? Long before they reached that point the old system would be broken down, and then people would exclaim—"What a short-sighted principle it was;" and they would say also—"What a pity that the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in 1883, did not adopt the plan suggested in 1875." He (Mr. Hubbard) thought that an opinion out of Office was worth a great deal more than an opinion when in Office. The Chancellor of the Exchequer had a good deal of natural sagacity in these matters; but there were certain influences always at work on these questions, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer was required to be a great financial conjuror if he was to satisfy everybody. The Bill really consisted of a mass of contradictions. It adopted two absolutely conflicting principles, and tried to make them work together. ["Oh, oh!"] There would, however, be no use in wearying an impatient House with minute criticisms on the subject. He, however, protested against this mode of legislation. In an exhausted House, and with an almost empty Reporters' Gallery, they proposed to fasten taxes to the amount of £120,000,000 upon the people. He agreed with the object the right hon. Gentleman the Chancellor of the Exchequer had in view, because he was in favour of the redemption of the Debt; but, whatever was done, he

maintained that it ought to be done upon a reasonable, a business-like, and a sound basis.

SIR JOHN LUBBOCK said, the House listened with respect to everything that fell from the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. Hubbard; but he (Sir John Lubbock) would now appeal to the right hon. Gentleman and to hon. Gentlemen opposite generally to allow the House to go into Committee, and to pass the Bill. The Motion was not opposed by the Leaders of the Conservative Party, and it was supported by the great majority of the Members of the House and the people of the country. As there was so much practical agreement on the subject, he hoped they would be allowed to go into Committee.

- Question put.

The House divided:—Ayes 51; Noes 23: Majority 28.—(Div. List, No. 289.)

Question again proposed, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair."

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, that at that time of the morning it was out of all reason for the Government to try and force this Bill through Committee. It was now after 3 o'clock, and it was only on account of the mismanagement of Business by the Government that they were reduced to the position of having to consider a Bill of such importance at that time of the morning. He, therefore, thought it advisable that he should move that the debate be now adjourned.

Motion made, and Question put, "That the Debate be now adjourned."—(Sir H. Drummond Wolff.)

The House divided:—Ayes 14; Noes 56: Majority 42.—(Div. List, No. 290.)

Original Question put, and agreed to.

Bill considered in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1 agreed to.

Clause 2 (Conversion of part of the perpetual annuities held by National Debt Commissioners on account of trustee and post office savings banks into terminable annuities).

MR. J. G. HUBBARD, in moving, as an Amendment, in page 2, line 29, to leave out the word "three," in order to insert the word "six," said, that if the Bill were re-cast, in pursuance of his

Mr. J. G. Hubbard

Amendment, instead of being a composite Bill, it would go on one principle throughout, and the redemption of the National Debt would proceed regularly by the operation of Terminable Annuities. The provisions he proposed would require no renewal, but would operate until the Chancellor of the Exchequer of some distant day found a necessity for discontinuing them. His object was to work out the extinction of the Debt regularly, and that would be the certain effect of his Amendment.

Amendment proposed, in page 2, line 29, to leave out the word "three," in order to insert the word "six,"—(Mr. J. G. Hubbard,)—instead thereof.

Question proposed "That the word 'three' stand part of the Clause."

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (Mr. CHILDERS) said, the proposal of his right hon. Friend (Mr. Hubbard) was briefly this—to repeal the Act of 1875, and for its provisions to substitute others establishing a system of Terminable Annuities, which would operate so as year by year to reduce the £28,000,000 which the Act of 1875 set aside for the service of the National Debt. He (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) fully realized the simplicity of the right hon. Gentleman's plan; but he was not prepared to repeal the Act of 1875, and therefore he was not in a position to accept the Amendment.

SIR JOSEPH M'KENNA said, he supported the proposal of the right hon. Gentleman the Member for the City of London (Mr. Hubbard) except with regard to the amount. He considered that the right hon. Gentleman had proposed too large an annual redemption. If, however, the right hon. Gentleman proceeded to a Division, he should vote with him.

Question put.

The Committee divided:—Ayes 54; Noes 12: Majority 42.—(Div. List, No. 291.)

Bill reported, without Amendment; to be read the third time To-morrow.

EDUCATION (SCOTLAND) BILL.

(Mr. Mundella, The Lord Advocate, Mr. Solicitor General for Scotland.)

[BILL 226.] COMMITTEE.

[Progress 10th August.]

Bill considered in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

Clauses 1 and 2 agreed to.

Clause 3 (Definitions).

Amendment proposed, in page 1, to leave out lines 12 and 13 as follows:—

"The term 'efficient school' in this Act means any public or State-aided school in Scotland."—(Mr. Mundella.)

Question, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause," put, and negatived.

Words struck out, accordingly.

MR. J. A. CAMPBELL said, he had an Amendment on the Paper in page 1, to leave out "State-aided," in line 13, and insert "other inspected." This Amendment, however, since the adoption of the Amendment of the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. Mundella), was unnecessary, and he should not move it.

Clause further amended, and agreed to.

Clause 4 (Amendment of s. 69 of the Education (Scotland) Act, 1872.)

MR. DICK-PEDDIE said, that even at this late hour, he must trespass on the attention of the Committee for a short time, while he stated his objections to the provisions of this Bill in the clause now under consideration. He might remind the Committee to what the Bill owed its origin. In March of this year his hon. Friend the Member for North Ayrshire (Mr. Cochran-Patrick) directed the attention of the House to the want of harmony between the Scotch Education Act of 1872 and the Factory and Workshop Act of 1878. He showed, among other things, that while under the Education Act the schoolage terminated at 13 years, so that all children, when they attained that age, passed out of the control of the boards, under the Factory and Workshop Act no child under the age of 13 could be employed as a full timer, and that no child above 13 and under 14 could be so employed, unless he complied with one of two alternative conditions: he must either have passed a certain Standard of education, fixed by the Education Department at the Fifth Standard, or he must have a certificate of due attendance at a certified school, such due attendance having been fixed by the Education Department at 250 attendances during each of five years, not necessarily consecutive,

and at not more than two schools in each year. It happened frequently that a child who had reached the age of 13 had neither of these qualifications for employment. The consequence was that while he had in virtue of his age passed out of the control of the school board he was not eligible for employment under the Factory and Workshop Act. This state of matters led to very serious evils. Many children had either to occupy themselves with any desultory work they could find or to go about idle. The evil of that was very great to children at a critical age when habits were being formed for life. It was also attended with great evil to their parents, who found themselves deprived of the benefit of the labour of their children, when their children had reached an age at which their parents might fairly have looked for relief from the burden of their support. He need hardly point out to the Committee how serious this was to many parents. If they remembered the class to which most of those belonged whom the provisions of the Education and Factory Acts affected, hon. Members would see how serious must be the loss to them of having their children left in idleness on their hands. A working man with a large family to support, for whom he had, at great privation, provided education, found himself not only still further burdened with their support, when they should have been doing much towards supporting themselves, but burdened with the cost of school fees. To bring the Education and Factory Acts into harmony was the chief motive of the Bill. Now, there were two alternatives, either of which it was in the power of the Government to adopt; they might either have altered the provisions of the Factory Act, so as to admit all children who had attained the age of 13 to take employment as full timers, or they might have altered the Education Acts, so as to have enabled school boards to lay hold of all children between 13 and 14 until they were able to fulfil the conditions of employment provided by the Factory and Workshop Act. The former was the course approved of by some of the most important school boards in the country. It had been recommended by the school boards of Glasgow and of Paisley. Indeed, the latter board had gone the length of recommending that children

beyond the age of 12 years who had passed the Fifth Standard should be capable of being employed as full timers. The school board of one of the burghs which he (Mr. Dick-Peddie) had the honour to represent—namely, Kilmarnock—had also by resolution (of which he held a copy in his hand) recommended that all children above 13 should be allowed to be employed as full timers. That he believed to be the opinion of the working classes generally in Scotland, and he concurred in that opinion. It appeared to him that 13 was the age at which, in framing the Education Act, it had been considered by the State that elementary education should be completed; and it was right that, when that age was attained, a child should be free from the control of the State in the matter of education, whether it had attained the Standard of education it should have attained or not. He thought, too, that as the Factory Acts themselves recognized that 13 was the age at which a child became physically fit for full employment, no hindrance should be placed in the way of his accepting such employment, unless some great public end was to be gained by such hindrance. Now, he could not see that any such justification existed for the hindrance which the Factory Act now interposed. That hindrance imposed a great burden on parents ill able to bear it. It did not much benefit the child; or, rather, the children who derived any important benefit from it were few, for it was the fact that many of the children who could not pass the Fifth Standard at 13 years of age were, either by reason of less quickness, or of want of application, not likely to pass that Standard even if kept one or two or even more years at school. To retain them at school might be defended as a punishment to them for their shortcomings. But if their inability to pass was due to inferiority of intelligence, that was not a ground for punishment; if it were the result of carelessness and want of application it might be reasonable to impose some punishment on the child; but then it must be remembered that the punishment fell not so much on the child as on the parent. The Government had not adopted the course of altering the Factory Act; but they had endeavoured to effect a reconciliation between that Act and the Education

Act, by giving the school board a hold on the child who could not pass the Fifth Standard. But they had gone beyond the severity of the Factory Act, because they proposed, in this clause, to deprive the child of the alternative of obtaining employment as a full timer by obtaining a certificate of due attendance. They thus put the child in even a worse position than at present; instead of giving relief from the oppressive provision of the Factory Act. That he greatly regretted. The course adopted by the Government would, he knew, cause great disappointment to many, and would be felt as entailing on them a serious burden. He trusted his right hon. Friend (Mr. Mundella) would reconsider the matter, and get quit of the objectionable provision. He believed that the proposed provision was unworkable, and that it would be impossible for school boards to enforce compulsory education on children above 13 years of age. To attempt to do so would only create irritation and a reaction of feeling against compulsory education. Education could not go too far, but compulsion could easily be overdone, especially when education was not free. He begged to move the Amendment of which he had given Notice.

Amendment proposed,

In page 2, line 5, after "Act," insert "or a certificate of previous due attendance at a certified efficient school. The standard of due attendance shall be such as may be from time to time fixed for the purposes of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1878, under section 26 of the said Act, by the Secretary of State, and with the consent of the Education Department."

—(Mr. Dick-Peddie.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. MUNDELLA said, his hon. Friend's (Mr. Dick-Peddie's) complaint was really against the Factory Acts, and many people had been to him urging him to altogether supersede the clause in the Factory Acts which prevented a child being employed as a full timer at the age of 13 years. Whether it was a reasonable provision or not, he was sure the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Secretary of State for the Home Department would not allow him, in an Act dealing only with Scotland, to interfere with the Factory and Workshops Act, which applied to the whole of the Three Kingdoms. He could not,

Mr. Dick-Peddie

in a local Act, touch that part of the question. The hon. Member said—"You are laying an increased burden on the working classes;" but he (Mr. Mundella) denied that the provisions of the present Bill would lay a feather's weight on any child who was at work. The object of the section was merely to put two classes of children on the same footing. The Factory Acts required children of a certain age who were at work to attend school half-time; but if they were not at work, and were purely wastrels about the streets, the school authorities had no control over them. The object of the Bill was simply to put the child who was not at work on the same footing as the child who was. That, he thought, was a very reasonable provision. As to the due attendance order, these children never could avail themselves of it. They knew, from their English experience, that these children could not attend school for five years, giving 250 attendances a-year. He (Mr. Mundella) hoped the hon. Member would not expect him, at that hour of the morning, to accept the Amendment. He was sure there would be no complaint in the future as to the working of it.

MR. DICK-PEDDIE said, the right hon. Gentleman had failed to properly understand the purport of the Amendment, which had no reference to half-timers. He did not wish to interfere with those children. The right hon. Gentleman must know perfectly well that there were many children who had never been half-timers at all who had attended school regularly until they were 13, and had been unable to pass the Standard. It was for these children that he wished to modify the provision.

MR. MUNDELLA said, he could assure the hon. Member (Mr. Dick-Peddle) that he did not know "perfectly well," as the hon. Member seemed to suppose, that there were many children of the age of 13 who attended school who were unable to pass the required Standard. The evidence was all the other way, and showed that children who attended school regularly were able to pass at that age. As a general rule, taking the average of Scotch children, they passed the Fifth Standard at the age of 12.

MR. DICK-PEDDIE said, that at that hour of the morning it was impossible properly to discuss the Amendment, therefore he would withdraw it;

but, if he had time, he could satisfy the right hon. Gentleman that he was quite ignorant of the state of matters in Scotland in regard to this subject.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause *agreed to*.

Clauses 5 and 6 *agreed to*, with Amendments.

Clause 7 *agreed to*.

Clauses 8 to 10 *agreed to*, with Amendments.

Clause 11 (Duty of school board to take proceedings under this Act).

On the Motion of Mr. MUNDELLA, the following Amendment made:—In page 3, line 28, leave out "efficient," and insert "public or inspected."

Question proposed, "That the Clause, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

MR. HENDERSON, who had an Amendment to omit the whole clause, asked the right hon. Gentleman to explain its meaning and object, as an explanation might perhaps obviate the necessity for his (Mr. Henderson's) opposition to it.

MR. MUNDELLA said, this clause was a copy of the clause in the English Act, extending the Bill to Scotland, and the words were almost identical. That clause had worked exceedingly well for several years; and it was necessary in this Bill to show that where an Inspector of Factories or Schools, or a teacher, or a school attendance officer, or a clergyman of the parish, gave notice that such children were not attending school the school officers should follow up the matter.

MR. HENDERSON said, the right hon. Gentleman had not explained the clause to his satisfaction. It appeared to him that it was quite a new method of legislation for Scotland that a school board, on the intimation of any person, should take certain proceedings, and that if they did not do so, they should state their reasons with their Minutes. It was quite true that in the English Bill a school board might be informed by any person; but the obligation was not laid upon them of recording their reasons on the Minutes. He did not wish to prolong the discussion, or imperil the passing of the Bill; but, at the same time, he felt that there was great objection to the creation of a new system in Scotland. He did not suppose

that the right hon. Gentleman meant it, or that the clause should be acted upon to any great extent; but the clause did empower any layman to give information to a school board that some one was not educating his children in a proper manner; and upon that intimation, however ill-qualified the person might be to judge of the question whether the children were being educated in accordance with the various Acts or not, the parent was to lie under the stigma of such an accusation, and the board was to be bound to make inquiry into the state of the education of the children; and however false the information might be it might still cause considerable ill-feeling. It was a clause which he thought would be repugnant to the feelings of the people of Scotland; and he did not see that it was of such importance as the right hon. Gentleman seemed to believe, because the Act of 1870 required school board officers to ascertain the educational state of every child in their districts, and if they did not do their duty then the Board would be held to blame. They were bound to see that the officers did their duty; and if a clergyman, or a teacher, was the only person interested in the matter, and it was upon him that the right hon. Gentleman depended for giving information, why should he not be named in the Bill? The words "any person" seemed too wide, and under any circumstances they might be the means of creating a great deal of ill-feeling. He should like to hear the opinions of other Members before the Division was taken upon the clause.

Mr. WILLIAMSON hoped the clause would be maintained, believing it would be most useful. When he was in Scotland he found a number of children playing about during school hours, and he had felt it his duty to give information.

Mr. DICK-PEDDIE said, he entirely concurred in the objection of his hon. Friend the Member for Dundee to the clause. No great harm would be done by the Board inquiring into cases reported to them; but if they were to be bound to take proceedings against the parents in all cases in which information might be given them, or to record their reasons for not doing so, serious injustice might be done to persons who had really been guilty of no neglect of

their children, but had been informed against out of spite or malice. The clause was utterly unnecessary, and he should support the opposition to it.

Mr. A. GRANT said, he was very much inclined to support the objection to the clause, as he believed it would create a large amount of bad feeling in the community. That was very undesirable. It had been remarked that this was only importing into Scotland what had hitherto been the law in England; but it must be remembered that Scotland stood in a very different position from England. In every parish they had a school board, who had an officer, whose duty it was to do what was laid down in this clause; but in England there was not a school board in every parish. On the whole, he thought this clause might be perfectly well dispensed with.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, that provisions of this nature were intended as a kindness to the children, and not as a penalty. It was suggested that the school board officer was adequate; but, in large towns particularly, there might be children playing about the doors, without being seen, and it seemed reasonable that anyone who had cognizance that they were not attending school should mention the matter. No stigma would appear in the books, because what would be given would be reasons why proceedings were not taken. It would be a great misfortune if the clause was not passed.

Mr. J. A. CAMPBELL said, he thought the clause might be useful in country parishes as well as in towns. There was, perhaps, no part of the work of Scotch school boards as to which they heard more frequent complaints than the enforcing of attendance. If boards showed a slowness to act upon the compulsory powers given to them, it was, in many cases, because their officers were not so active as they might be.

Question put.

The Committee divided: — Ayes 45; Noes 3: Majority 42. — (Div. List, No. 292.)

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 12 *agreed to*, with Amendments.

Clause 13 (Mode of procedure and expenses of prosecutions).

Mr. Henderson

On the Motion of Mr. MUNDELLA, the following Amendments made:—In page 4, line 15, after "penalties," insert "or for the purpose of obtaining any order;" Clause 13, page 4, after line 28, insert as a new paragraph:—

"Where a prosecution, as in this section mentioned, is instituted by a school board before a Court of Summary Jurisdiction, no member of such school board shall be qualified to act as a member of such court."

Mr. WILLIAMSON, in proposing the Amendment of which he had given Notice, said, the municipal boundaries in Scotland were not, in a good many cases, co-extensive with the school board area. In these extra burghal areas the burgh magistrates had no jurisdiction, and it was desirable they should have for the special purposes of this Bill. Although there was a little technical difficulty in admitting his Amendment, still if the Committee thought it a valuable and useful one he hoped they would accept it.

Amendment proposed, at end of Clause to add—

"In the case of Royal or Parliamentary Burghs having School Board areas extending beyond the municipal boundaries, but having their school buildings within the same, the provost or baillie of such burghs may, for the special purposes of this Bill, have jurisdiction over defaulting parents residing within the entire School Board area."—(Mr. Williamson.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there added."

SIR JOHN HAY said, he did not know what legal difficulties there might be in inserting this Amendment; but if it was inserted he thought it would be a great advantage to the communities interested. He should be glad to hear that there was no legal difficulty; and he was confident that in the smaller boroughs the Amendment would be of great advantage.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, he was afraid the difficulty was more than one of technicality. It was one of substance; because the proposal was one to confer upon an elected baillie of a burgh jurisdiction over a country district outside the burgh. That was a formidable proposal, and contrary to the principles of jurisdiction.

Mr. WILLIAMSON: For the special purpose of this Act.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, the proposal was to give elected baillies jurisdiction over rural districts. It seemed to him that there was ample provision for reaching defaulting parents in other ways.

Mr. WILLIAMSON said, he would withdraw the Amendment, but he regretted having to do so. Country people had no power of choosing the Justices, any more than the neighbouring burgh magistrates.

Mr. MUNDELLA said, he should have been glad to agree to the Amendment of the hon. Member if he could; but he thought his right hon. and learned Friend the Lord Advocate had shown that there was a serious objection.

Mr. WILLIAMSON said, the objection would vanish if the Amendment were accepted.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 14 *agreed to*.

New Clause, to follow Clause 7—

(Meaning of passing a standard.)

"Passing a standard within the meaning of the two immediately preceding sections signifies passing in each of the three subjects of reading, writing, and elementary arithmetic, as prescribed for the respective standards of examination by the Minutes of the Scotch Education Department regulating the administration of the Parliamentary Grant for Education in Scotland for the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty-three, or for any subsequent year,"—(Mr. Mundella.)

—brought up, and read a first time.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Clause be read a second time."

Mr. DICK-PEDDIE asked, why it was necessary to define the Standard?

Mr. MUNDELLA said, the reason was that several school boards and employers and others had complained of the present arrangement. The Glasgow and Edinburgh School Boards had pressed for a plain definition in the Bill.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

Clause read a second time, and *added to the Bill*.

Mr. HENDERSON said, that at the request of the hon. Member for Forfar (Mr. J. W. Barclay), he would move the clause standing in his name with respect to the remission of fees. As the Committee were aware, under the Act of

1870 those children, whose parents were unable to pay school fees, were referred to Parochial Boards in Scotland, as they were to Boards of Guardians in England. Great difficulty was experienced in Scotland with respect to getting those boards to pay such fees; and, in consequence, the clause was practically inoperative. But the Act of 1878 gave the School Board power to remit fees; but very remarkable consequences ensued. He believed that in most of the districts the boards gave relief in every case which was certified by the School Board officer as being a deserving case, and it would be seen from the Return of the amounts which the boards had granted, that they had increased every year by leaps and bounds. Still, there was always a stigma attaching to parents who had applied to the Parochial Boards for relief of this kind, and the effect had been to create a new class of paupers in the country. The independent spirit of the Scotch people had, to a certain extent, been broken down; and he was assured that workmen of a class, who never before had applied to the boards, were now coming in in greater numbers every year, and he could distinctly trace the rise of a new class of paupers as the result of this provision. He had long been thoroughly convinced that there was no worse method of relieving these children than by sending them to the Parochial Boards. It was degrading in the extreme, and its effect was to greatly demoralize the people, and to create a new class of paupers in the country. The clause proposed by his hon. Friend the Member for Forfar did not disturb the existing system where the School Board chose to refer the application to the parochial authority to deal with in the manner laid down in the Statute; but if they were of opinion that, in any district, this method of relief would have an injurious effect, they could dispense with it. The sending of parents to Parochial Boards for the fees for their children's education, had had a most injurious effect in most of the large towns. If any opposition had arisen to the proposed clause it came from the school boards, who were unwilling to undertake the duty of discriminating between those who were and who were not the proper persons to be relieved. But no valid excuse could be made for them; it was a duty they were far better able to

discharge than Parochial Boards, for they could fix a better standard of relief than the Poor Law Boards, who applied a very severe standard. When relief was asked from a Parochial Board, they simply considered subsistence for men, women, and children; they did not contemplate anything beyond that. He, therefore, moved the clause standing in the name of the hon. Member for Forfar.

New Clause:—

(Remission of Fees.)

"The sixty-ninth section of 'The Education (Scotland) Act, 1872,' is hereby amended, to the effect that a parent alleging that he is unable from poverty to pay the school fees of any child may, instead of applying to the Parochial Board, apply to the School Board of the district in which he resides to be exempted from payment of school fees, and the School Board may either remit such fees, or part thereof, for such time as they think fit, or may transmit the application to the Parochial Board, who shall dispose thereof in terms of the said sixty-ninth section; but such remission of fees shall be without prejudice to the emoluments of such teachers as may have the school fees as part of their emoluments,"—(Mr. Henderson,)

—brought up, and read a first time.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Clause be read a second time."

Mr. MUNDELLA said, he was sorry to interpose before the Scotch Members who desired to speak upon this proposal, and he would say very briefly why he could not accept the clause; and he hoped the hon. Member (Mr. Henderson) would not consider it necessary to press it to a Division. For his own part, he was in favour of giving school boards the same power they had in England, and he believed that, ultimately, it would be found to work well; but he would ask the hon. Member not to invite a vote now. In time public opinion would come round to the views he advocated; but that opinion was against them now, and that opinion was strongly expressed when there were rumours that it was intended to give this power to remit fees, and the Department had to protest such was not the case, and circulated copies of the Bill to allay the strong feeling against the introduction of a new principle. It was a most contentious question; and if this new principle were proceeded with now half the Members for Scotland would rise to protest against it being carried, and a fair discussion could not be ex-

Mr. Henderson

pected at such a late hour. He hoped his hon. Friend would be content with having ventilated the subject, and would withdraw the clause.

MR. WARTON said, he did most earnestly hope that the hon. Member for Dundee (Mr. Henderson) would not withdraw the clause. It was all very well to talk of the hour being late; but whose fault was that? It was the fault of the Government, who did not arrange their Business properly, unreasonably pressing on measures with indecent haste. It was perfectly scandalous that the House should be kept sitting in such a manner through the fault of the Government alone. He sympathized with the view of the hon. Member for Dundee, and hoped he would press his point. The right hon. Gentleman conducting the Bill did not really object to the clause, for it had his concurrence; but because the Bill had been circulated in its crude state, and before the House had settled it, throughout Scotland, the Committee were to be bound by its second-reading state before it had passed Committee. Such an abdication of its functions by the House he had never heard of. Had the Committee full power to deliberate, or were they victims of the hasty action of the Department in sending the Bill round Scotland? Such an action was most unconstitutional; though, of course, constitutionalism could not be expected from a Liberal Ministry. They sent the Bill round; but what business had they to do that? Why send round the Bill for the opinion of school boards? Were not the Committee there to judge for themselves? He hoped the hon. Member for Dundee would divide on the clause; or it would be better still to report Progress at once, and adjourn the discussion to a more reasonable hour.

Motion made, and Question "That the Chairman do report Progress, and ask leave to sit again,"—(*Mr. Warton*),—put, and *negatived*.

MR. HENDERSON said, after what had been stated, and in the interest of the clause, he thought it was undesirable to divide the Committee, and he, therefore, begged leave to withdraw it.

Clause, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Bill *reported*; as amended, to be considered *To-morrow*.

EXPIRING LAWS CONTINUANCE

BILL.—[BILL 283.]

(*Mr. Herbert Gladstone, Mr. Courtney.*)

COMMITTEE.

Bill *considered* in Committee.

(*In the Committee.*)

Clauses 1 and 2 *agreed to*.

Schedule.

MR. WARTON, before the Schedule was passed, desired to know whether the Ballot Act Continuance and Amendment Act was of a temporary character; and, whether the Sunday Closing (Ireland) Bill was continued on the same lines as before?

MR. HERBERT GLADSTONE said, that was so.

Schedule *agreed to*.

Bill *reported*, without Amendment; to be read the third time *To-morrow*.

MEDALS BILL.—[BILL 188.]

(*Mr. Courtney, Secretary Sir William Harcourt, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer.*)

COMMITTEE. [ADJOURNED DEBATE.]

Order read, for resuming Adjourned Debate on Question [3rd July], "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" (for Committee on the Medals Bill).

Question again proposed.

Debate *resumed*.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

Bill *considered* in Committee.

Committee report Progress; to sit again *To-morrow*.

CHOLERA HOSPITALS (IRELAND) BILL.

(*Colonel Nolan, Mr. O'Kelly, Mr. Findlater, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Macfarlane.*)

[BILL 282.] CONSIDERATION.

Order for Consideration, as amended, read.

Bill, as amended, *considered*.

Amendment proposed, after Clause 6, to insert the following new Clause:—

(Duration of powers of local authorities.)

"The powers conferred upon sanitary authorities by this Act shall not be exercised after the first of May, 1884."—(*Mr. Attorney General for Ireland.*)

Amendment *agreed to*; Clause inserted accordingly.

Amendment proposed, to insert the following new Clause:—

(Short title.)

"This Act may be cited for all purposes as the Cholera Hospitals (Ireland) Act, 1883."—*(Mr. Attorney General for Ireland.)*

Amendment agreed to; Clause inserted accordingly.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 5, after "medical officer," to insert "of health."—*(Mr. Attorney General for Ireland.)*

Amendment agreed to; words inserted accordingly.

Amendment proposed, in line 8, after "consent," to insert "in writing."—*(Mr. Attorney General for Ireland.)*

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

COLONEL NOLAN said, he would rather these words were left out, so that the telegraph might be made use of; but if the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland insisted upon them he was content.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, he thought they were quite necessary.

Question put, and agreed to; words inserted accordingly.

Amendment proposed, to leave out Clause 7.—*(Mr. Attorney General for Ireland.)*

Amendment agreed to; Clause left out accordingly.

Bill read the third time, and passed.

PUBLIC WORKS LOANS [ADVANCES, &C.]

Committee to consider of authorising further advances to the Public Works Loan Commissioners, and to the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland, for the promotion of public works; and to the Land Commission in Ireland for the purposes of advances or purchases of estates, and for assisting emigration; and to consider of authorising the postponement of the payment of a loan, and the composition and remission of certain debts, and of amending "The Public Works Loans (Ireland) Act, 1877" (Queen's Recommendation signified), Tomorrow.

MOTIONS.



EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND ART (ADMINISTRATION OF VOTES).

Ordered, That Mr. SCLATER-BOOTH and Mr. JESSE COLLINGS be added to the Select Commit-

tee on Education, Science and Art (Administration of Votes).—*(Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer.)*

ARRESTS FOR DRUNKENNESS (SCOTLAND).

Address for "Return showing the number of persons arrested for drunkenness during the year 1882 in each burgh and county in Scotland (a.) during the 24 hours of the week between 6 a.m. on Saturdays and 6 a.m. on Sundays; (b.) during the 24 hours of the week between 6 a.m. on Sundays and 6 a.m. on Mondays; and (c.) during the 120 hours of the week between 6 a.m. on Mondays and 6 a.m. on Saturdays."—*(Dr. Cameron.)*

NAVY AND ARMY EXPENDITURE, 1881-2.

Considered in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

1. *Resolved*, Whereas it appears from the Navy Appropriation Account for the year ended 31st March 1882, as follows, viz.:—

- (a.) That the sums expended for certain Navy Services exceeded the Grants for those Services, and that the deficits on such Grants amounted together to £113,878 12s. 10d. (including £27 12s. 0d. disallowed by a Committee of this House), as shown in column (a) of the Schedule hereto appended;
- (b.) That the sums received in respect of Appropriations in Aid of the Grants for certain Services fell short of the sums estimated, and that such deficiencies amounted together to £7,215 19s. 10d. as shown in column (b) of the said appended Schedule;
- (c.) That the sums received in respect of Appropriations in Aid of the Grants for certain Services exceeded the amounts estimated by the total sum of £47,927 5s. 3d. as shown in column (c) of the said appended Schedule;
- (d.) That surpluses arose on the Grants for certain Services, and that such surpluses amounted together to £148,164 7s. 9d. as shown in column (d) of the said appended Schedule.

2. *Resolved*, And whereas, in order to provide for the first two above-mentioned sums (a) and (b), amounting together to £121,094 12s. 8d. the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury have temporarily authorised the application of the third above-mentioned sum (c) of £47,927 5s. 3d. and of £73,167 7s. 5d. out of the last above-mentioned sum (d).

3. *Resolved*, That the application of such sums be sanctioned to the extent of £121,067 0s. 8d. (the sum of £27 12s. having been disallowed by a Committee of this House, as before mentioned).

SCHEDULE.

No.	Navy Services, 1881-2, Votes.	(a) Deficits on Votes.	(b) Deficiencies of Appropriations in Aid.	(c) Excess of Appropriations in Aid.	(d) Surpluses on Vote.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1	Wages, &c. to Seamen and Marines ..	..	5,434 17 0	..	26,838 4 9
2	Victuals and Clothing for ditto ..	..	..	4,417 4 4	7,690 2 8
3	Admiralty Office ..	..	..	..	2,577 14 11
4	Coast Guard Service and Naval Reserves ..	..	..	..	6,478 0 7
5	Scientific Branch ..	..	..	..	6,880 4 1
6	Dockyards and Naval Yards, &c. ..	16,979 0 3	..	..	..
7	Victualling Yards, &c. ..	..	..	..	1,227 5 8
8	Medical Establishments, &c. ..	..	..	..	1,004 3 7
9	Marine Divisions ..	..	..	..	1,406 12 2
10	Sec. 1 .. Naval Stores ..	74,013 10 2	..	24,691 18 11	..
	Sec. 2 .. Machinery, Ships built by Contract, &c. ..	..	..	..	50,030 19 1
11	New Works, Buildings, and Repairs ..	..	..	..	22,325 12 9
12	Medicines and Medical Stores ..	..	1,781 2 10	..	10,418 12 5
13	Martial Law, &c. ..	419 12 9	..	..	5,689 1 3
14	Miscellaneous Services ..	..	..	..	..
15	Half Pay, &c. ..	15,021 14 10	..	..	..
	Sec. 1 .. Military Pensions and Allowances ..	5,557 17 3 (27 12 0 disallowed.)	..	..	..
16	..	..	..	..	4,469 19 7
	Sec. 2 .. Civil Pensions and Allowances ..	..	..	..	..
17	Army Department—Conveyance of Troops ..	..	..	18,818 2 0	1,127 14 3
	Amount written off as irrecoverable ..	1,886 17 7	..	..	..
		113,878 12 10 27 12 0	7,215 19 10	47,927 5 3	148,164 7 9
				73,167 7 5	
		£121,094 12 8		£121,094 12 8	
	Disallowed ..	27 12 0			
		£121,067 0 8			
	Total Surpluses on Votes ..	..	..	148,164 7 9	
	Less amount applied to make good deficiencies ..	..	..	73,167 7 5	
	Surplus as shown on Appropriation Account ..	..	..	74,997 0 4	
	Disallowance ..	..	..	27 12 0	
	Net Surplus to be surrendered ..	..	..	£75,024 12 4	

4. *Resolved*, Whereas it appears from the Army Appropriation Account for the year ended 31st March 1882, as follows, viz.:—

- (a.) That the sums expended for certain Army Services exceeded the Grants for those Services, and that the deficits on such Grants amounted together to £271,907 15s. 6d. (including £15 9s. 4d. disallowed by a Committee of this House), as shown in column (a) of the Schedule hereto appended;
- (b.) That the sums received in respect of Appropriations in Aid of the Grants for certain Services fell short of the sums estimated, and that such deficiencies amounted together to £54,109 10s. 6d. as shown in column (b) of the said appended Schedule;
- (c.) That the sums received in respect of Appropriations in Aid of the Grants for

certain other Services exceeded the amounts estimated by the total sum of £106,525 6s. 9d. as shown in column (c) of the said appended Schedule;

- (d.) That surpluses arose on the Grants for certain Services, and that such surpluses amounted together to £175,279 7s. 5d. as shown in column (d) of the said appended Schedule.

5. *Resolved*, And whereas in order to provide as far as possible for the first two above-mentioned sums (a) and (b), amounting together to £326,017 6s. the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury have temporarily authorised the application of the third above-mentioned sum (c) of £106,525 6s. 9d. and of the last above-mentioned sum (d), viz.: £175,279 7s. 5d.

6. *Resolved*, That the said application of such sums be sanctioned.

SCHEDULE.

No.	Army Services, 1881 - 2, Votes.	(a) Deficits on Votes.			(b) Deficiencies of Appropriations in Aid.			(c) Excess of Appropriations in Aid.			(d) Surpluses on Votes.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1	Pay of the General Staff, Regimental Pay and Allowances, and other Charges	32,675	19	3	..	..	..	6,756	4	7	..	..	..
2	Divine Service	2,898	13	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3	Administration of Military Law .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,046	14	7
4	Medical Establishment and Services	1,057	13	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5	Militia Pay and Allowances .. ..	..	..	..	18,898	13	8	..	..	..	21,386	7	1
6	Yeomanry Cavalry .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,471	7	11
7	Volunteer Corps	615	5	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8	Army Reserve (including Enrolled Pensioners) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13,548	4	4
9	Commissariat, Transport, and Ordnance Store Establishments, Wages, &c.	31,026	2	9	..	..	..	1	14	0	..	..	..
10	Provisions, Forage, Fuel and Light, Transport, &c.	36,227	14	7	..	..	..	56,144	6	0	..	..	..
		(7 19 4 disallowed.)											
11	Clothing Establishments, Services, and Supplies ..	..	..	..	35,210	16	10	..	..	..	18,447	16	10
12	Supply, Manufacture, and Repair of Warlike and other Stores for Land and Sea Service	116,808	19	1	..	..	..	43,623	2	2	..	..	..
13	Superintending Establishments of and Expenditure for Works, Buildings, and Repairs at Home and Abroad ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10,796	6	8
14	Establishments for Military Education	193	12	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15	Miscellaneous Effective Services	11,720	8	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Carried forward ..	233,234	10	1	54,109	10	6	106,525	6	9	77,696	17	5

SCHEDULE—continued.

No.	Army Services, 1881 - 2, Votes.	(a) Deficits on Votes.	(b) Deficiencies of Appropriations in Aid.	(c) Excess of Appropriations in Aid.	(d) Surpluses on Votes.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
16	Brought forward ..	233,234 10 1	54,109 10 6	106,525 6 9	77,696 17 5
	War Office ..	17,718 10 3 (7 10 0 disallowed.)			
17	Rewards for Distinguished Services, &c. ..	..	..	..	5,632 9 1
18	Half Pay ..	1,697 7 2			
19	Retired Full Pay, Retired Pay, Pensions and Gra- tuities, &c. including Payments allowed by Army Purchase Commis- sioners ..	..	..	..	57,909 8 7
20	Widows' Pensions ..	13,856 17 11			
21	Pensions for Wounds ..	2,313 17 6			
22	Chelsea and Kilmainham Hospitals ..	..	..	..	1,702 17 4
23	Out-Pensions ..	..	..	..	30,323 12 5
24	Superannuation Allow- ances ..	..	..	..	2,014 2 7
25	Militia, Yeomanry Cavalry, and Volunteer Forces ..	2,125 8 4			
	Amount written off as irre- coverable ..	961 4 3			
		271,907 15 6 15 9 4	54,109 10 6	106,525 6 9	175,279 7 5
Total Deficit on Votes and Appropria- tions in Aid ..		£328,017 6 0			
Deduct total Surplus ..		281,804 14 2		£281,804 14 2	
Deficit as shown on Appropriation Account ..		44,212 11 10			
Disallowances ..		15 9 4			
Net Deficit ..		£44,197 2 6			

Resolutions to be reported *To-morrow*.House adjourned at a quarter
before Five o'clock in
the morning.

HOUSE OF LORDS,

Tuesday, 14th August, 1883.

MINUTES.]—PUBLIC BILLS—*First Reading*—*Cholera Hospitals (Ireland)* * (193).*Committee*—*Friendly, &c. Societies (Nominations)* * (166), *now* *Provident Nominations and Small Intestacies*.*Committee*—*Report*—*Diseases Prevontion (Metropolis)* * (181).*Report*—*Agricultural Holdings (England)* (186-192).*Third Reading*—*Parochial Charities (London)* * (187), and *passed*.

AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS (ENGLAND) BILL.—(No. 186.)

(The Lord President.)

REPORT.

Amendments *reported* (according to Order).

Clause 1 (General right of tenant to compensation).

THE EARL OF MILLTOWN, in moving, as an Amendment, to insert the words—

“So far as such improvement is not due to the inherent capabilities of the soil or to extraneous circumstances,”

said, the objection which had been taken to the clause as it stood was, that it would suggest to the valuer to take into consideration other circumstances than the mere value of the improvement which might have resulted from the exercise of the skill, industry, and capital of the tenant—such, for instance, as the erection of a new railway station in the neighbourhood. This was an extremely reasonable Amendment, and would obviate the objections which he understood the Government entertained.

Amendment moved,

In page 1, line 14, leave out from (“tenant”) to end of Clause, and insert (“so far as such improvement is not due to the inherent capabilities of the soil or to extraneous circumstances.”)—(The Earl of Milltown.)

On Question, “That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Bill?”

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he had no doubt any form of words might be invented by ingenious persons; but he was very unwilling to consent to any

change in the words as they stood, and as they came from the other House. The noble Earl opposite (the Earl of Milltown) had spoken of the advantages arising to the tenant from the erection of a new railway station in the neighbourhood of the holding. Did he suppose that a valuer performing his duty under this clause, and endeavouring to ascertain the sum that fairly represented the value of the improvement to the incoming tenant, would consider such an extraneous circumstance as to whether the general value of a farm had been increased by the erection of a railway station in the vicinity? He could not conceive a valuer taking any such circumstances into account, as his business would be to ascertain the value of the improvement itself.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, he would call their Lordships’ remembrance to the fact that this was substantially the same Amendment as the one which he moved when the Bill was in Committee; but as it appeared to him the majority of the House, though it was a full one, did not favour the proposal, he did not press it, and he should be sorry to go on with it now, when there were fewer Members present. He could not, however, agree with the noble Lord opposite (the Lord President) in thinking that it could have no effect, and that extraneous circumstances could not in any case be taken into account. Suppose there was a bad bit of pasture which the tenant had improved, and the improvements were not exhausted when the tenant left. There might have been a rise in the price of wool. Would not that make that bit of pasture of very much more value? He did not mean to say that that was an exact illustration; but he repudiated the principle that no case could arise of an improvement in which extraneous circumstances would add considerably to the value of an improvement.

Resolved in the affirmative.

Clause 4 (Notice to landlord as to improvement in schedule, Part II.)

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) moved, as an Amendment, in page 2, line 30, to leave out the words (“a specification”), and insert (“manner in which he proposes to do the”). The noble Lord said, the Amendment was proposed in fulfilment

of the pledge given by the Government; and its object was to prevent the consequences which might have followed from the words as they stood, of the landlord being bound down to the specification of the tenant, which might be a very imperfect and faulty one.

Amendment agreed to.

Amendment moved,

In page 2, line 35, after ("may"), insert ("unless the notice of the tenant is previously withdrawn"); and in line 36, after ("himself"), insert ("and may execute the same in any reasonable and proper manner which he thinks fit.")—(*The Lord President.*)

On Question, "That those words be there inserted?"

THE EARL OF CAMPERDOWN said, that, before the words were put, he should like to ask his noble Friend (the Lord President) to explain them. He (the Earl of Camperdown) apprehended either that the parties might agree, or the landlord might undertake to execute the work himself.

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he thought his noble Friend (the Earl of Camperdown) would see that the words were perfectly reasonable. They were in the Scotch Bill, and were merely for the purpose of avoiding the result that the tenant, having once given notice, should be absolutely bound by that notice. It was surely reasonable that when the landlord elected to do the work himself and in his own way the tenant should be allowed to back out if he chose.

Resolved in the affirmative.

Words inserted.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 5 (Reservation as to existing and future contracts of tenancy).

THE EARL OF WEMYSS, in moving, as an Amendment, to omit that part of the clause which directs that the compensation for improvements provided by any future agreement shall be fair and reasonable, and to substitute the following Amendment:—

"Where in the case of a tenancy under a written contract beginning after the commencement of this Act such contract shall contain an agreement as to the manner in which compensation shall be made to the tenant for improvements made by him, then in such case the compensation in respect of such improvements pay-

able in pursuance of the agreement so made shall be deemed to be substituted for compensation under this Act."

said, that the proposal was not really his own; but that it had been suggested by a Liberal of the old school, whose name could never be mentioned without honour in that House. He alluded to the noble Earl (Earl Grey). That noble Earl, in a letter to *The Times* of June 4, said that a tenant might obtain a farm in preference to another man in consequence of an agreement, and having entered into that agreement he might afterwards turn round and repudiate it as not fair and reasonable, so that the Bill would become a direct premium on dishonesty. He would at once admit that his object was to get rid of the words "fair and reasonable;" and he believed his proposal would protect the country from a large amount of litigation, as those who had watched the course of events in Ireland would readily understand. It was stated that the farmers needed this parental or rather grandmotherly legislation. He did not believe it. Mr. Hope, of Fentonbarns, 15 years ago declared that the farmers of England had no need to come cap in hand to the Legislature. No doubt some tenants were foolish, and some landlords drove hard bargains; but, on the whole, he thought the interests of both classes would be best served by adopting the words he had suggested.

Amendment moved, in page 3, leave out lines 16 to 24, and insert—

("Where in the case of a tenancy under a written contract beginning after the commencement of this Act such contract shall contain an agreement as to the manner in which compensation shall be made to the tenant for improvements made by him, then in such case the compensation in respect of such improvements payable in pursuance of the agreement so made shall be deemed to be substituted for compensation under this Act.")—(*The Earl of Wemyss.*)

On Question, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Bill?"

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, that the noble Earl on the Cross Benches (the Earl of Wemyss) had taken the second-reading ground for the express purpose of getting rid of the element of compulsion. His arguments went to absolute freedom of bargaining in respect of the tenants' improvements in Part III., and

to the absolute exclusion of any element of compulsion with respect to those improvements. The real effect of the Amendment was virtually to repeal all that portion of the Bill, though that was not distinctly proposed. He was aware that the words applied literally to agreements providing compensation in some manner or other; but, for all practical purposes, the noble Earl might just as well have taken the bolder course, and made all agreements, even prohibitory agreements, equally valid. No matter how evasive or illusory the agreement might be, it would oust the Bill, under the words proposed. As long as the agreement for compensation was not unfair and unreasonable it would stand, under the Bill; but, if the Amendment were accepted, an agreement which was inadequate, illusory, and evasive would be equally protected. He could not imagine that any of their Lordships who had accepted the principle of this measure could support the Amendment.

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON said, he could not possibly support the Amendment, as it was not consistent with the principle of the Bill. It appeared to him that if it was now to be accepted, the better course would have been to have rejected the clause in Committee, or to have thrown out the Bill on the second reading, because the whole Bill proceeded on the assumption that the agreement was to be compulsory. If it were permitted, there was nothing to prevent both parties contracting themselves out of the Bill by making a bogus agreement. If that were to be permitted, he would prefer to stick to the Bill of 1875; and, at the same time, he would point out that the House had been giving itself a great deal of trouble for nothing.

LORD BRAMWELL said, that, in his opinion, it was impossible to have such a clause as this without the certainty of fraudulent claims. He would suggest that, instead of the Amendment of the noble Earl on the Cross Benches (the Earl of Wemyss), assuming their Lordships would not accept it, it would be a better thing that, instead of having this clause as it stood, and waiting till the parties to the agreement had fallen out, there should be some arrangement by which they should be prevented from falling out—that was to say, that the

landlord and tenant, having come to an agreement, should have some power to ratify it, as it were, by getting some *imprimatur* put upon it or some sanction to it, so as to make it a binding agreement on them thereafter. They might provide, for instance, that any proposed agreement between landlord and tenant should, by the consent of the two parties, be submitted to a County Court Judge, or to some other functionary, who should say whether or not, in his judgment, it was fair and reasonable, and, if he held that it was, from that time forth it should bind the parties. Though objecting to interference with freedom of contract, he was inclined to think the Bill would not work so unjustly as his noble Friend feared, inasmuch as the Courts would always have the power of determining what was “fair and reasonable.”

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, he thought it was desirable, in the votes they gave on that Bill, that there should be a certain sequence and consistency. In view of political circumstances—that was to say, the state of opinion—noble Lords on his side, who supported the Bill, were agreeable to sacrifice the principle of freedom of contract to a certain extent; but they were not prepared to agree to provisions which were in the nature of confiscation, or that interfered with existing agreements. He sympathized with much that had been said by his noble Friend (the Earl of Wemyss); but he must say it appeared to him that the Amendment was one distinctly directed to the same point as his Amendment to the second reading of the Bill—namely, to the principle of freedom of contract in the future. It would, therefore, be a departure from the votes they had hitherto given now to accept that Amendment; and, on the whole, while acknowledging that the proposal of his noble Friend was not without its advantages, he could not support it without acknowledging that he was wrong in not supporting him in opposing the second reading. He did not doubt the correctness of his noble Friend's and the noble Earl's (Earl Grey's) general principle. It would, he thought, be much better if the words “fair and reasonable” were not in the Bill. As to the suggestion of the noble and learned Lord who spoke last (Lord Bramwell), it was on all fours with one which Sir Michael Hicks-

Beach had moved in the other House. There was a good deal at first sight in the proposal that attracted him, and a good deal that repelled him. It would, however, involve the setting up beforehand of a Court with power to deal with agreements between landlord and tenant. He was afraid that that would be what they called a germ, out of which future legislation would be developed to an extent they could not judge of, and he thought it would be better for their Lordships not to venture on such dangerous ground as that.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he fully agreed with what had fallen from the noble Marquess opposite (the Marquess of Salisbury). He had himself gone carefully into a suggestion such as that which had been thrown out by the noble and learned Lord (Lord Bramwell). It had come to him from a high legal authority, and he must confess that, on casually looking at it the first time, it had a very plausible appearance; but after more fully considering it, he arrived at the result that it would lead inevitably to the erection of something in the nature of a Land Court. They could not constitute an authority to decide what was fair and reasonable, without giving some discretion as to what was to be held fair and reasonable. Then they would, of course, have the germ of a Land Court; and the question of rent might enter into the fairness, or otherwise, of the agreement. He was afraid, therefore, that no Amendment of that kind could be framed which would not be open to serious objection.

After a few words from Earl FORTESCUE,

Their Lordships *divided*:—Contents 56; Not-Contents 20: Majority 36.

CONTENTS.

Selborne, E. (<i>L. Chancellor.</i>)	Kimberley, E.
	Milltown, E.
	Morley, E.
Richmond, D.	Northbrook, E.
Westminster, D.	Shaftesbury, E.
	Sydney, E.
Salisbury, M.	Verulam, E.
Beauchamp, E.	Hawarden, V.
Camperdown, E.	Hood, V.
Carnarvon, E.	Sherbrooke, V.
Clonmell, E.	
Derby, E.	Aberdare, L.
Devon, E.	Alcester, L.
Granville, E.	Btreaux, L. (<i>E. Loudoun.</i>)
Haddington, E.	

Boyle, L. (<i>E. Cork and Orrery.</i>) [<i>Teller.</i>]	Norton, L.
Carlingford, L.	Oxenford, L. (<i>E. Stair.</i>)
Carrington, L.	Ramsay, L. (<i>E. Dalhousie.</i>)
Clifford of Chudleigh, L.	Reay, L.
Crewe, L.	Ribblesdale, L.
Emly, L.	Rosebery, L. (<i>E. Rosebery.</i>)
Fitzgerald, L.	Rowton, L.
Gerard, L.	Sandhurst, L.
Haldon, L.	Somerton, L. (<i>E. Northampton.</i>)
Harris, L.	Strathspey, L. (<i>E. Seafield.</i>)
Hopetoun, L. (<i>E. Hopetoun.</i>)	Sundridge, L. (<i>D. Argyll.</i>)
Kenmare, L. (<i>E. Kenmare.</i>)	Templemore, L.
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Methuen, L.	Wrottesley, L.
Monson, L. [<i>Teller.</i>]	

NOT-CONTENTS.

Manchester, D.	Bateman, L.
	Blantyre, L.
Winchester, M.	Bramwell, L.
	Forbes, L.
Doncaster, E. (<i>D. Buccleuch and Queensberry.</i>)	Lamington, L.
Feversham, E.	Lyveden, L.
Fortescue, E. [<i>Teller.</i>]	Stewart of Garlies, L. (<i>E. Galloway.</i>)
Lucan, E.	Stratheden and Campbell, L.
Redesdale, E.	Wemyss, L. (<i>E. Wemyss.</i>) [<i>Teller.</i>]
Stradbroke, E.	Westbury, L.
Melville, V.	Wynford, L.

Resolved in the affirmative.

Clause 7 (Account of outlay during last and three preceding years of tenancy).

Amendment *moved*, in page 4, line 39, at end of Clause, add—

"Nor shall there be taken into account any outlay in respect of any purchased artificial or other purchased manure applied, or any cake or other feeding stuff consumed on the holding more than three years before the determination of the tenancy."—(*The Earl of Feversham.*)

On Question, "That those words be there added?"

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, it was impossible to accept the Amendment, for it would introduce, with regard to this particular class of improvements, the principle of compensating periods, which was not contemplated by the Bill. It would say that, at the end of three years, whether any value remained or not, there should be no compensation.

Resolved in the negative.

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL), in moving the in-

section of a new clause, to follow Clause 17, said, its object was to put into a proper shape the provision for references to arbitration of agreements under the Bill, so far as concerned compensation which might be substituted for the general compensation in the Bill; and that with respect to this substituted compensation, it should be ascertained by the same system of referees and umpire, so far as the terms of the agreement between the parties admitted of it.

Amendment moved, in line 2, after Clause 17, insert as a new Clause:—

(Award in respect of compensation under sections 3, 4, and 5.)

("In any case provided for by sections three, four, or five, if compensation is claimed under this Act, such compensation as under any of those sections is to be deemed to be substituted for compensation under this Act, if and so far as the same can, under the terms of the agreement, if any, be ascertained by the referees or the umpire, shall be awarded in respect of any improvements thereby provided for, and the award shall, when necessary, distinguish such improvements and the amount awarded in respect thereof.")—(*The Lord President.*)

On Question, "That the said Clause be there inserted?"

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, the clause was singularly drawn, and he must confess that he had great difficulty, if he could be said to have been even successful, in understanding it now. He had also submitted it to a high legal authority, who had experienced the same difficulty in arriving at a conclusion upon it. It was impossible to overrate the importance of the words "fair and reasonable;" it was the most vital part of the Bill. The other night he had contended successfully that an agreement was not a proper thing for the referees to determine upon, and that it would be better to reserve it for the Court. To that principle he was very anxious to adhere. He did not believe that the main machinery of the Bill would act at all, or that the principle of value, as against the principle of outlay, would be found to work well. Practically, they would find landlords and tenants reverting to the principle of agreements, which would be based on outlay, and which would oust the principle of value. But he thought that, as it was, it was important there should be a proper means of determining the validity, the meaning, and the effect of the agreement on which so much would depend, and which

Lord Carlingford

he was loth to leave to the valuers entirely; for he still had a prejudice in favour of Courts of Law. Though he did not profess to understand the Amendment, he gathered from the explanation of the noble Lord (the Lord President) that it would have a useful effect, and he, therefore, would not object to it; but he hoped the noble Lord would allow these words to be added—"And an award given under this clause shall be subject to the appeal provided by this Act"—of which he had given Notice.

Resolved in the affirmative.

Clause inserted accordingly.

On the Motion of the Marquess of SALISBURY, the said Clause amended by adding the words ("and an award given under this clause shall be subject to the appeal provided by this Act.")

Clause, as amended, agreed to, and ordered to stand part of the Bill."

Clause 60 (General saving of rights.)

On the Motion of the LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL, the following Amendment made:—In page 20, lines 25 to 30, leave out from ("compensation under this Act") in line 25 to ("under this Act") in line 30, both inclusive.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Bill to be read 3^d on *Thursday* next, and to be printed, as amended. (No. 192.)

ARMY—MILITARY PRISON AT GREENLAW, SCOTLAND.

QUESTION. OBSERVATIONS.

THE MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN, in rising to call attention to the state of the military prison in Scotland; and to ask, If any Reports have been received on the subject? said, the prison in question was situated at Greenlaw, and, although he would admit it was most admirably and carefully managed, yet he must say it was in a most dangerous condition. It was built in 1803, entirely of wood, for the reception of French prisoners, and ever since it had received an annual coating of tar, which rendered it highly inflammable. The consequences of the place catching fire would be most disastrous, inasmuch as the building contained only one staircase, and the prisoners were locked up, so that their chance of escape would be very small.

The water supply was absolutely *nil*; and there were no means whatever of extinguishing a fire, if the building caught fire, though no amount of water would save it if it did catch fire. He had no doubt the noble Earl opposite (the Earl of Morley) had made every inquiry; but he would press it upon him that he should make every further inquiry that he could. In the interests alike of the prisoners and of those who had charge of them, it was absolutely necessary that something should be done.

THE EARL OF MORLEY, in reply, said, he was glad to find that the Question put by his noble Friend opposite (the Marquess of Lothian) had the single illustration of the prison to which he had referred. He believed the prison was an old one, as mentioned in the Question, although he was not acquainted with the details stated. He could only assure his noble Friend that he would take care that inquiries should be made; but he might add that he had been unable to find any Reports or complaints at the War Office regarding the subject. Should any defects be proved to exist steps should be taken at once to remedy them.

THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH said, he perfectly agreed with his noble Friend (the Marquess of Lothian) as to the state of the prison in question, that if the building caught fire there would be no chance of extinguishing it. In fact, he did not think the whole Metropolitan Fire Brigade would be successful in putting it out, for it was completely saturated with tar. He had been through it, and a more unfit place he had never seen. He hoped it would not be used much longer.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS PREVENTION ACT, 1849—PROSECUTIONS FOR PIGEON-SHOOTING.

QUESTION.

LORD WESTBURY asked Her Majesty's Government, Whether they can state how many prosecutions for cruelties connected with the shooting of birds from traps have been instituted under the Cruelty to Animals Prevention Act, 1849, during the last ten years?

THE EARL OF DALHOUSIE, in reply, said, he was sorry to say Her Majesty's

Government were unable to give the information required by his noble Friend. To obtain it, it would be necessary to address inquiries to every Petty Sessions magistrate all over the country, as no such record was sent to the Home Office.

THE EARL OF REDESDALE (CHAIRMAN of COMMITTEES) said, that he would like to ask what greater cruelty there was in shooting a bird from a trap than in shooting a pheasant from a covert; and why a man should become liable to a penalty of £5 for the former act? Being of opinion that there was no more cruelty in shooting birds let out of traps than under any other circumstances, he would give Notice that when Mr. Anderson's Bill came before their Lordships he would move its rejection.

EARL GRANVILLE said, that it was irregular to discuss a Bill which was down for second reading at the end of the week.

LORD WESTBURY said, he deeply regretted the answer of the noble Earl. He had merely put the Question on the Paper with the view of putting their Lordships in possession of some information before the second reading of the Bill on the subject on Friday next, as he knew the cases of cruelty had been grossly exaggerated. He thought there might have been some means of obtaining the information he desired through the Home Office, the Police, or the Secretary to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

THE EARL OF MILLTOWN: Can the noble Earl state whether any prosecutions have been instituted?

THE EARL OF DALHOUSIE said, he had endeavoured to obtain information on the subject, and was quite satisfied the Government could not get any; but he supposed it could be got from the Secretary to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

LORD WESTBURY said, he was afraid to apply in that quarter, in case the Secretary should think the information might be used against him. He should have liked for some information from the police, and that was why he asked the Government.

EARL GRANVILLE said, he thought it was rather late to ask for the information when the second reading was fixed for the end of the week.

THE ARMY AND THE MILITIA—THE
STANDARD FOR RECRUITS AND
ENROLMENT.

QUESTION. OBSERVATIONS.

THE EARL OF GALLOWAY, in rising to call attention to the speech made at the Mansion House on the 8th instant by the Secretary of State for War, and to ask the Under Secretary of State for War, Whether it is not a fact that the standard of height for recruits is lower than it has ever been previously, and whether there is any prospect of its being raised again; also to inquire whether the permission to Militia regiments to enrol over the prescribed ratio of 25 per cent in the Militia Reserve is general; and, whether it is intended to revert to the old system of having preliminary drill for recruits immediately before the training of each Militia regiment at head-quarters, and to permit ten shillings upon enrolment being given once more instead of the pound for being trained in barracks upon the dribble system which has proved so injurious to recruiting in agricultural districts? said, when the matter was last referred to in that House, the noble Earl opposite the Under Secretary of State for War (the Earl of Morley) indulged in lamentations with regard to the falling-off in recruiting last year; but in the recent speech at the Mansion House it was stated that there was no further reason for continued lamentations, because, up to the present time, there had been 5,000 more recruits raised during the last six months than there were in the corresponding six months of last year, and he then alluded to this being due to the "elasticity of our system." He (the Earl of Galloway) was at a loss to understand what that meant, and should like some explanation.

THE EARL OF MORLEY, in reply, said, he would try to answer the Questions of the noble Earl as well as he could. The first Question was, whether it was not a fact that the standard of height for recruits was lower than it had ever been previously? His (the Earl of Morley's) answer was in the negative. In 1858-9 the standard was 5 feet 3 inches; it was now 5 feet 4 inches. But discretion had been given to commanding officers and medical officers to accept men below 5 feet 4 inches, and above 5 feet 3 inches, if they were

likely to turn out good soldiers. That was very different to lowering the standard. The next question was, whether there was any prospect of the standard being raised? That was a question of the future which he could not enter upon, as he did not think it would be prudent for him to indulge in conjectures upon it. The third Question was, whether the permission to Militia regiments to enrol over the prescribed ratio of 25 per cent in the Militia Reserve was general? It was found that the total Militia Reserve was not entirely up to the standard, although it was considerably higher than it was when he last had the honour of remarking on the subject. The number of the Militia Reserve was only 1,000 below its standard; and when it was found to be below the Establishment, permission was given by the War Office to the Colonels to enlist a number of men over the *quota* of 25 per cent. It was not the intention of the Secretary of State for War, as had been suggested by the noble Earl on the Cross Benches (the Earl of Wemyss), to have the Militia Reserve as supernumerary to the Forces. The fourth Question put by the noble Earl was, whether it was intended to revert to the old system of having preliminary drill for recruits immediately before the training of each Militia regiment at head-quarters? He had already explained fully the system they proposed to adopt, which gave the recruit an option in that matter. The Regulations on the subject were now ready, and would be published almost immediately; and he thought they would give the noble Earl all the information he desired. It was not intended to give 10s. on enrolment to Militia recruits. The noble Earl appeared to consider the present system very unpopular. Now, it was a remarkable fact that during the present year, up to the 1st of August, there were no fewer than 23,500 Militia recruits as against 16,500 last year.

THE EARL OF WEMYSS asked whether it would not be desirable, in asking men to re-engage at the termination of the short-service period, to pay them at least a portion of their deferred pay?

THE EARL OF MORLEY, in reply, said, that the object with which deferred pay was instituted was to enable men, on leaving the Colours, to have a certain sum of money to give them a

start in civil life, or help them to tide over the interval until they obtained employment. To give the men deferred pay, and then allow them to go on for pension, seemed to him to be little short of an absurdity.

POST OFFICE—THE PARCEL POST.

QUESTION. OBSERVATION.

LORD LAMINGTON asked Her Majesty's Government, now that the postal parcel system is established, Whether the post messengers in the rural districts will be supplied with carts and horses? He would impress upon the Government that it was an important matter to the rural districts that these things should be supplied; for if they were not, it would cause a great deal of inconvenience to the public. He hoped, therefore, that he would receive a favourable answer in regard to it.

LORD THURLOW, in reply, said, that the Postmaster General had given his very serious attention to that subject, having gone into all its details. Considering the short time that the new system had been in operation, he (Lord Thurlow) thought they might congratulate themselves on the smoothness with which it worked. It was not the practice of the Post Office to supply carts and horses to the rural letter carriers; but it was its practice, in individual instances, each of which was considered on its own merits, to make an allowance of money, by which the rural letter carriers could provide themselves with horses and carts, partly for their own convenience, and partly for the service of the mails. But it was not possible, in that matter, to lay down any general rule, because circumstances varied so essentially in each particular case. The distances, the population, the number of parcels to be carried, and other points had to be considered. But the whole subject was receiving the attention of the Post Office authorities; and although there were, and must be, cases of hardship to individuals, he thought that the noble Lord opposite (Lord Lamington) might rest assured that those cases would be reduced to a minimum.

THE MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN said, he would point out that this was not a case of hardship to individuals only. Whole districts suffered from the prohibition to carry small parcels unless prepaid,

and the rule ought to be relaxed. There was another rule which required amendment—namely, the one providing that a carrier might take a parcel from, but not to, the Post Office, and not from one part of their district to another. This had an almost prohibitory effect; but if the Government would consider the subject they would probably find some means of avoiding the difficulty.

METROPOLITAN IMPROVEMENTS— PARLIAMENT STREET.

QUESTION. OBSERVATION.

LORD LAMINGTON asked Her Majesty's Government, Whether it is intended, when the houses in Parliament Street are taken down, to let the ground for private buildings? If that were done, its effect, as far as appearance and the re-arrangement of Government buildings was concerned, would be ruinous.

LORD THURLOW, in reply, said, that, considering how large a question was involved in the construction of new Public Offices, and in dealing with a site so expensive as that in Parliament Street, their Lordships would not be surprised if he said it was impossible to give an off-hand opinion, or arrive at any immediate decision. It had not been decided, up to the present moment, how the land fronting Parliament Street, which the Government proposed to acquire, was to be occupied. When the block of houses was pulled down, a considerable time would be allowed to elapse before anything further was done, so that a full discussion might take place, with the aid of plans and models; and then would be the time for Parliament and the public to criticize any plan that might be laid before the House.

House adjourned at half past Six o'clock,
to Thursday next, a quarter
past Four o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Tuesday, 14th August, 1883.

MINUTES.]—SUPPLY—considered in Committee
—Resolutions [August 13] reported.

PUBLIC BILLS—*Resolution in Committee*—Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland) [Advances].

First Reading—Summary Jurisdiction (Repeal, &c.)* [289]; Statute Law Revision and Civil Procedure * [290]; Statute Law Revision * [291]; Trial of Lunatics * [292].

Second Reading—Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland) [286].

Committee—Revenue and Friendly Societies [269] [House counted out].

Committee—Report—Parliamentary Registration (Ireland) [155]; Corrupt Practices (Suspension of Elections)* [281].

Considered as amended—Third Reading—Bankruptcy [243]; Education (Scotland)* [226], and passed.

Third Reading—National Debt* [287], and passed.

Withdrawn—Income Tax Administration * [98].

QUESTIONS.

ROYAL COMMISSIONS—EXPENSES— RETURN 261, OF 1867.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE BALFOUR asked Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Whether the Treasury has kept up the Statement of the Cost of Royal Commissions, and if a Continuous Return of Return 261, of 1867, can be rendered, but without the Appendix and so made out as to show the total charge for these Commissions, including the Amount in Return 196, of Session 2, of 1859?

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (MR. CHILDERS): Sir, I will give directions for the preparation of this Account; but in a concise form. The particulars are annually given by the Comptroller and Auditor General, whose Report my hon. Friend has doubtless studied with his usual care.

NATIONAL EDUCATION (IRELAND)— PUPIL TEACHERS.

MR. LEWIS asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether the pupil teachers who have been instructed in the 26 district and minor model schools are included in the 7,041 teachers who have been recently reported by the Commissioners of National Education as untrained; if so, would he state in what respects the training in Marlborough Street differs from that afforded in the district model schools; have the Commissioners themselves recognised the efficiency of the district model schools as training institutions in appointing persons who had been pupil teachers therein as head

teachers in their model schools, although they had never been trained in Marlborough Street; whether the district model schools were originally established to train young persons for the office of teacher; and, if he would state whether they have, since their establishment, been in any way altered in their character so as to unfit them for this office?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, 268 ex-pupil teachers of model schools were included in the 7,041 teachers recently reported as untrained. The Commissioners have occasionally appointed some persons—some of them pupil teachers, and some not—of high acquirements and tried efficiency to the charge of model schools. For several years these appointments have been determined by competitive examinations. There is no rule excluding untrained teachers from this competition; but the preliminary examinations as pupil teachers do not enter into the question of the candidates' claims for admission to the competition. The district model schools were established with the object of giving teachers a preliminary training preparatory to their entering the training establishments. This was the distinct recommendation borne out by the Minute of 1835, before the establishment of the model schools; and the Commissioners observed that it explicitly shows that from the earliest period it was held that mere model school training could not supersede the necessity for professional training in the training institution under a properly qualified professoriat.

LUNATIC ASYLUMS (IRELAND)—EM- PLOYMENT OF PATIENTS IN CO. DOWN ASYLUM.

MR. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether it has been the practice for the patients of the County Down Lunatic Asylum to be allowed to assist neighbouring landlords harvesting; if so, whether the Institution obtained any remuneration for their labour; whether the practice will be resumed this year; and, whether the patients have at any time been employed on the estate of Lord Bangor?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, it has been the practice for some years past for patients in the Down Asylum to be occasionally employed in harvest work on farms adjoining the asylum. They have

not been remunerated beyond the extent of getting food and refreshment. In fact, as far as I can gather, it is rather a service on the part of the farmers to find some work for them, in order to give them some occupation and outdoor exercise. They have never worked on Lord Bangor's estate. This employment has been regarded by the patients as a favour and recreation; and it has the approval both of the Inspectors of Lunatics and of the resident Medical Superintendent of the Asylum as being beneficial to their health. It was, of course, done under careful supervision. Fifty acres of land adjoining the Asylum have lately been purchased for farming purposes; and as there will be full employment on this ground for any patients available for such work, the occasional employment outside will be discontinued, as there will no longer be any necessity to seek it.

PREVENTION OF CRIME (IRELAND) ACT, 1882—POLICE SUPERVISION.

MR. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Why Bryan Grant, of Castlebayney, county Monaghan, is continually watched and followed all day by a policeman; whether this has gone on now for fifteen months; whether it is the fact that the policeman never loses sight of Grant, and stands over him while he is at his work; whether a constable was dismissed or punished for once losing sight of him; if he is aware that Grant can now hardly get work at his trade because of the suspicions this practice arouses against him; can he state what Grant has done to deserve the course taken by the police, or what justification there is for it; and, will he inquire whether Grant is a respectable artizan who has never in his life been charged with the smallest offence?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, the man referred to is believed to be a dangerous member of a secret society, and some watch on his movements is considered necessary in the public interests. It is not a fact that a constable stands over him while at work, or that a constable was dismissed for losing sight of him. A constable was removed for going off his beat and neglecting the instructions which he had to look after Grant. It is not the fact that Grant cannot get work. I am informed that he can get plenty of

work, and is engaged daily at his trade. I gave special directions some months ago that nothing should be done which would prevent him from getting employment, and these directions are complied with. Except for his connection with secret societies, there is nothing against Grant.

MR. HEALY asked, was it not a fact that the only evidence the Government had against this man was that Duffy, the informer, wrote his name in a book with those of 200 or 300 others? The man was perfectly harmless.

[No reply.]

POOR LAW (ENGLAND AND WALES)— THE PARISH OF EARLY (WOKING- HAM UNION).

MR. HOPWOOD asked the Secretary to the Local Government Board, Whether his attention has been called to the condition of the parish of Early, in the Union of Wokingham, which is alleged to be so badly provided with medical attendance that the poor have to journey fourteen miles, to and fro, in order to obtain it; whether there is any office for the Registration of Births and Deaths in Early, or the neighbourhood; and, in either of the above cases, if it be necessary, will the Local Government Board do what it can to secure the requisite attendance?

MR. GEORGE RUSSELL: Sir, the Board are aware of the facts as regards the arrangements for the attendance on the sick poor in the Liberty of Early in the Wokingham Union. The medical officer of the district in which Early is situated has held office for 19 years. He resides within his district, and his residence is situate about two miles and a-half from Early New Town, which is the most populous part of the Liberty, and about four miles from the furthest part of Early. A large number of the persons living at Early New Town are employed at the factory of Messrs. Palmer, and most of these are attended by the medical men of the Reading Dispensary. On the 1st of July last, there were only nine cases of persons in Early receiving medical relief from the Guardians. In any case of urgency, the medical officer would attend, without waiting for an order of the relieving officer, or an order for attendance might be obtained from one of the churchwardens or over-

seers residing in Early. The relieving officer is in the Liberty at least once in each week. It has not been shown that the existing arrangements, with which, so far as the Board can ascertain, the Guardians are quite satisfied, are such that the Board's intervention is required. As regards the question as to the registration arrangements, the Board have communicated with the Registrar General, and have ascertained that the Registrar has two stations within the Liberty of Early, where he attends to register. He attends at one station every Wednesday, and at the other on the first and third Saturdays in each month. No complaint has reached the Registrar General of the insufficiency of the arrangements.

ARREARS OF RENT (IRELAND) ACT, 1882—ALLOWANCES TO TENANTS FOR PAYMENT OF POOR RATES.

Mr. HEALY asked Mr. Attorney General for Ireland, Whether he is aware that a considerable number of Irish landlords have refused, in the cases of tenants who get the benefits of the Arrears Act, to allow such tenants any credits out of their rents for poor rate paid for the year 1881, or any year prior thereto; whether, seeing that the Arrears Act contains no provision warranting such a proceeding, landlords are justified by Law in thus partially depriving their tenants of the advantages of the Act; and, whether, if not, any means other than an expensive law suit in each case can be taken to prevent the practice in question?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, he was not aware whether this practice existed or not. It might have occurred in some cases; but he had no means of knowing.

Mr. HEALY: I will give the right hon. and learned Gentleman an instance. It occurred on the estate of the late right hon. and gallant Member for Dublin County (Colonel Taylor).

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, the hon. Member knew a great deal more about it than he did. He had no means of knowing what happened between landlord and tenant; and he did not think it would be becoming in him to interfere. If any injustice was done the matter could be tested in an action at law.

Mr. George Russell

IRISH CHURCH TEMPORALITIES FUND.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If he will submit a statement showing what balance, if any, will remain in the Irish Church Temporalities Fund after all existing liabilities are discharged, before asking Parliament to impose further liabilities on that fund with an ultimate liability on the Consolidated Fund?

Mr. COURTNEY: Sir, my right hon. Friend the Chief Secretary for Ireland has asked me to answer this Question. My hon. Friend behind me (Sir George Campbell) will find, in Paper 234 of last Session, a full analysis of the position of the Irish Church Fund at that time, from which he will see that we calculated it could bear a charge of at least £2,000,000. Since then the arrears payments have been made; two other small charges under the Poor Relief and Irish Sea Fisheries Acts have been thrown upon it, and the Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland) Bill, now before the House, proposes a further charge. The sums, however, do not together amount to more than £1,300,000.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL said, that he would give Notice that, as the surety of the Consolidated Fund did not appear to be necessary, he would call attention to the point when the subject was brought forward, and move to strike it out of the Bill referred to by the hon. Gentleman.

IRELAND—STATE-AIDED EMIGRATION—RETURN OF EMIGRANTS.

Mr. O'BRIEN asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether his attention has been called to the particulars in the "Cork Daily Herald" of August 9th, concerning three families of assisted emigrants who were landed at Queenstown the previous day from steamers of the Cunard and National lines; whether it is true, as therein stated, that the head of one of the families, Mary Conolly, has eight children, the eldest of whom is a boy of sixteen years of age; that her husband, who was a herd in Galway previously to his assisted emigration, was killed by sunstroke four days after obtaining employment in Boston; and that in three

weeks after his death she commenced her homeward journey to Ireland with her children, utterly desitute; whether Mary Flaherty, another of the returned emigrants, is a widow with two children, one two years old and the other four; whether her husband also died after a few months in consequence of the excessive heat, and whether she now returns to Galway "without any probable means of support;" whether it is true that her mother, described as an old and helpless woman, was left behind in Galway, when the younger members of the family were taken to America under a supposed scheme of family emigration; whether the head of the third family, Patrick Collins, who returns with a wife and five children, the eldest of them sixteen, is a shoemaker by trade, and was so employed in Tralee when he was induced to emigrate; whether the family was disembarked at New York with a landing allowance of £4 10s.; whether he states that he failed to get employment of any kind, and when his landing money was exhausted applied for a free passage home again; who was responsible for selecting these families for emigration; and, whether any compensation can be made to them for the loss of their means of living?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, I have received a very full Report with regard to these cases. From that Report it appears that the first two were properly selected cases, and that the Emigration Committee which sent them out cannot be held responsible for the misfortunes which overtook them. The Conollys were favourably started in Boston. They were earning £3 4s. per week when the husband died, during the great wave of heat which passed over the Eastern States in July. It was a period during which I remember seeing, in the newspapers, that 850 babies died in New York from the heat. The family were treated with great kindness and attention after the man's death, and arrangements were proposed to enable them to remain in Boston. The widow, however, preferred to be sent back to Ireland, which was accordingly done without any expense to herself. The Flahertys also settled in Boston, where the husband soon obtained employment. He also succumbed to the heat, and soon afterwards Mrs. Flaherty, hearing that Mrs. Conolly was going back to Ireland,

asked to be sent with her, which was done. The two families were emigrated by Mr. Tukey's Committee, and, only for their misfortunes, would have done well. Mrs. Flaherty's mother was over 60 years of age, and would not emigrate. Patrick Collins was not induced to emigrate, and no one endeavoured to influence him to do so; but, thinking to better himself, he applied to the Tralee Board of Guardians for assistance to go to New York. I have no doubt, from what I hear, that this is clearly a case in which the man ought not to have been sent out as a State-aided emigrant. He failed to obtain employment in New York, as he said, owing to the fact that the shoemaking trade does not become active until September, and he asked to be sent back, which was done without cost to himself.

MR. O'BRIEN asked the right hon. Gentleman to answer the latter part of the Question.

MR. TREVELYAN: Why, Sir, the poor people, when they went out, obtained incomparably better wages than in Ireland, and they had the misfortune to lose the heads of the families soon after arriving.

MR. O'BRIEN: Does the right hon. Gentleman mean to suggest that good employment for four days would reconcile these poor people to the loss of their only means of support? I would like to know whether an indictment for manslaughter would not lie against the Emigration Committee for having lured them away from their homes?

MR. HEALY gave Notice that, on the Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland) Bill that evening, he should raise the question whether these emigrants had the climatic conditions of the foreign countries they were sent to explained to them, for it now appeared that two men died from excessive heat immediately after being sent out.

MR. TREVELYAN, in reply, said, that, considering the fact that 3,000,000 of Irish people had gone to America, it was scarcely necessary to explain the nature of the climate to emigrants.

MR. HARRINGTON asked whether the right hon. Gentleman had heard anything about the emigrants who had not returned?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, I have a great deal of information, which, if

asked for in the natural course, I shall be happy to give.

LAW AND JUSTICE (IRELAND)—

"COOKE v. HEFFERNAN."

MR. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether his attention has been called to the case of Cooke v. Heffernan before the Master of the Rolls, reported in the "Freeman," 4th August; whether the defendant's affidavit stated that, a few days after the decree of the Master of the Rolls, the plaintiff had proceeded to his residence, in county Tipperary, accompanied by police and a resident magistrate, and had demanded possession, not merely of the farms and stock, to which she was entitled, but also to other farms and stock; whether the Master of the Rolls said that this proceeding of demanding possession with police and a resident magistrate a few days after his decree was a most high-handed proceeding, which would not be sanctioned by the court; if he can state who the resident magistrate was, and by whose instructions he acted; what notice he proposes to take of the matter; whether last year the Waterford County Court Judge similarly condemned the action of the police in sustaining Lord Waterpark in felling trees on a tenant's land without legal authority; and, whether any instructions will be given to the police authorities, cautioning them not to again interfere and take sides in a dispute involving questions of right or title?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, I have seen the legal report referred to; but I cannot vouch for its accuracy. I find, on inquiry, that on both the occasions mentioned in the Question the police were present simply because a breach of the peace was apprehended, and not in any way to uphold any question of title.

MR. HEALY said, the right hon. Gentleman had not answered his Question. Who was the Resident Magistrate that ordered the police to attend?

MR. TREVELYAN said, that, as to that point, it was an administrative matter; and the only thing he was bound to say was, that the police were present, in accordance with their duty, to prevent a breach of the peace. In the second case mentioned, the County Court Judge appeared to have condemned the

Mr. Trevelyan

action of the agent in bringing the police to the scene, inasmuch as he did not think there was any danger of a breach of the peace. He did not blame the police for being there.

MR. HEALY: The right hon. Gentleman says this is an administrative matter. Does he consider that when a Judge in the position of the Master of the Rolls condemned the Resident Magistrate for his action, and condemned the police for their action, the Government are to take no notice of it? I also wish to know who the Resident Magistrate was?

MR. TREVELYAN: He did not condemn the Resident Magistrate.

MR. HEALY: Yes; he did.

MR. TREVELYAN: He condemned the proceedings. He said he thought it was unnecessary to send the police.

MR. HEALY: He said it was a most high-handed proceeding.

ENDOWED SCHOOLS (IRELAND)—
SWORDS BOROUGH SCHOOL.

MR. MARUM (for Mr. P. MARTIN) asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether the fact stated in the Reports and Evidence laid before the Royal Commissioners in respect to the Swords Borough Schools, showing there have been many misapplications of the funds in violation of the spirit and terms of the Charter; are there any, and, if so, what reasons to prevent a public examination from being held for the distribution by competition of the entire of the prizes and apprenticeship fees amongst the scholars entitled to share them under the terms of the Charter; and, will there be any objection to lay upon the Table of the House the communications which have passed between the Lord Chancellor and the Government in reference to this School?

MR. TREVELYAN, in reply, said, he had communicated with the Lord Chancellor of Ireland, who was one of the Trustees of this school, respecting the matters complained of by the hon. Member, and he had not yet heard from his Lordship. He would write again that evening.

NAVY—THE NEW DOCKYARD
SCHEME.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked the Civil Lord of the Admiralty,

Whether it is intended to omit altogether the leading men of joiners from the benefits of the new Dockyard Scheme; and, if not, whether he can state what steps will be taken in their favour?

SIR THOMAS BRASSEY: Sir, the inquiries of the recent Committee were limited to the shipbuilding officers and their immediate subordinates. The position of the leading men of joiners and other trades will be considered; and no decision can be taken without a careful inquiry into the circumstances of each case.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD (SCOTLAND) BILL—THE PROPOSED SCOTCH LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, If he will inform the House whether the Office of the President of the proposed Local Government Board for Scotland will be in London or in Edinburgh?

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: Sir, one of the main objects which, I think, the Members for Scotland desire is that during the Session of Parliament they should have constant access to the Minister who is charged with the Business to be given under this Bill. Of course, for that purpose he must have his records, his business papers, in London—that is quite clear—for the convenience of Scottish Members, and also the permanent Staff, the absence of which I have always considered to be one of the great defects of the arrangement. There should be somebody who could keep together the traditions, the records, and transactions of Scottish Business. That is not done. There is no such official. Therefore, of course, there must be a place of business in London. Then, as regards Scotland, Lord Rosebery, when he had charge of Scottish Business, thought it was always convenient to have a place of business in Edinburgh, where, when Parliament was not sitting, Scottish Members and other persons could have access to him, and where he could meet them; and, no doubt, that is a system which would be continued, and, if necessary, expanded. But let me remind my hon. and gallant Friend that this, after all, is an experiment. It must depend on how Business turns out, and what is most convenient.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON: I understand the records will be kept in London.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: That, again, I say, will depend on what course is more convenient. If it is found more convenient to keep the records in London, they will be kept in London; and if in Edinburgh, they will be kept in Edinburgh.

PUBLIC HEALTH (SCOTLAND)— TYPHUS IN THE ISLAND OF SKYE.

DR. CAMERON asked the Lord Advocate, Whether his attention has been called to the reported outbreak of typhus fever in the Island of Skye; if he can state how many cases of the disease have occurred, and whether it is true that the medical officer of the district has been attacked; and, what steps the Local Sanitary Authority or the Board of Supervision has taken to deal with the outbreak?

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR): Sir, attention has been drawn to the outbreak of typhus fever in Skye. A Report was received from the Board of Supervision, and the village attacked by fever was also visited by the Royal Commission which is now sitting in the Highlands. The number of cases has been 25, in about five months, of which three have been fatal. I regret to say that the medical officer, Dr. Mackenzie, was attacked with fever in the zealous discharge of his duty, and now lies dangerously ill. The earliest cases were not recognized by the sufferers to be cases of fever, and were not reported to the authorities. But the local authority have been active; and in obtaining trained nurses, first from Inverness, and then from Edinburgh, and in securing the services of another medical officer, have, I think, done all in their power.

DR. CAMERON: Would the right hon. and learned Gentleman answer that part of my Question, whether anything has been done in the way of securing isolation?

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR): Sir, it is a small village, consisting of small huts, I may say, and I believe there has not been any opportunity of isolating the patients. There is a power, under the Public Health Act, to provide hospitals; but that could not be done in such a place; and, as the outbreak seems to have been unexpected,

I cannot say that the local authority is blameable for not providing hospital accommodation before this time.

ARMY—VACCINATION.

MR. BIGGAR (for Mr. ARTHUR O'CONNOR) asked the Secretary of State for War, Whether it has come to his knowledge that sixty-eight recruits were vaccinated at Dortrecht, in Holland, on the 25th of May last, of whom eight were found to be seriously injured, three having subsequently died; whether the fact of these injuries and fatalities was subsequently brought to the attention of the Netherlands Parliament, and a circular issued by Mr. Weitzel, the Minister of War, notifying recruits that vaccination was not to be considered obligatory, but optional; whether it is his intention to abolish or modify the Military regulation, enjoining the vaccination of recruits and the periodical re-vaccination of soldiers in the English Army; and, if he will state by what authority the Secretary of State is empowered to compel recruits to submit to vaccination against their will?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON: Sir, the alleged occurrences in Holland have not been brought to the notice of the War Office; but I will cause inquiry to be made through the Foreign Office. There is no intention of abolishing or modifying the system of vaccinating or re-vaccinating recruits, which has acted most successfully in protecting soldiers from small-pox, and against which system the recruits, so far as is known, have offered no objection. The Regulation for the vaccination or re-vaccination of recruits is contained in the Medical Regulations of the Army, which are issued under the authority of the Secretary of State.

ARMY—THE ARMY HOSPITAL SERVICES — REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY.

MR. GUY DAWNAY asked the Secretary of State for War, Whether, in view of the fact that it is impossible for the House, at this period of the Session, to be afforded an adequate opportunity of expressing its opinion with regard to the Report of the Committee of Inquiry into the Army Hospital Services, it is intended, before next Session, to act on the recommendation of that Committee

with regard to the proposed change in the position of the Medical Officers with the Household Troops, a recommendation dissented from by two Members of the Committee, and opposed to the opinions of all the military authorities who gave evidence on the subject?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON: Sir, I propose, as soon after the end of the Session as possible, to examine carefully all the recommendations of Lord Morley's Committee, and to consider how far they shall be adopted and given effect to in next year's Estimates. I cannot undertake, with reference to the particular recommendation adverted to in the Question of the hon. Member, that no steps shall be taken towards its adoption before the House has had an opportunity of discussing it; because, like all other decisions, it must be taken on the responsibility of the Government, and not of the House of Commons. But the House will, on the Army Estimates next year, have a full opportunity of discussing the question, and of expressing its opinion on any action which may be taken by the Government.

MR. GUY DAWNAY: I rise to thank the noble Marquess for his answer, qualified though it is, and beg to give Notice that I intend, on the first opportunity, to call attention to the evidence given before the Committee of Inquiry into the Army Hospital Services with regard to the working of those Services during the Egyptian Campaign, and to the change recommended in the Report of the Committee with regard to the position of the medical officers of the Household Troops, and to move a Resolution.

LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART—THE ASHBURNHAM MSS.

MR. JESSE COLLINGS asked, Whether, seeing that the Government propose to buy a part of the collection of the Ashburnham MSS. for £45,000, and that the Trustees of the British Museum are willing to give a further sum of £20,000 out of their annual grant towards the purchase, the Government will consent to propose an additional Vote of £25,000 to make up £90,000, the total amount of purchase money necessary to secure to the nation the whole of the collection, with the exception of the Libri and Barrois portion?

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (Mr. CHILDERS): Sir, in reply to my hon. Friend, I have to say that, if the Trustees of the British Museum were ready to reduce their annual grant by £20,000, that reduction would have to be spread over a long series of years, and the Vote to be now taken would be £90,000, not £70,000. But Her Majesty's Government had a suggestion to this effect before them some weeks ago, and, after full consideration, did not see their way to adopt it.

SUEZ CANAL—A SHIP RAILWAY.

SIR EARDLEY WILMOT asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether, in the enforced absence of further proceedings in reference to the Suez Canal under the Resolution of the House on 31st July last, he will support the project of a Ship Railway from Pelusium to the Gulf of Suez, as advocated by eminent English engineers in 1859; and, whether he is aware that two Ship Railways are now in course of construction in America, and of the feasibility of transporting the largest ships by Railway, vouched for by practical engineers of high standing?

MR. GLADSTONE, in reply, said, he could not have regard to the early part of the Question, because he thought that would be matter for argument, and he could not see what the exact measure of its accuracy was. He could not admit "the enforced absence." As to whether there was a state of things that would lead them to support the projects of a ship railway, no project of that kind could be said to be before the Government, although he had had a letter from a gentleman connected with the project, who wished the Government to enter into it. It was, no doubt, a most interesting scheme; but the precedent of the United States, to which the Question referred, did not go the whole length—that was, if he was correctly informed—suggested by the hon. Member. No attempt had been made in the United States to build a ship railway for ships of the tonnage of those that went through the Suez Canal. The subject was one of the very greatest interest; but it had not reached a stage at which they could give it their serious attention.

SIR EARDLEY WILMOT asked, whether it was not within the power of this country to open up communication

between the two seas otherwise than by water?

MR. GLADSTONE, in reply, said, that was asking him a Question on a sudden which, perhaps, he should not be prudent in answering. But, at the same time, he had never heard of any limitation at all; although there might be a question for the authorities there, to establish their claim in respect to any communication.

SUEZ CANAL COMPANY—THE ENGLISH DIRECTORS.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked the First Lord of the Treasury, If he will lay upon the Table a Copy of the Resolution of the Council of the Suez Canal Company, to which the English Directors gave their approval, in reference to the letter addressed on the 20th July by M. de Lesseps to Mr. Gladstone, together with any Report in explanation thereof furnished by the Directors to Her Majesty's Government?

MR. GLADSTONE: I daresay the hon. Member is aware that there was a general understanding—I do not know the date of it exactly—that, as a general rule, the proceedings of the Council should not be made public. The reason is that it is a managing Board of a purely commercial speculation; but, on special occasions, their proceedings may be made public. We have not received the minutes of the meeting to which the Question refers; but we will inquire, and ascertain whether there would be any objection to produce the text. I cannot, of course, under these circumstances, give any pledge as to the communication of the managing Board.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, he had asked whether any Report had been received from the English Directors; and, if so, whether it would be laid on the Table?

MR. GLADSTONE: I beg pardon. We have a letter from the English Directors; but I do not think it is desirable to produce it. They are our agents, and the communication may, I think, be regarded as confidential.

PUBLIC HEALTH—THE CHOLERA—REPORTED OUTBREAK IN HOLLAND.

MR. R. N. FOWLER asked the Secretary to the Local Government Board, Whether it is true, as alleged in one of

the newspapers, that cholera has broken out in Holland?

MR. GEORGE RUSSELL, in reply, said, that when he came from the Office no such Report had been received. But, since the hon. Member had given him private Notice of his Question, he had sent to inquire, and would let the House know the result of the inquiry.

MADAGASCAR—THE BRITISH CONSULATE.

SIR WILLIAM M'ARTHUR asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether Her Majesty's Government have appointed a Consul General at Madagascar; and, if so, whether he will have any objection to mention his name?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: Sir, Her Majesty's Government have not appointed a Consul General; but they have appointed a successor to Mr. Pakenham, recently deceased. The name of that successor is Mr. George F. Annesley, Her Majesty's Consul at Surinam.

MR. ARTHUR ARNOLD pointed out that the Question was, whether a Consul General had been appointed; while the noble Lord had stated that a successor to Mr. Pakenham had been appointed. He (Mr. Arthur Arnold) would ask, whether the Government had not made quite another, and a different appointment—namely, that of a Consul at Antananarivo, the capital of the Island; and, whether, in the late Consular Vote, there was not a sum of £800 taken for his salary?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE, in reply, said, he had stated that no Consul General had been appointed. We have been and are represented in Madagascar by a Consul, whose residence is nominally at Antananarivo, though, by arrangement, he also acts as Consul at Tamatave, and lives there.

SIR JOHN HAY asked, whether the Government had any information as to the supersession of Admiral Pierre, and the appointment of Admiral Galibar?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: Sir, we have no information.

ARMY—COST OF ALDERSHOT CAMP.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE BALFOUR asked the Secretary of State for War, If the cost of the Aldershot Camp can be rendered, in continuation of a Return

formerly made out; if so, what that cost, for the land, several buildings, and other purposes, has been; and, whether such an account can be rendered?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON: Sir, if the hon. and gallant Member will inquire at the War Office for any specific item of information on this subject, we will do our best to give it him; but the preparation of the Return to which he refers would involve so great an expenditure of labour and time that I am informed it could only be rendered by increasing the clerical Staff.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE BALFOUR asked, whether the last Return was not printed on half a page of foolscap?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON: Yes, Sir; the Return is not at all a voluminous one; but it would require the examination of an enormous mass of documents, although the result does not appear very large.

PARLIAMENT—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—ARMY ESTIMATES.

SIR WALTER B. BARTELOT asked, When it was proposed to take the Army Estimates, which had been put off since the middle of June?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON: Sir, the Army Estimates will be taken immediately after the Civil Service Estimates are concluded; it is possible they may be reached on Thursday; if not, it will be on Friday.

In reply to Mr. HEALY,

MR. GLADSTONE said, that the Local Government Board (Scotland) Bill would be the first Order of the Day for to-morrow. Other arrangements must depend upon the progress made with that measure.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

PARLIAMENTARY REGISTRATION (IRELAND) BILL.—[BILL 155.]

(Mr. Trevelyan, Mr. Attorney General for Ireland.)

COMMITTEE.

Order for Committee read.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair."—(Mr. Trevelyan.)

MR. GIBSON said, that the speech of the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland was admirably

suited, from its brevity, to the period of the Session at which the Bill was introduced. The course of Business that Session in regard to Irish Bills was, to the last degree, startling and strange, as a glance at the Order Book would show; and he would illustrate his meaning by the fact that the House was asked to go into Committee on a Bill of this importance on the 14th of August, and by the further fact that the third and fourth Orders related to the Tramways and Public Companies Bill—a Bill of great importance as affecting Ireland, which had been introduced only two or three days ago. It was impossible to ignore other Bills of more importance to the social well-being of Ireland than these two. If there was one Bill which more than another had attracted wide attention, or that was desired by the Irish people, it was the Irish Sunday Closing Bill. Deputation after deputation had waited upon the Irish Government about it, and it was known from past votes and speeches that four-fifths of the Irish Members were more or less strongly pledged to support it. [MR. CALLAN: No, no!] He spoke according to his own knowledge. Other hon. Members could do the same, and he would adhere to his original statement. The exact proportion was not his point; but the Irish Government was pledged, through the Chief Secretary and the Lord Lieutenant, that, whatever other Irish Bill became law, the Irish Sunday Closing Bill would be placed on the Statute Book, and now the Irish Sunday Closing Bill was dropped and forgotten, and this Registration Bill was placed in its present remarkable position. Another measure that was heralded with great promises, and bold and resolute assertion, was the extension of the Bankruptcy Bill to Ireland. The right hon. Gentleman the President of the Board of Trade (Mr. Chamberlain), who was generally considered to be a man who knew his own mind, had, within the last few days, distinctly and categorically stated across the floor of the House that the Government were determined to adhere to the clauses extending the Bill to Ireland; and, notwithstanding that distinct pledge, the measure was given up as recently as Saturday last. Then, quite recently, another Bill challenging the attention of the House was introduced by the Chief Secretary for Ireland

for the re-organization of the Resident Magistracy and Police in Ireland, after it had been postponed more than once, in order to get a good opportunity for making a statement upon it—a Bill that was obviously, from the terms in which it was brought forward, of great Departmental importance, and that Bill actually died still-born. It was almost dropped before it was printed and circulated. They had another Bill also on the Paper which vindicated the words he had used when he spoke of the conduct of Irish Business this Session as startling and strange—he referred to the Tramways and Public Companies Bill, a Bill which anyone who listened to the statement by which it was introduced must know was in no sense urgent. ["Oh, oh!"] It was a Bill for which there was at that moment no urgency of necessity. ["Oh, oh!"] Hon. Members might say "Oh, oh!" but the Bill was in no sense urgent; it was not to be confined to necessitous districts; it was not alleged that it was for the relief of distress, and it would be applied to the richest and poorest alike; and he was saying what could not be disputed when he said that it was a Bill introduced without the slightest excuse of pressure or urgency. And what was the Bill which the Chief Secretary for Ireland had moved so concisely now? It was a purely political Bill, introduced and ordered to be printed on the 26th of April, and one which no one had since heard anything of until, through the vicissitudes of other legislative proposals to which he would subsequently refer, the Government found it necessary to bring it again under the notice of the House, and procured the passage of its second reading on a Saturday in August—an unprecedented course to take with an important political Bill, in which the legislation dealt with was of an opposed character; and now, on the 14th of August, they were gravely asked to go through the clauses. He, therefore, protested against further proceeding with this Bill at a period of the Session when the sparse attendance in the House indicated the overwhelming conclusion that it could not obtain, and was not intended to obtain, a full and complete hearing. Now, what was the nature of the Bill? It had not, and could not have, a principle. The Sunday Closing Bill, which was only needed by

those who desired the moral well-being of Ireland, and the Bankruptcy Clauses, which only affected the mercantile community of Ireland, had been dropped; and the only reason why this measure was being pressed so late in the Session was because the Government thought that, at this time of the Session, they might possibly pass a measure which some people thought might have a political power in some particular places. Was there any urgency for it? ["Yes; there is."] He was not concerned to deny that the registration system in Ireland was susceptible of improvement. [*Laughter.*] He had admitted that more than once in that House, and was not prepared to withdraw or qualify anything he had said in reference to the subject. He saw nothing, however, in that system to justify the monstrous conduct of the Government in pressing on a Bill like this at this time of the Session; and when he admitted what he had, it was in no way to encourage or facilitate the Government in the prosecution of that conduct. Had the Bill come on at an earlier period there were many of its provisions that he should have been prepared to consider and criticize; and, just to show the importance of the measure, and what might be its operation on the administration of the Registration Laws of Ireland, he would take one or two points only for illustration. One of the principal and most important points of controversy in the registration system had reference to what was called "the Supplemental List," and the way in which it was dealt with. The expression "Supplemental List" did not occur, however, from beginning to end of the Bill; and yet, by general words, which required to be interpreted by a lawyer, immense changes would be made in many important centres of registration. He would admit that a voter whose name was on the original list of voters had had his right to vote recognized; and if that right were challenged, it was not unreasonable that he should be furnished with a specific objection. To that extent he was in favour of a modification of the existing law; and he should be prepared to take a similar view with regard to the Claimants' List. But the conditions under which the Supplemental List was prepared were wholly different; and the only point

under discussion was, what were the conditions under which the Supplemental List should be examined and considered by the Registration Court? The present law was, that any person wishing to challenge the right of another person whose name appeared on the Supplemental List, claiming to be added to the original list of voters, should have the power of furnishing to that person a general notice of objection. This Bill, however, proposed what was a grave and serious change—that any person on the Supplemental List should have a specific objection to his name, and that no longer a general objection would be allowed. That would be all right if the persons who prepared the Supplemental List, the Poor Law officers, had knowledge sufficient to satisfy themselves that every person on the Supplemental List had the proper qualifications. But that was not so—they only knew that the person whose name they submitted was possessed of two out of four of the requisite qualifications—namely, that he was rated, and had paid his rates. ["Hear, hear!"] Very well; but that did not prove the residence or nature of the occupation, which were as necessary as the other two qualifications to give the right to vote. Their object should be a pure registry. Let every man who was entitled to be on the registry be there; but if they allowed every person, without any check, and insisted upon a specific objection, to be placed on the Supplemental List, they would add hundreds and thousands who did not possess the necessary qualifications for voters. He did not want to run away with the question. The second detail he would call attention to was the proposal to shift the onus of proof from the claiming voter to the objector. That was a startling measure. The Bill proposed also to give, for the first time, to the Poor Rate Collectors, who were appointed for a totally different purpose, substantial and significant power in the preparation of voters' lists and objections. That was a matter which must be carefully examined in Committee, and if the Bill were to be considered as its importance required that stage would occupy a very considerable time. The Bill did not come accredited with the recommendation of any Select Committee. The last time a Select Committee sat on the subject was in 1875, when the

majority made a Report that was entirely opposed to the main provisions of this Bill; and what he wanted to impress upon the Government was this—that the matter required more close and minute investigation than could be given to it at this period of the Session. If there were few Amendments to the Bill, he could understand the Government proceeding with it at this time of the Session. He found, however, that the Paper of Amendments contained a substantial number of Amendments, and he assumed that if the Amendments were discussed at all adequately, considerable time must be occupied. The hon. Member for Carlow (Mr. Dawson), who, he might say, had registration on the brain, had put down a large number of clauses. He did not know whether the hon. Member intended to press them, or whether they were merely “leather and prunella,” put down to give interesting reading to Gentlemen who took an interest in Parliamentary Papers. But, if the hon. Member proposed his Amendments, they had before them an intellectual treat of some hours. He protested, and on every subsequent stage of the Bill he should protest, against proceeding with the measure after the 14th of August. He believed this to be an attempt at a most inopportune season, and in a most unsatisfactory manner, to foist legislation on the House of Commons; and he would, therefore, move the rejection of the Bill.

Amendment proposed, to leave out the word “now,” and at the end of the Question to add the words “upon this day three months.”—(*Mr. Gibson.*)

Question proposed, “That the word ‘now’ stand part of the Question.”

MR. TREVELYAN said, he gathered from the remarks of the right hon. and learned Gentleman opposite (Mr. Gibson) that, in making his protest, he did not wish it to be followed by a long debate. [*Mr. Gibson: It is the 14th of August.*] No doubt that was the right hon. and learned Gentleman’s reason for not wishing to enter into a long debate, and he (Mr. Trevelyan) should follow the example set, and only make a few remarks. The right hon. and learned Gentleman took exception to the general management of Irish Business. He regretted the fate of the Sunday Closing Bill; he (Mr.

Trevelyan) also regretted it. The right hon. and learned Gentleman also referred to the withdrawal of the Police Bill, which he described as a Departmental Bill of first-class importance. It was, however, hardly in those epithets that he (Mr. Trevelyan) introduced the Bill, seeing that when he did so he described it as one which would promote administrative convenience and very considerable public economy; and since the withdrawal of the Bill he had indicated the nature and extent of the Departmental inconvenience which had been caused by the postponement of the measure for what he hoped would not be more than eight or nine months. The right hon. and learned Gentleman commented upon the fact that the Bill under the notice of the House was introduced on the 29th of April, yet the Government could not find time to read it a second time until Saturday, the 14th of August. That, however, was the first opportunity on which, so far as the choice of the Irish Government was concerned, they were able to bring the Bill on for second reading. He could not allow that the right hon. and learned Gentleman justly described the Tramways and Public Companies Bill, when he said it was a Bill which had been introduced with no pressure of circumstance, because it did not refer to the distressed districts. It essentially referred to those districts, for it was in the distressed districts that railways had not been made, because they would not pay, and it was in those districts that tramways alone could pay. [*Mr. Gibson: They will not be localized to those districts.*] No; he would quite admit that the right hon. and learned Gentleman described the Bill now under consideration as a keenly-opposed political Bill. He (Mr. Trevelyan) did not dispute the possibility of its being keenly opposed; but he denied that it was a political Bill. It was not brought in in favour of one Party more than of another. In the speech in which he moved the second reading, he gave reasons which had convinced himself, and, he thought, had convinced other hon. Gentlemen in the House, that if the Bill was in favour of any Party, it was in favour of that Party which was, perhaps, the least actively political—namely, the quiet Conservatives of the country. The right hon. and learned Gentleman had said

the Bill had no principle; but he (Mr. Trevelyan) did not quite agree in that. The Bill had a simple and plain principle, and that was that a man should enjoy the vote which Parliament intended he should have. The right hon. and learned Gentleman had also asked what the urgency of the Bill consisted in. Well, it consisted in this—that three years ago it was read a second time without a Division by the House of Commons, which might be presumed to know more about everything that concerned elections than any other Body in the country—that it was passed by the House of Commons, and that it was then thrown out by the House of Lords, who, hon. Members could conceive, had not the same interest and thorough knowledge in those matters as the House of Commons. The right hon. and learned Gentleman talked of the monstrous conduct of the Government in bringing on this Bill at this time of the Session. If it were monstrous conduct for a Government giving plenty of reasons for doing so to read a Bill for the second time when it was late in the Session, what was the conduct of those who would throw out that Bill without giving any reason except that it was late in the Session? That was the urgency for the Bill. It was a measure brought in to help the citizen, as a citizen, to the vote which Parliament intended he should have, and in order that he should enjoy the vote at the next General Election. The urgency was, that they were three years nearer the next General Election than they were when the House of Commons determined it was just and for the public advantage that the Bill should pass. He hoped the House would, without further delay, be allowed to go to a Division on the Amendment of the right hon. and learned Gentleman.

COLONEL KING-HARMAN said, he should not make a long speech upon the subject, seeing that he had moved the rejection of the Bill upon the second reading. The right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland had contradicted the assertion of the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for the University of Dublin (Mr. Gibson), that the Tramways and Public Companies Bill was not one called for by the necessities of the case; and he said that the urgency of that Bill consisted in the fact that it would

be applied to the necessitous districts. He (Colonel King-Harman), however, maintained that it could not be so applied, because, in some of these districts, the poor rates and the county cess were so high that the required baronial guarantees could not be given; and, consequently, they could not avail themselves of the provisions of the Bill. He had no intention of opposing the Tramways and Public Companies Bill, because he believed that in many parts of the country it would do a great deal of good, though he did not think it would affect the districts where tramways were most required. As to the Bill now before the House, he saw no reason for proceeding with it at that late period of the Session, when other and more important measures had been dropped by the Government in such a pusillanimous manner. All he could say was that he was sorry the Conservative Members for Ireland had not taken a lesson from hon. Gentlemen below the Gangway; but this Bill, aimed as it was at the Conservative Party in Ireland, would teach them to oppose the Government in every possible way. [*“Hear, hear!” from the Ministerial Benches.*] Yes; he did not see why hon. Members sitting on the Conservative Benches if they knew how to give battle to the Government in favour of measures which were for the good of Ireland, in the same way as the Irish Members below the Gangway, when they were fighting for measures which were of a pernicious character and not for the good of Ireland, would not be able to prevent the Government passing measures such as the one under consideration, which were absolutely unnecessary, and would do no good for the country. He desired simply to enter his protest against the Government bringing on this Bill, not in an unprecedented way for second reading on a Saturday, for the same course was followed in 1880, but for bringing it on at a time when there was no opportunity of discussing it. He hoped his right hon. and learned Friend would go to a Division, for if he did, he (Colonel King-Harman) would support him in opposing it.

MR. WARTON said, that the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Birmingham (Mr. John Bright) recently accused Irish Members below the Gangway of having made an alliance with

Mr. Trevelyan

rebels. The right hon. Gentleman brought forward no proof in support of that accusation, except the number of Questions put on Thursdays and Mondays. But since then, beyond dispute, the Government had entered into an alliance with hon. Members below the Gangway for the purpose, he supposed, of getting rid of inconvenient opposition. They saw an illustration of that in the Bill before the House. The object of that Bill was to flood Ireland with a number of bad votes, and another object was to take away some votes from the Conservative Party. In 1880 the other House rejected a similar measure, because it came up shamefully late—namely, in the month of September; but he thought that this year, on the 14th of August, they were really later than in 1880 in September. There was no reason why a Bill brought forward in April should not have been read a second time in June or July. He hoped the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for the University of Dublin (Mr. Gibson) would divide, in order to show the other House that there was a strong objection to the Bill; and, weak as they (the Opposition) were, he trusted there was a place where their weakness would be respected and their voices heard, and that a House which had often prevented what was wrong would see that justice was done.

Question put.

The House divided:—Ayes 118; Noes 29: Majority 89.—(Div. List, No. 293.)

Main Question, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair," put, and agreed to.

Bill considered in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

Preliminary.

Clause 1 (Definition of Parliamentary Voters (Ireland) Act, 1850) agreed to.

Clause 2 (Extent of Act) agreed to.

Clause 3 (Short title and commencement).

Mr. HEALY moved, in page 1, line 13, after the word "and," insert "with the exception of section eight," the object of which was to provide that Section 8 should come into operation immediately after the passing of the Act.

Amendment proposed,

In page 1, line 13, after the word "and," to insert the words "with the exception of section eight, which shall come into operation immediately on the passing of this Act."—*Mr. Healy.*

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

CAPTAIN AYLMER said, that, before the Amendment of the hon. Member was put, he wished to know whether it would be regular to insert it in the present clause, because it would really involve the discussion of the 8th clause, and it might be that Clause 8 would be objected to altogether, and might never come into operation at all? Under these circumstances, he would ask the Chairman whether the Amendment of the hon. Member could be inserted as now proposed?

Mr. HEALY said, that, as a matter of draftsmanship, there was nowhere else in the Bill where he could insert this Amendment, because, if the present clause were passed, they would enact that—

"This Act may be cited for all purposes as the Registration of Voters (Ireland) Act, 1883, and shall come into operation on the first day of January one thousand eight hundred and eighty four."

His object in proposing this Amendment was to provide that Section 8 should come into operation at an earlier period—namely, immediately after the passing of the Act. He had no wish to discuss Section 8 now; but he did not think there was any other place in which he could move the Amendment.

Mr. WARTON pointed out that in the Friendly Societies Bill a section was inserted which would come into force at a different time from the rest of the Act. He believed that it was the 17th section; and therefore he presumed, as a point of Order, it would be open for the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy), when Section 8 was reached, to move that it should come into force at an earlier date than the rest of the Act. He did not know whether the Attorney General for Ireland was as well acquainted with the facts of the case as the Secretary to the Treasury, and he regretted that the Secretary to the Treasury was not in his place. He could, however, assure the Committee that the facts were as he had stated them.

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THE CHAIRMAN: I do not understand the question to be one of Order; but I certainly entertain the opinion that it would be more convenient to propose the Amendment upon Clause 8 of the Bill. I do not think, as a matter of Order, that there would be any objection to that course.

MR. HEALY said, he would do whatever the Committee pleased in the matter. It would, perhaps, be as well, however, that he should state his reasons for proposing the Amendment now, as it might lead to confusion subsequently, and the statement he had to make was very brief.

MR. WARTON said, he thought the statement had better be postponed.

MR. HEALY asked if any other place could be suggested where it could be brought in?

MR. TREVELYAN said, he thought it would be convenient to move the Amendment, and explain the reason for it at the end of Section 8.

THE CHAIRMAN: I think that would be the most convenient course.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause *agreed to*.

Prevention of frivolous Objections.

Clause 4 (Notices of objection shall state grounds of objection).

MR. HEALY moved, in page 1, line 16, after "26," insert "and 36." The clause provided for objections under Section 26 of the Parliamentary Voters (Ireland) Act, 1850, and he thought it was evidently by an error of draughtsmanship that Section 36 had been omitted. He believed that the Government had been led into the error by the previous Bill of the hon. and learned Member for Kildare (Mr. Meldon). Schedule A absolutely referred to Clause 36; whereas it had no reference whatever to Section 26. The law as it stood under Section 26 required notice to be served on the Clerk of the Peace; and it was provided, under the present Bill, that any notice of objection might be given under that section to any person or any list of claimants; but no notice of objection given under Section 26 should be valid unless the ground or grounds of objection were specifically stated therein. There was, however, no provision in regard to the notice to be served upon the individual

occupier who claimed the right to vote; and unless they included Section 36 in this clause, the occupier who received a notice of objection would have no means of knowing what the grounds of the objection to him were. He thought it would be most unfair that the occupier should not be made acquainted with the nature of the objections against him. The Schedule attached to the Bill applied to notices of objection to be given to parties objected to by any person other than the Clerk of the Peace or the Clerk of the Union or Poor Rate Collector, and that Schedule had reference to Section 36 of the Parliamentary Voters (Ireland) Act, and not to Section 26 at all. The matter was a thoroughly technical one, and exceedingly difficult to explain; but he challenged anyone to say that the Schedule attached to the Bill could apply to anything except Section 36. It certainly could not apply to Section 26; and it would be a very unfair thing for an occupier to receive a notice of objection which simply stated that he was objected to, without stating the grounds. He might be called upon to travel many miles before he would be able to find out what the nature of the objection was. He did not see what hardship it would be to require the person sending the notice of objection to state the grounds of objection, and therefore he trusted the Committee would accept the Amendment.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 16, after the word "twenty-six," to insert the words "and thirty-six."—(Mr. Healy.)

Question proposed, "That the words 'and thirty-six' be there inserted."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, he had no objection whatever to the Amendment. It appeared to him that Section 26 made provision for the notice to be served, and Section 36 required the grounds of objection to be stated.

MR. GIBSON remarked, that a good many of the provisions of the Bill had been draughted from the clauses of the Bill of the hon. and learned Member for Kildare (Mr. Meldon), who was a complete master of the question. Perhaps the hon. and learned Gentleman would explain to the Committee how it was that he had arrived at the conclusion not to include Section

35 in the clause with Section 26? He wanted to know whether the attention of his hon. and learned Friend had been drawn to the matter, or whether it was a point which had escaped his consideration?

MR. MELDON said, his attention had not been attracted to this clause until the present moment; but now that it had been it occurred to him that the objections referred to had reference to the supplemental list. There were two lists, and the supplemental list did not exist in the boroughs at all. In the counties certain officials prepared the list, and they were absolutely responsible for it, and it was called a supplemental list. In the boroughs there was only the one list, and that included the names which had originally been on the list of voters for the previous year, and also the names of those who were entitled to come upon it. He certainly saw no objection to the Amendment proposed, so as to embrace the lists prepared by the officials in the boroughs also.

MR. TREVELYAN suggested that the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) should change the words "and thirty-six" to the words "or thirty-six."

MR. HEALY said, he had proposed "or" originally; but he was advised that "and" would be better. He was prepared to take whichever word was most acceptable to the Government.

MR. P. MARTIN suggested that a better Amendment would be to say that any notice of objection given might be given according to the provisions of the Parliamentary Voters (Ireland) Act. That would include both sections.

MR. TREVELYAN said, that that, in point of fact, would be in accordance with the Amendment originally placed upon the matter by the hon. Member for Belfast (Mr. Corry)—namely, to leave out all reference to any particular section of the Parliamentary Voters (Ireland) Act. On considering the Amendment he thought, on the whole, it was a preferable Amendment to that of the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy). Both hon. Members, however, were aiming at the same object.

MR. HEALY said, he had no objection to substitute the words "or thirty-six" instead of "and thirty-six."

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 16, after "twenty-six," to insert "or thirty-six."—(Mr. Healy).

Amendment agreed to.

MR. GIBSON moved, in page 1, line 18, after "claimants," insert "or the supplemental list." He said, that Amendment dealt with the question already brought before the House on the Motion that the Speaker should leave the Chair. The object of the Amendment was to include the supplemental list as well as the original list, so that general notices of objection should apply to that list as well as to the original list. He presumed that the majority of hon. Members then present were in their places when he addressed the House on a former occasion, and it would be unreasonable and unbecoming if he were to go over the same ground again. The supplemental list was prepared by the officers of the Poor Law, who were gentlemen of great respectability, but who were not acquainted with the nature of the qualifications possessed by the persons whose names appeared on the list. All that the officers knew about the persons figuring on the list was that they had paid their rates, and it was only reasonable that there should be power given to serve a general notice of objection against a claim to appear on the list.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 18, after the word "claimants," to insert the words "or the supplemental list."—(Mr. Gibson.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. MELDON observed, that prior to 1868, when a person did forward a claim, unless it was objected to, he got upon the list of voters without being called upon to give any proof that his name was entitled to appear there. A change was then made in the law, and it was insisted that every claimant, whether he was objected to or not, should, in the first instance, be bound to go forward and prove his case. Consequently, at the present moment the onus was thrown upon the claimant, whether he was objected to or not, to come forward and prove his claim; but with regard to the supplemental list, a person whose name was upon

that list, so far as two of the qualifications for voting were concerned—namely, rating and the payment of rates, was relieved from the onus of proof. At the present moment these supplemental lists were actually *prima facie* evidence that the man whose name appeared on the list was rated, and that he had paid his rates. What was simply proposed to be done was to extend that *prima facie* evidence to the other qualifications required for voting. Upon this ground the supplementallist, according to the evidence given before the Select Committee, was prepared in the most careful way; and in the great majority of cases—nine-tenths at least—experience proved that the persons put on that list were persons whose names were entitled to appear upon it. There were three officials connected with the preparation of the list—the Clerk of the Peace, the Clerk of the Union, and, in addition to the Clerk of the Union, the person who was primarily responsible—namely, the Poor Rate Collector, was made auxiliary to the preparation of the list. What the Bill did was this—it said that the Poor Rate Collector and the Clerk of the Union had such information at their disposal as to render it desirable that the nature of the qualification, when testified to by them, should be taken, not as conclusive evidence, but *prima facie* evidence, upon the subject. The whole of the Inquiry of 1874, or, at any rate, the greater part of it, was directed towards that question—namely, Whether or not it would be safe to entrust the Clerk of the Union and the Poor Rate Collector with the duty of testifying to these facts, and whether the list might be regarded as having been sufficiently prepared to render it desirable that the testimony of these officers should be considered sufficient to establish certain facts in regard to the occupation and the nature of the occupation? The evidence upon the question was altogether one way both in 1869, when a Committee sat in reference to the English registration system, and in 1874. The evidence was conclusive that the Poor Rate Collector, travelling about from house to house, and having imposed upon him the duty of inserting in the rate book the name of every person rated for the relief of the poor, was the proper person to record these particular facts. The means of knowledge of the

Poor Rate Collector were such that, unless something tantamount to a fraud was committed, a mistake could not be made by him. Upon that ground a minority of the Committee of 1874 substantially approved of the clause as it now stood. The Committee consisted of 15 Members, seven of whom voted for the Report, which contained a recommendation to this effect, while the remaining seven voted against it. The Committee was appointed at the time when right hon. and hon. Gentlemen on the other side of the House were in power; and it was well known what power the Government of the day had in selecting the Members to serve upon a Committee. In this case, owing to the composition of the Committee, the number on each side was equal; and it was only by the casting vote of the Chairman that the recommendation for an alteration of the law was thrown out. Under these circumstances, he thought a case had been made out in support of the fact that the list was so well prepared by the Clerk of the Union, with the assistance of the Poor Rate Collector, as to justify the House in placing the onus upon the persons who prepared the list. The right hon. and learned Gentleman, in 1880, moved the same Amendment, but did not press it to a Division. He hoped the clause would be allowed to stand in its present form.

COLONEL KING-HARMAN supported the Amendment moved by his right hon. and learned Friend the Member for the University of Dublin (Mr. Gibson), which he thought raised a point that could not be fairly and reasonably objected to. He and those who acted with him had no wish whatever to object to a person who had a fair right to appear upon the list. They had no wish to object to the claim of such person on the off-chance that by some device or trick the name might be struck off. He thought that would be a most dishonourable proceeding. At the same time, he thought that this supplemental list, especially in Ireland, was not always, and could not always be, so carefully prepared as it ought to be; and it was, therefore, right not to throw such obstacles in the way of objection to persons whose names appeared on the supplemental list as to make it impossible to frame objections. It was all very well to say that the Clerk of the Union,

Mr. Meldon

with the assistance of the Poor Rate Collector, ought to prepare an immaculate list; but those who lived in the country knew that that was not the case, and that without the slightest suspicion of fraud a great number of names were put on the list which had no business to appear upon it. What he maintained was that it would be very hard not to have the power of objecting to such names if there was reason to believe that the names had no legal right to be on the list. He distinctly repudiated any imputation that he desired to prevent anybody from exercising the franchise who had a right to enjoy it. The right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant wished it to be inferred that those with whom he acted were the only persons who desired to see all persons entitled to the franchise in full possession of it. He (Colonel King-Harman) and his hon. Friends had certainly no wish to take it away from them; but what they wanted was that there should not be a list provided which should contain the names of a large number of persons who were not entitled to be upon it.

Dr. LYONS said, as a matter of fact, persons, whether authorized or not, did, as the law now stood, object to voters who were fully entitled to be upon the Register, and were frequently able to carry their objections to a conclusive issue. He was an example of this in his own person. He had been kept off the list in two counties on account of frivolous objections, and he had not yet succeeded in having his name placed upon the Register in either of those counties. It so happened that he was a good deal occupied, either in the House of Commons or elsewhere, and frivolous notices of objection were served by persons of whom he had no knowledge whatever, the consequence of which had been that his name had been kept off the list of the County of Dublin and the County of Limerick for years. He might also state that on one occasion during his absence his name had been struck off the list for the City of Dublin; and it was only after a great deal of trouble, and employing a solicitor who attended on several occasions under circumstances of an unpleasant character, that he was able to substantiate his claim. It was against such improper practices as that that he protested.

MR. DAWSON (LORD MAYOR of DUBLIN) said, he thought that the passing of the Bill would be facilitated by the remarks of the hon. and gallant Member for the County of Dublin (Colonel King-Harman), who had declared that it was the desire of himself and his Party to put everyone on the Register to whom the law had given a Parliamentary vote. But if anyone wanted protection, it was those who were on the supplemental list. It was a very simple matter to deal with those who had already established their claim. The persons they wanted to protect were those whose names were placed upon the list for the first time, who did not know the intricacies of the law, and who did not know how to proceed in order to substantiate their claim. He thought this was a most important part of the Bill, in order that persons whose names were placed on the list for the first time by the Registration Officers should be informed clearly what the objections against them were, so that they might be prepared to meet them at the proper time.

MR. GIBSON said, that owing to the late period of the Session, he had no desire to raise a prolonged debate upon his Amendment. He did not, therefore, propose to put the Committee to the trouble of Dividing upon it, but he would allow it to be negatived.

Question put, and *negatived*.

MR. WARTON said, he thought it would be necessary to make a verbal Amendment in lines 18 and 19. At present the words stood "that section;" but the clause had been made to apply to two sections—namely, 26 and 36. It would be necessary, therefore, to change the word "that," at the end of line 18, to "these," and the word "section," at the beginning of line 19, to "sections."

MR. P. MARTIN suggested that the consequential Amendment should run in this way. The clause now applied to notices of objection given in Sections 26 and 36 of the Parliamentary Voters (Ireland) Act, and he would move an Amendment to provide that the notice should be given according to the provisions of either of those sections respectively, omitting the words "that section" altogether.

MR. HEALY said, he had a series of consequential Amendments to move, beginning at line 20.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 18, to insert the words "either of these sections respectively."—(*Mr. P. Martin.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Mr. PARNELL remarked, that the sections in question referred to proceedings in connection with the registration of voters both in the counties and in the boroughs. Section 36 of the Parliamentary Voters (Ireland) Act had reference to county elections; whereas Section 26 referred to elections in boroughs. Would it not, therefore, be better to say "under the provisions of Section 36 in regard to persons on the supplemental list in counties," and *vice versa*?

THE CHAIRMAN: I wish to point out to the hon. and learned Member for Kilkenny (Mr. P. Martin) that the words he has placed in my hands are not in agreement with the words which follow. It would be nonsense to say the provisions of "either of these sections respectively," and then to add the words "that section."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, it was intended to strike out the two words—"that section."

THE CHAIRMAN: The hon. and learned Member for Kilkenny did not say so.

Question put, and agreed to.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, lines 18 and 19, to leave out the words "that section."

Amendment agreed to.

Mr. HEALY moved, in line 20, to omit the words "section twenty-six of."

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 20, to leave out the words "section twenty-six of."—(*Mr. Healy.*)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause."

Mr. MACFARLANE asked if a correction was not required in line 19?

Mr. TREVELYAN said, the alteration suggested was not necessary.

Amendment negatived.

Mr. H. G. ALLEN moved, after the word "voters," in line 21, to insert the words "other than the notice to the Clerk of the Peace or the Town Clerk."

In the English Act it was not required to give particulars of the objection to the officials; but, of course, they were required to be given to the voter himself. The words of that Act—28 *Vict.* c. 36 s. 6—were, "No notice shall be valid, other than a notice to the overseers, unless the ground of objection be specifically stated therein;" and, to make the present clause correspond with the provisions of the English Act, he begged to move the Amendment.

Amendment proposed,

In page 4, line 29, after the word "voters," to insert the words "other than notice to the Clerk of the Peace or the Town Clerk."—(*Mr. H. G. Allen.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Mr. MELDON said, he was afraid the insertion of that Amendment would lead to a great deal of contention, and that nothing would be practically gained. The official who had charge of the matter prepared the list for the Revising Barrister, and in that list were stated the objections which had been made, so that at a glance the Revising Barrister could see what he had to adjudicate upon. There were different classes of objections, and it would be highly inconvenient to use the word "objection" without stating the nature of the objection. The only thing that would be saved was the scribbling which would be necessary in order to fill in the nature of the objections.

Mr. H. G. ALLEN remarked, that a different system was pursued in England. In the cases he had been accustomed, as a Revising Barrister of many years standing, to hear, full notice of the objections was given to the persons objected to; and he failed to see what useful purpose was accomplished by requiring a full explanation of the objections to be given to anyone else. The voter was the person to whom the information must be conveyed of the different grounds upon which he was objected to; but it was obviously superfluous to enter into such particulars upon the notice paper required to be put on a door, and an inconvenient, as well as useless, burden to be attached to the exercise of the statutory right of objecting.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER), while recognizing the experience of his hon. and learned Friend, with all due deference,

said there would be considerable inconvenience to the Judge in deciding the case if he did not have a copy before him of the exact nature of the objections. It was calculated to avoid disputes and to lead to the convenience of the parties concerned.

MR. LEWIS said, the clause as it stood provided that no notice of objection to any person upon any list of voters should be valid unless the ground or grounds of objection were specifically stated therein. This applied only to the notice given to the Clerk of the Peace or the Town Clerk. His experience or knowledge was not equal to that of the hon. and learned Member for Pembroke (Mr. H. G. Allen), although some years ago it was somewhat extensive; but he had in his mind what the practice was under the English Act, and it was this—that they gave to the voter a specific notice of objection, but that to the overseer they did not; and he did not know why they should give specific notice to the overseer. With that exception, no notice of objection was given under Section 26 to any person; it was distinctly confined to notice to the voter. He thought the hon. and learned Gentleman was labouring under a misapprehension, and that he intended his Amendment to refer to some other document than a simple notice to the voter.

MR. H. G. ALLEN said, the clause referred to the list of claimants whose names appeared for the first time upon the list, and not to the persons the hon. Member for Londonderry (Mr. Lewis) thought they referred to.

MR. O'SULLIVAN was of opinion that the hon. and learned Member (Mr. H. G. Allen) had given no reason why the Committee should accept the Amendment. It was better to leave the clause as it stood.

COLONEL KING-HARMAN said, the conversation which had taken place proved one thing which he had long suspected before—namely, that although the Bill did not come before the Committee until the 14th of August, very few Members of the House, and especially those sitting on the Government Benches, were thoroughly acquainted with the provisions of the measure. The right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland and the hon. and learned Member for Kildare (Mr. Meldon) both appeared to be in a

complete muddle about it. He believed the Bill would be greatly improved by discussion.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, he really could not understand what the hon. and gallant Gentleman referred to. Personally, he (the Attorney General for Ireland) fully understood the clause, which was perfectly clear and intelligible, and so was the Amendment.

MR. LEWIS asked the hon. and learned Member for Pembroke (Mr. H. G. Allen) to follow him for one moment while he explained that Section 26 quoted in the clause dealt with two different notices. There was the notice of objection to be given to the Clerk of the Peace, and the notice of objection to be given to the voter. The words they were now dealing with did not refer to the Clerk of the Peace, but only to the notice to be given to the voter; and why should they insert words in the clause to say that they did not apply to the Clerk of the Peace that which, as a matter of fact, they had not applied to him?

MR. H. G. ALLEN said, he would not press the Amendment.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

MR. HEALY moved, in page 1, line 27, to leave out the word "may," and insert the word "shall," the object being to make the requirements of the clause obligatory.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 27, to leave out the word "may," and insert the word "shall."—(Mr. Healy.)

Question proposed, "That the word 'may' stand part of the Clause."

MR. GIBSON said, the word in the Bill was "may," and he failed to see that any advantage would be derived from changing the Government drafting. (Mr. HEALY: What harm?) The hon. Member asked what harm. There might be some inconvenience; whereas there could be no advantage in making a change.

MR. DAWSON (LORD MAYOR OF DUBLIN) said, the provision of the clause, as it stood, was optional; whereas his hon. Friend proposed to make it imperative.

MR. HEALY said, that if there was any objection to the Amendment he would withdraw it.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, lines 27 and 28, to leave out the word "form," and insert the word "forms."—(*Mr. Healy.*)

Amendment agreed to.

Amendment proposed, in page 2, line 1, after "(A,)" to insert "and (15) in Schedule (B) respectively."—(*Mr. Healy.*)

Amendment agreed to.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 5 (Evidence of person objected to).

Amendment proposed, in page 2, lines 3 and 4, to leave out the words "Section of the."—(*Mr. Healy.*)

Amendment agreed to.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 6 (Each ground of objection to be treated as a separate objection).

Mr. MAYNE moved, in page 2, line 17, to leave out the words "to the amount of at least two shillings and sixpence," and insert the words "a sum not exceeding two pounds nor less than seven shillings and sixpence."

Mr. MORGAN LLOYD said, he had an Amendment which came before that of the hon. Member, after the word "objection," in line 11. The clause proposed to enact that—

"Every separate ground of objection in any notice given in accordance with this Act shall be treated by the county court judge, chairman, or revising barrister as a separate objection."

To that he did not object; but he proposed to omit the rest of the clause—namely,

"And for every such ground of objection which, in the opinion of the county court judge, chairman, or revising barrister, has been groundlessly or frivolously and vexatiously stated, he shall, on the application of the person objected to, or anyone on his behalf, and upon the production of the notice of objection, award costs against the objector to the amount of at least two shillings and sixpence, and this though the name of the person objected to be expunged upon some other ground of objection stated in the same notice of objection."

He proposed to substitute the words of the 3rd sub-section of Clause 27 of the Parliamentary and Municipal Registrations Act of 1878, which provided that where an objection was made to the name of a person which appeared on the list of voters, and the name was retained on the list, the Revising Barrister

should, unless he was of opinion that the objection was reasonably made, or was occasioned by some error of entry in the books, or the difficulty of verifying such entry, or from some other special reason, order costs, not exceeding 40s., to be paid by the objector to the person objected to. He thought that provision, which was contained in the English Act, was more just and reasonable for both sides than the proposal contained in the present clause. Where an objector gave more than one reason for his objection, a discretionary power was given to the Revising Barrister under the English Act to award costs. On the other hand, the amount of costs that could be awarded was a reasonable amount, and it was discretionary with the Revising Barrister to give costs up to the limit. He would not detain the Committee by any argument in support of the Amendment. The clause had been very well considered in the English Act, and it appeared to him to be a better clause than the one now proposed. He understood one great object was to assimilate the law of Ireland to the law of England, as far as possible, in registration matters, and he therefore proposed the Amendment.

Amendment proposed,

In page 2, line 11, after the word "objection," to leave out all the words down to the word "least," in line 17, in order to insert—"That where the objection is made otherwise than by the overseer to any person whose name appears on the list of voters, and the name is retained on the list, the revising barrister shall, unless he is of opinion that the objection was reasonably made, either on account of error in the books, or the difficulty of verifying such entry, or for some other special reason, order costs not exceeding 40s. to be paid by the objector to the person objected to."—(*Mr. Morgan Lloyd.*)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause."

Mr. LEWIS said, he thought his hon. and learned Friend had fallen into one of those difficulties which people frequently fell into when they were doing things in a hurry. The Act from which his hon. and learned Friend had selected this clause, applied alike to Parliamentary and Municipal boroughs, and not to counties at all. Nevertheless, it was now proposed to apply it to counties. It was perfectly obvious that in regard

to boroughs there were considerations as to the knowledge of the objector which might be very different from those which applied to a large county, and there might be, therefore, good reasons for making a difference. The argument in favour of the clause was that under the precedent established by the Act of 1865 they ought to fine the objector for any failure to make good his objections; but it would certainly be a curious anomaly to take a clause out of the English Registration Act, which alluded only to boroughs, and to say that, "because you have that provision in regard to English boroughs, you must make it applicable to both boroughs and counties in Ireland." He thought that was a very singular mode of dealing with the question for an English Member to adopt, and he therefore preferred the clause as it had been drawn by the Government.

Mr. MELDON said, that another objection which he took to the Amendment was that in the Act of 1878 there were provisions for the withdrawal of objections, but there was no provision of that kind in the present Bill; and, as far as he could see, the proposal of the hon. and learned Member was altogether inapplicable to the section now under discussion. The object of the clause was to make it compulsory upon the Revising Barrister to award costs in every case where an objector failed to substantiate his objection. There were eight different grounds of objection which might be stated; and it was thought better to make the penalty in each case small, as it might be repeated eight times over, rather than give a discretionary power to the Revising Barrister to award a large penalty.

Amendment negatived.

Mr. MAYNE said, he thought that after the discussion which had taken place upon the last proposal the Committee would probably be prepared to accept the Amendment which he had placed upon the Paper. He proposed to fix both a maximum and a minimum penalty. He feared that the maximum named in the Bill was much too small, and that in Ireland it would not operate in the way the framers of the Bill intended that it should operate. What he desired was to put a stop to frivolous objections. There were Registration

Associations in various parts of Ireland, who, if they happened to be in funds, would think nothing of spending a large number of half-crowns in order to pursue their system of objections, which they at present found so successful. He therefore proposed to omit the words "two shillings and sixpence," and to substitute "not exceeding two pounds nor less than seven shillings and sixpence."

Amendment proposed,

In page 2, line 30, to leave out "to the amount of at least two shillings and sixpence," and insert "a sum not exceeding two pounds nor less than seven shillings and sixpence."—*(Mr. Mayne.)*

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause."

Mr. TREVELYAN said, he did not think it desirable that the Committee should adopt the Amendment, although he could well understand the ground upon which the hon. Member brought it forward. If they departed from the penalties fixed in the Bill in one direction they would find it very difficult to refuse to depart from them in another. Nor did he consider that the reasons given by the hon. Member were adequate, in this instance, to justify a departure. It did not necessarily follow that 2s. 6d. would be the maximum penalty, or that that would be the amount of the fine in all cases. No doubt, the duty of the overseers would be rendered more complicated by a great number of objections; and it was necessary to take care that the fine should be of such a description as to prevent frivolous objections. It was not the question of a single half-crown fine; but if the objections were frivolous they would have to be repeated upon different grounds. No doubt, if the penalty were trifling, it would afford an opportunity for making general fishing objections, and the objector would endeavour to hit his victim all round in the hope that his objections might succeed. But if a person simply gave notice of objections at random he would probably find that he would have to pay a fine, not at a minimum rate of 2s. 6d., but up to 5s., 10s., and even a larger sum. That being the case, he did not think the hon. Member had given sufficient reason for increasing the maximum penalty.

Mr. OALLAN said, that he had a larger experience, probably with the exception of the hon. Member for Youghal (Sir Joseph M'Kenna), than any hon. Member, as an Irish barrister practising at Petty Sessions, and he must say that the objections of the Chief Secretary did not carry any great weight with him. The clause provided that the objections must be groundless, frivolous, and vexatious, and he was of opinion that the fine of 2s. 6d., in a case where a country farmer had had to travel a distance of 18 miles and then find that the objections served upon him were not gone into, was absurd. Nevertheless, he had known costs applied for under such circumstances, which the Revising Barrister had declined to allow. Seeing that the clause was safeguarded by requiring that the County Court Judge, Chairman, or Revising Barrister should be of opinion that the objection had been groundlessly or frivolously and vexatiously stated, 10s. at least ought to be the minimum penalty. It was all very well for well-paid officials, like the Chief Secretary and the Attorney General, to oppose this proposition; but he was satisfied that no country farmer in the month of October, when he was digging his potatoes or harvesting his crops, would desire to go 10 or 15 miles to answer an objection, even if he got 10s. for his trouble.

Mr. MELDON said, he thought the provision contained in the Bill was really a reasonable one. It was not the infliction of any fine or penalty, but a provision where a man made an objection and failed to substantiate it to indemnify the person objected to for the cost he had incurred. The section provided that on the application of the person objected to the costs he had been put to might be awarded by the Revising Barrister, and that in all cases no less a sum than 2s. 6d. should be awarded. If a man did not employ a solicitor, but simply defended his claim himself, he would not be put to any cost at all, and in that case to award 7s. 6d. would be simply to open the door to fraud, and a number of men might serve notices of objections on their friends for the sole purpose of obtaining costs. It was only the costs that were to be awarded, and not a penalty inflicted. If they were to fix a penalty they might make it any sum they pleased; but in the case

of a person who did not employ a solicitor or a barrister, surely 2s. 6d. was the utmost sum he was entitled to for costs, seeing that he was not to be paid for the loss of time or the trouble he had been put to in appearing to vindicate his claim, and he simply received the sum to indemnify him against the costs he was out of pocket. It would be altogether a new thing to insert in a Bill of this kind a provision that because a man attended a Court in person he would thereby be indemnified in a sum of 7s. 6d. or more. He thought that the proposal was not only dangerous, but that there was no precedent for it. The clause, as it now stood, provided that 2s. 6d. should be paid as costs, and that it might be left to the discretion of the County Court Judge, Chairman, or Revising Barrister whether a larger sum was awarded.

Mr. PARNELL said, he thought that as the object of the Bill was, as far as possible, to assimilate the registration in Ireland to that in England, they ought not to press the Government to accept the Amendment.

Amendment negatived.

Mr. TATTON EGERTON said, the last part of the clause provided that the costs should be awarded for the failure of an objection, although the name of the person objected to was struck off the list upon some other ground of objection. He thought the last part of the clause might be omitted without any damage to the Bill, and he would therefore move to omit all the words after the words "two shillings and sixpence."

Amendment proposed, in page 2, line 18, to leave out from the word "and" to the word "objection," in line 20.—
(*Mr. Tatton Egerton.*)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause."

Mr. HEALY said, he thought the Amendment proposed by the hon. Member was one of the most extraordinary that had been suggested. Its simple object was to give to objecting agents the chance of firing three or four shots, and if they failed in three and brought down their bird with the last one, then they were to sustain no penalty at all. All that it would be necessary for the

objector to do was to make as many objections as possible, on the chance that he might hit a blot in some way. The Amendment would simply encourage fishing objections.

COLONEL KING-HARMAN said, he thought the opposition of the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) was hardly reasonable. If a large number of objections were made, and they failed to bring down the bird, then the objector would be liable to a fine for each objection he had made, and the Revising Barrister would have no difficulty in deciding that the grounds of objection were frivolous and vexatious. There were many cases in which two or three objections might seem perfectly reasonable and fair, but which were very difficult to prove. He would suggest to his hon. Friend (Mr. Tatton Egerton) that he should accept the Amendment which came next, and which proposed to omit the last part of the clause, and to insert—

"Unless the name of the person objected to be expunged upon some one of such objections."

MR. PARNELL said, he thought the Committee ought to adhere to the principle which had guided them in dealing with the last Amendment. The English Act required the fine to be inflicted in respect of every objection that was not sustained, although one objection was sustained, and he saw no reason why they should depart from that principle in the Irish Bill.

MR. MELDON wished to point out that, in point of principle, the Amendment differed from the rest of the clause. The clause avoided giving any discretion to the Revising Barrister as to awarding costs. It was possible to have objections sowed broadcast by one side or the other, and often, when that course was pursued, costs were not asked; but it would be fatal to that system if any discretion as to awarding costs was given to the Revising Barrister. If the Committee struck out these words in every case where one ground of objection was successful, notwithstanding that a number of other objections had failed, the Revising Barrister would have a discretion in regard to allowing costs, and that would set aside the real principle of the Bill.

COLONEL KING-HARMAN said, the Revising Barrister had a discretion at

present. It would be within his discretion to decide that the objection was frivolous, and having done so he would be bound to order costs.

MR. TREVELYAN said, the Government could not accept the Amendment of the hon. Gentleman. On the contrary, they saw strong reasons against it. The clause followed the Act of 1865, and he thought it was very desirable that they should adhere to the principle of the clause. The principle of the Bill was that an objector should put himself to the trouble of making the inquiries beforehand; and if he made one good objection, that did not justify him in making two or three others which were bad. There could be no doubt that if they allowed an objector to make five or six objections with impunity, whether he substantiated them or not, it would be exactly the same thing as allowing a general objection.

Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 7 (Costs to be awarded not to exceed £5).

COLONEL KING-HARMAN said, that his right hon. and learned Friend the Member for the University of Dublin (Mr. Gibson) had placed an Amendment on the Paper to leave out "five pounds," and insert "forty shillings." He wished to know whether that Amendment would leave the Bill in the same condition as the English Act?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) said, the clause, as it stood now, was in the position of the English Act.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 8 (Proceedings on objections).

MR. HEALY said, he presumed this would be the proper place for inserting the Amendment he had given Notice of upon the 3rd clause—namely, to provide that this section should come into operation immediately upon the passing of the Act. He wished to make one remark with regard to the Amendment. The Bill, on the whole, and very properly so, was not retrospective, and it would be very unfair to make its provisions retrospective in regard to the objections already served. He should, therefore, be sorry to propose anything of the kind. But what he did propose

was that when objections were served, the onus of proof should be thrown on the objectors. In view of the fact that a General Election was expected next year, the fate of the Election would probably very much depend upon the result of the next revision. If the Amendment were agreed to, it would have no penal consequences whatever, and in no way would it hurt or damage any individual. Unless it could be urged that the persons who now made objections in Ireland had a vested right in those objections to keep people off the list, it would be sufficient to say that the Clerk of the Peace or the Town Clerk should be the only objector whose objection was to prevail. He did not see how the Government could contend, in passing a law to simplify the registration, that in face of the thousands of objections which had been served in the county of Dublin during the last three months the Act should not come into force until next January, and that during the next three months the persons objected to should be put to all the trouble and expense which it was the object of the present measure to prevent. He did not propose that the other provisions of the Act should come into operation at once, but simply this clause, which required that a private objection to the voter should be sustained by *prima facie* proof that there was good ground for making it. Unless it could be said that they had an interest in the efforts which had been long continued to keep persons entitled to vote out of their just rights, he did not see how the Government could object to this section having immediate application. He trusted hon. Members below the Gangway on that side would, in this instance, receive the support of the hon. and gallant Gentleman the Member for the County of Dublin (Colonel King-Harman).

Amendment proposed,

In page 2, line 43, to add—"And this subsection shall come into operation immediately after the passing of this Act, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in section 3 hereof."
—(Mr. Healy.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there added."

Mr. LEWIS said, it would be very objectionable to introduce a violent innovation of this sort, which would hardly reach the minds of the parties concerned

Mr. Healy

in it before the Act came into operation. The hon. Member said that no penalty should ensue; but he (Mr. Lewis) was not clear that under Clause 6, together with Clause 8, a man might not be fined. He trusted the Government would not agree to the Amendment, because he thought that all parts of the Act ought to come into operation at the same time.

Mr. TREVELYAN said, he was of the same opinion as his hon. Friend with regard to the Amendment. There was, no doubt, a good deal in the suggestion that the new system could not come into operation too soon; but he could conceive that when a Bill was introduced, altering the whole system of registration, it might be dangerous to enact that the date which governed the Bill as a whole should not govern a particular part of it. He thought, also, that there should not be any temptation given to introduce provisions so as to suit the case of any particular election. But his chief objection to the Amendment was that it referred to a new and supplemental list of voters.

Mr. HEALY said, he was surprised to hear the objection of the right hon. Gentleman to the Amendment; but as he could not expect to carry it against the Government, he would ask leave to withdraw it.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause agreed to.

Miscellaneous.

Clause 9 (Poor rate collectors to enter objections on list. Certain provisions of the 13 & 14 Vict. c. 69, to apply to poor rate collectors) *agreed to*.

Clause 10 (Poor rate collectors to attend revision court).

Amendment proposed, in page 3, line 28, to leave out from the words "rate-books" to the word "shall," in line 30.
—(Mr. Warton.)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause."

Mr. TREVELYAN said, he felt sure that these words were intended to effect a certain improvement in the present system. He was told there might be some officers having the custody of the rate books whose duty it ought to be to attend before the County Court Judge. The words proposed to be struck out provided for that case.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 11 (Remuneration to poor rate collectors).

Amendment proposed, in page 3, line 38, to leave out the word "may," and insert the word "shall."—(*Mr. Healy*.)

Question proposed, "That the word 'may' stand part of the Clause."

MR. MELDON said, he hoped this Amendment would be adopted by the Government, so as to make the payment to the Poor Rate Collectors, who discharged duties under the Act, compulsory upon the Guardians. These persons prepared the supplementary lists, and it was upon them that the real work in this matter devolved. The Clerks of the Union were largely paid for the work they were supposed to do; but it was the Poor Rate Collectors who actually did the work, and up to the present time they had worked satisfactorily at preparing the lists. But it was now proposed to throw them over by leaving it to the option of the Guardians whether they should be paid or not. If work was imposed upon them by the Act it was only fair that they should be paid; and for that reason he should vote for the Amendment of his hon. Friend if he went to a Division.

MR. T. D. SULLIVAN said, he hoped Her Majesty's Government would accept the Amendment.

Question put, and *negatived*.

MR. HEALY said, the next Amendment of his on the Paper was consequential upon that which had just been agreed to. Irish Members objected to giving an annual allowance, and he thought the fairest way of settling the matter was to give the Poor Rate Collectors that allowance which they received under the 9th section of the Juries Procedure (Ireland) Act, 1876. He understood there was no objection to this on the part of the officers themselves.

Amendment proposed,

In page 3, line 41, to leave out from the word "Guardians" to end of Clause, and insert the words "now allow under the ninth section of 'The Juries Procedure (Ireland) Act, 1876.'"—(*Mr. Healy*.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

COLONEL KING-HARMAN said, he thought there ought to be some supervision over this matter of allowances to Poor Rate Collectors.

MR. HEALY said, he thought the hon. and gallant Gentleman did not understand the matter thoroughly. The system he advocated was already adopted by the Poor Law Board. He would find the amount fixed by a Minute of the Privy Council.

COLONEL KING-HARMAN said, he understood the matter perfectly well, and it was for that reason he wished to see the payments to Poor Rate Collectors under the control of some responsible authority.

MR. TREVELYAN pointed out that the Poor Rate Collectors would be liable for any breach of duty—that was to say, if they did not do their work properly. Under the circumstances, the hon. and gallant Gentleman would, perhaps, withdraw his opposition to the Amendment, which the Government were willing to agree to.

Amendment agreed to.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Remaining clauses *agreed to*.

MR. DAWSON (LORD MAYOR OF DUBLIN) said, the clause which he was about to ask the Committee to read a second time was not intended to make any alteration in the existing franchise. It was intended to assimilate the law of Ireland in that respect to the law of England. The right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, on introducing this Bill, said that the spirit of it was to make genuine that which Parliament had already granted. Now, Parliament had granted a vote to every occupier in Ireland rated at over £4 in boroughs, and to every occupier rated at £12 in counties; but, notwithstanding that, a large number of those persons did not get on the Register, owing to omission on the part of the Poor Rate Collectors. There were from this cause 12,000 people in Dublin alone precluded from voting, and he believed the number similarly situated throughout Ireland would not amount to less than 86,000. That was due to the people in Ireland not being possessed of those facilities which were given in this country. The clause which he now asked the Committee to read a

second time was one of a series which he proposed to insert in the Bill in order to carry out the object he had described, and which he trusted would meet with the favourable consideration of the Government.

New Clause:—

(Poor rate collectors to return occupiers under penalty.)

"The poor rate collector shall, in every case where the valuation of any rateable hereditament is over four pounds, enter in the occupiers' column of the rate book the name of the occupier, and, if any poor rate collector negligently or wilfully, and without reasonable cause, omits the name of such occupier, or wilfully misstates any name therein, such rate collector shall, for every such omission be liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding two pounds: Provided, That any occupier whose name has been omitted shall, notwithstanding such, and that no claim to be rated has been made by him, be entitled to every qualification and franchise depending upon such rating, in the same manner as if his name had not been so omitted, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the 6 and 7 Vic. c. 92, or in 12 and 13 Vic. c. 91, sec. 63,"—(*Mr. Dawson.*)

—*brought up*, and read the first time.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Clause be read a second time."

MR. GIBSON said, he protested entirely against the clause of the hon. Member for Carlow, which would be equivalent to the incorporation of a fresh Bill with the present measure. Her Majesty's Government, after mature deliberation, had introduced a Bill of 14 clauses, to which the hon. Member now suggested the addition of four others, which would have no less effect than that of converting a Registration Bill into a very considerable Reform Bill. They could not consider a Registration Bill at that time of the Session, which had been duly weighed and debated by the House on its various stages; and, assuredly, they could not reasonably be asked to assent to four clauses which would have the effect he had described, and which had not even been read a second time. Certainly he would be no party to the introduction of the clause. He protested against that or any other new clauses being added to the Bill.

MR. PARNELL said, the clause which his hon. Friend had moved was one which he thought might be fairly pressed on the attention of the Government, in order that the measure might be saved

from being merely an assimilation of the Irish law with that of England in respect of a most imperfect system of registration. The right hon. and learned Gentleman said that the clause of his hon. Friend conferred a new franchise. It did nothing of the kind; it was only to amend the present franchise, and it was a provision for preventing the intention of Parliament in passing the Franchise Act from being defeated by provisions in connection with the registration of voters in Ireland. It was, therefore, from every point of view, a most reasonable clause, and it would further go in the direction of making the present measure complete, inasmuch as, in its present form, the Bill only related to a portion of the Irish constituencies, and practically did not touch the system of borough registration in Ireland at all. If it was right that the franchise which the law had conferred upon persons in the Irish counties should be exercised, and that the difficulties left in the way of obtaining that franchise by the law relating to registration should be removed, it was also right that the franchise which the law conferred on persons living in boroughs in Ireland should also be exercised, and that the difficulties in the way of that should be removed likewise—that the path should be made smooth, as was done by the English Acts, for the Irish voters, whether in counties or boroughs, to obtain the very limited franchise which Parliament allowed to Her Majesty's subjects in Ireland. The clause of his hon. Friend went no farther than the English Act provided, and he said the Government could not oppose it except by violating the principles they had advocated.

MR. TOTTENHAM concurred with the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for the University of Dublin (Mr. Gibson) that this clause was, practically, a new Bill in itself, and he thought before they proceeded any further the Committee were entitled to know whether or not it was the intention of Her Majesty's Government to accept it?

MR. TREVELYAN said, the question they had to consider was whether it was more important to pass this Bill now than it was to make it a complete Bill in the sense indicated by hon. Gentlemen opposite. Anything which could be

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devised that would settle this difficulty once for all, Her Majesty's Government would be ready to assist in promoting. The clause of the hon. Member for Carlow, he must own, did not appear to him perfectly fitted to meet the case. He thought that unless some more specific words were introduced into the clause it would not effect the object which the hon. Gentleman had in view. But he earnestly hoped the House would take this opportunity of making the franchise a real one. The clauses which followed, though taken from the English Act, appeared to him to weight the Bill. On the main point, he did not think they ought to let the Bill leave the House until they put on record their intention that every Irishman should have the vote which in 1868 Parliament laid down should be possessed by every Englishman and Scotchman. In most of the Irish towns, he was informed that the vote was at present enjoyed by the citizens; but in the capital of Ireland the franchise, which Parliament intended to be a £4 franchise, had become, in reality, an £8 franchise. The course he should propose to be taken was that the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. Dawson) should withdraw this clause without reference as to whether he would or would not pass the other clauses of which he (Mr. Trevelyan) did not complain, and over which probably there would be no serious dispute or discussion. The matter was grave enough for the Government to prefer to put a new clause, or new clauses, on the Paper, in order to secure the object which they certainly believed ought to be secured.

MR. GIBSON said, that a more remarkable speech could not have been made by a Minister than that which had just been delivered by the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant, who was in charge of the Bill. The right hon. Gentleman obtained the second reading of the Bill, on Tuesday, the 4th of August, upon the ground that the Government had well considered the requirements of the Irish Registration Law; that the Government had had before them all that related to the matter; and that the subject had been thoroughly threshed out by them before they submitted the Bill to the House. This was the way they got the measure read a second time at the beginning of August. To-day,

when the present stage of the Bill was reached, the Speaker was moved out of the Chair by a gesture, it being thought that the measure did not require any explanation, although every one of the clauses to which the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary had just made such remarkable reference had been on the Paper for 10 days. When the Chief Secretary had in his mind any of those strange opinions to which he had just given utterance, it was his business to have made some short statement when he moved the Speaker out of the Chair, in order to put the House in possession of what the views of the Government were. More than that, he (Mr. Gibson) begged leave to say that it was the duty of the Chief Secretary, and of his right hon. and learned Colleague the Attorney General for Ireland, to have taken steps to re-commit the Bill, and to have introduced such new Clauses and Amendments as they thought necessary and essential. The Chief Secretary had not for the first time thought out this question. He (Mr. Gibson) assumed that, as was the right hon. Gentleman's duty and business, the right hon. Gentleman had considered these clauses, which had been on the Paper for 10 days, and had made up his mind as to which were right and which were wrong, which could be adopted without amendment, and which needed amendment. If that were so, he asked, had not the Committee a right to expect that the new clauses which the Chief Secretary now seemed to desire to submit on a later stage, in substitution for the clauses they were now discussing—had they not a right to demand that these new clauses should be put on the Paper, instead of being sprung upon the Committee at a time when they would have much less opportunity of considering them? He should like to know what was the opinion and decision of the Government in reference to the clauses they were now discussing. Suppose, as was within his right, the hon. Member for Carlow (Mr. Dawson) said—"I stand firmly by my clause; I am fond of my own progeny"—was the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant going to vote with the hon. Member? He assumed that the right hon. Gentleman would do so. [Mr. TREVELYAN dissented.] Then the right hon. Gentleman was not going to vote

with the hon. Member; and it turned out that all the time the hon. Member for Carlow had been thinking the right hon. Gentleman was his friend, he was really an enemy in disguise. The right hon. Gentleman said that this clause required amendment. Where, and how? As a matter of fact, these new clauses created a perfectly new Bill—a very substantial new Bill. He (Mr. Gibson) declined, however, to enter into this discussion at that time of the day. The Chief Secretary had entered upon an emasculated discussion. The right hon. Gentleman had hinted that he would, and that he would not, and that he would if he could, and could if he would, and then he wound up by saying he was not prepared to vote for the second reading of this clause. He (Mr. Gibson) should like to know what was the meaning of the Chief Secretary's statement as to the other five clauses, which he had said would weight the Bill. If they added the five clauses to the 13 they would weight the Bill to the extent of five clauses; but then he should like to know whether the Chief Secretary had resolved that he would adopt the five clauses? He (Mr. Gibson) was in considerable doubt on the subject, and he would be glad if, before they passed from this stage of the Bill, they were given to understand what the new clauses were which the Chief Secretary said he was ready to introduce at a later stage of the Bill. He was of opinion that if anything were wanting to justify the observation he made at the outset of this discussion it had been amply and overwhelmingly supplied by the speech of the Chief Secretary. They had been asked to read this Bill a second time as a piece of matured and well thought-out legislation; and now it turned out that the Government had not embodied all their ideas in the Bill, but that they desired to introduce new clauses, which would give efficacy and reality to the measure. The House had thought that the efficacy and reality was to be found in the 13 clauses which originally formed the Bill. It was not his province, or his business, to give advice to Her Majesty's Government; but, still, people got very benevolent in the month of August; and he would venture to give this parting advice to the Government—that, as they had not at present made up their minds as to what where the clauses

they were prepared to introduce into the Bill, it might be as well for them to devote the months of September, October, November, December, and January to the maturing of a new Bill; and he had no doubt that the hon. Member for Carlow (Mr. Dawson), with that urbanity and readiness which characterized him, would be quite willing to confer with the Chief Secretary, and give him any assistance he could in the framing of the new clauses.

Mr. TREVELYAN said, the right hon. and learned Gentleman had spoken in very strong and decided terms, and he seemed to hold decided opinions on this matter; but he (Mr. Trevelyan) did not consider that the right hon. and learned Gentleman had said anything to invalidate the position he (Mr. Trevelyan) had taken up on this clause. He imagined that the object of this clause was to place the voter in Ireland in the same position as the voter in England—that was to say, that he should not be deprived of his vote by the fact that his rates were paid by his landlord. In his (Mr. Trevelyan's) opinion, the first of the new clauses now under review, taken by itself, was not sufficient for the purpose, and for that reason he desired time to consider the matter. He should be certainly unwilling to pass a clause, or be a party to passing a clause, which held out to the Irish voter expectations which could not be realized. The right hon. and learned Gentleman opposite (Mr. Gibson) considered that the Government were in a disagreeable position in this matter. He (Mr. Trevelyan) thought they would be in a much more disagreeable position if, at the next registration, thousands of people who expected to have conferred upon them the privileges enjoyed by the English voter found they had obtained no such privileges. This was the position which he took up upon this 1st clause, and he regarded it as the most important of the new clauses proposed by the hon. Member for Carlow (Mr. Dawson). He declined to commit himself to the exact words which he should propose to introduce; but they would be words to the effect that the fact of the rates not being paid personally should be no disqualification in Ireland any more than in England. The right hon. and learned Gentleman had said that the Government had not made up their minds about

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the remaining five clauses. They had made up their minds about those clauses; and the decision they had come to was that the clauses, taken one after another, applied in Ireland just as much as they applied in England. If hon. Members met those clauses with that qualified opposition which would enable them to pass through the House, the Government would be glad to see them inserted in the Bill. On the grounds which he had now stated, he should certainly, generally speaking, support the introduction of these English clauses into the Bill; and on the grounds he had also stated he should certainly ask the hon. Member (Mr. Dawson) to withdraw his first and principal clause, and to allow the Government to bring up on Report the clause amended in such a manner as would make it more acceptable to the general body of the House.

COLONEL KING-HARMAN said, that when he suggested that it was difficult to clearly understand the position which the Government had taken up in this matter, he was sharply rebuked by the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland; but he thought that what had now taken place fully justified his remark. The right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary and the Attorney General for Ireland had for some time past not only had their own Bill to consider, but three or four other Registration Bills, and at last they had brought in a Bill which, it seemed to him, they never intended to push to a second reading. They had, however, found themselves obliged to proceed, and they had floundered the Bill through the stage of second reading; while now, in Committee, they came suddenly upon an Amendment moved by the hon. Gentleman the Member for Carlow (Mr. Dawson), which they had not considered. After what had just been said, he did not think it would be consistent with self-respect to take any further part in the discussion upon the Bill.

MR. HEALY said, one would have thought, after listening to the speech of the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for the University of Dublin (Mr. Gibson)—a speech which was full of sound and fury—that the proposal now before the Committee was not one for the object of giving to the Irish voters what Parliament intended to give

them 15 years ago. Fifteen years ago Parliament intended to give a vote to men in Ireland rated at £4; but the franchise actually given had resolved itself into one of £8. Parliament now proposed to set to rights the wrong which was committed so long ago. The disgrace was not that the Government had accepted this Amendment, but that they had not long ago put some machinery in motion to correct the mistake of 15 years since. It had been said that the Government had 'fumbled through the second reading. If there had been any fumbling in the matter it had been on the side of the Opposition, who could only manage to get 17 votes against 90 on the second reading; while to-day, on going into Committee, they were absolutely deserted by their own Party. The fact was that the Conservatives below and above the Gangway would not be parties to this miserable attempt to prevent the Irish voter from having that which Parliament was willing 15 years ago to give him. The right hon. and learned Gentleman and the hon. and gallant Member for the County of Dublin (Colonel King-Harman) were, at the present moment, isolated and alone. They were not only alone in the House, but alone in the country, for their friends thought more of shooting grouse than of conferring the franchise upon the unfortunate people of Ireland. As to the Chief Secretary, he (Mr. Healy) was surprised that the right hon. Gentleman, in accepting this Amendment, made any reservation whatever. If the Amendment required any alteration it was in the direction suggested by the hon. Gentleman the Member for Tipperary (Mr. Mayne). He trusted that the right hon. Gentleman would remember that right hon. and hon. Gentlemen above the Gangway on that (the Opposition) side of the House really represented no one but themselves. They did not even represent their own Party, for their own Party had deserted them. One of them represented a constituency—Trinity College—which would probably be abolished; and the other, who represented the County of Dublin, would certainly, whether this Bill passed or not, find himself in a minority at the next General Election.

MR. DAWSON accepted the proposition the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary had made, because it was clear

that the right hon. Gentleman had grasped the object which he (Mr. Dawson) had in view. The right hon. Gentleman had clearly enunciated, in a few short sentences, the object contemplated; and he (Mr. Dawson) should be glad now to leave the matter in the right hon. Gentleman's hands. He should also leave the second clause in the hands of the Chief Secretary. The right hon. Gentleman would see that this second clause was really consequential upon the first. He would now ask leave to withdraw the first clause.

Clause, by leave, *withdrawn*.

MR. DAWSON, in moving his clause dealing with the question of lodgers, said, the law gave every person in England and Ireland alike the lodger franchise under certain conditions; but great difficulty was felt by lodgers in making their claims. For instance, persons belonging to this class had experienced great difficulty in obtaining permission from their employers to attend the Revision Court; and, as a matter of fact, many of them never made their claims. What he desired was to apply to Ireland the 41 & 42 *Vic.*, c. 26, s. 23, so that the declaration of the lodger should be *prima facie* evidence of his qualification. The second paragraph of the clause provided that—

"Lodgings occupied by a person in any year or two successive years shall not be deemed to be different lodgings by reason only that in that year, or in either of those years, he has occupied some other rooms or place in addition to his original lodgings."

This proposal was taken from the English Act; and he did not, therefore, anticipate that any objection could be raised to it. The next paragraph provided that—

"For the purpose of qualifying a lodger to vote, the occupation in immediate succession of different lodgings of the requisite value in the same house shall have the same effect as continued occupation of the same lodgings."

The following paragraph dealt with the joint occupation of lodgings by one or more lodgers.

New Clause:—

(Declaration of lodger to be *prima facie* evidence—41 & 42 *Vic.* c. 26, s. 23.)

"In the case of a person claiming to vote as a lodger, the declaration annexed to his notice of claim shall for the purposes of revision be *prima facie* evidence of his qualification.

Mr. Dawson

"Lodgings occupied by a person in any year or two successive years shall not be deemed to be different lodgings by reason only that in that year, or in either of those years he has occupied some other rooms or place in addition to his original lodgings.

"For the purpose of qualifying a lodger to vote, the occupation in immediate succession of different lodgings of the requisite value in the same house shall have the same effect as continued occupation of the same lodgings.

"Where lodgings are jointly occupied by more than one lodger, and the clear yearly value of the lodgings if let unfurnished is of an amount which, when divided by the number of the lodgers, gives a sum of not less than ten pounds for each lodger, then each lodger, if otherwise qualified and subject to the provisions of 'The Representation of the People (Ireland) Act, 1868,' shall be entitled to be registered, and when registered to vote as a lodger: Provided, That not more than two persons being such joint lodgers shall be entitled to be registered in respect of such lodgings.

"In and for the purposes of 'The Representation of the People (Ireland) Act, 1868,' and this Act, the term 'lodgings' shall include any apartments or place of residence, whether furnished or unfurnished, in a dwelling-house,"—
(*Mr. Dawson*.)

—brought up, and read the first time.

Motion made, and Question proposed,
"That the Clause be read a second time."

MR. GIBSON declined to discuss the clauses further, and he only desired to point out that this was not strictly a Registration Clause; but, as far as there was meaning in the English language, it was a Reform Bill Clause. For instance, the fourth paragraph of the clause provided for the case of joint occupation of lodgings by more than one lodger. Now, under the existing "Representation of the People (Ireland) Act, 1868," the persons who were dealt with had not the right to vote before the measure was passed; but the effect of the legal operation of the section now proposed would be that people who had not at present the right to vote would be given votes. A Registration Bill was a Bill conferring on those who, under the existing law, had a right to be registered as voters, facilities for registration. This clause, however, was not calculated to afford facilities for registration only, but to give the franchise to persons who were really not entitled to it. This was really a burlesque of legislation.

MR. TOTTENHAM asked the Chairman whether the clause now proposed was not foreign to the intention of the

Bill under discussion; and whether the hon. Gentleman the Member for Carlow (Mr. Dawson) was in Order in moving such a clause?

THE CHAIRMAN said, that the hon. Member was perfectly in Order in moving the clause. The proposal was simply to insert in a Registration Bill clauses which were found in a former Registration Act.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR said, that when the Chairman had first put the clause he had said he regarded all the paragraphs of it together.

Motion agreed to.

Clause added to the Bill.

THE CHAIRMAN called upon Colonel King-Harman.

COLONEL KING-HARMAN said, he declined to move the Amendment standing in his name—namely, the insertion of the following clause:—

"Any person aggrieved by any decision of a Court of Revision under 'The Parliamentary Voters (Ireland) Act, 1851,' may appeal therefrom to Her Majesty's Court of Appeal in Ireland."

MR. HEALY said, he could understand how it was that the hon. and gallant Member and hon. Members above the Gangway, their forces having deserted them, assumed the attitude of despair. He begged to move the next new clause on the Paper.

New Clause:—

(Evening sittings of revision courts.)

"Every barrister appointed to revise the lists for a Parliamentary borough containing, according to the last census for the time being, more than ten thousand inhabitants, shall hold at least one evening sitting of his court in such borough. An evening sitting shall commence not earlier than six nor later than seven o'clock in the evening, and shall be of such duration as, in the opinion of the revising barrister, shall be reasonable."

"Special notice or notices of an evening sitting or of evening sittings to be held in a borough shall be published by the town clerk in such manner as the revising barrister may direct,"—(Mr. Healy.)

—brought up, and read the first time.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Clause be read a second time."

MR. TREVELYAN said, this clause had been put down too recently for Her Majesty's Government to give it serious consideration. [Mr. HEALY: It is in the English Act.] That might be; but

he was not sure that the provision was one which would apply satisfactorily to Ireland. The existing grievance was admitted, and the question was whether this clause would not raise in Ireland grievances greater than that it would remove? On that ground he could not assent to it.

MR. DAWSON said, he could give the Committee some practical information on this point. He had to preside over the Municipal Revision Courts in Dublin; and he found that it was impossible for artizans and clerks, and persons of that nature, to leave their employment and attend these Courts during the ordinary hours for holding them. He had, consequently, exerted his authority as Lord Mayor, and had held evening Courts, and the result had been that he had admitted to the franchise a great many people who had a right to it, who, nevertheless, would not have put in an appearance to claim it had it not been for the course he had adopted. This clause was confined to towns of more than 10,000 inhabitants, which, obviously, would not include many places in Ireland. It would include some, however, where the operatives were not able to attend at day sittings of the Court. The object of the Bill was to give facilities for voting; but it was no use enabling a person to obtain a vote if he could not attend the Court to claim it. The right hon. Gentleman would see it was only fair and just that the opportunity now sought to be obtained for poor people to prefer their claims to be put upon the Register should be granted.

DR. LYONS said, that if they were to have an effective system of registration in Ireland such a clause as this was necessary. It was unreasonable to ask a respectable tradesman or artizan to sacrifice a day's work, or it might be several days' work, through attendance at the Registration Court. Even where a gentleman of position attended the Court to get his name put upon the Register he frequently had to go again on the following day—he might not be called on at the time which was most convenient to him. He (Dr. Lyons) could state this as a fact, for he himself had had to attend personally under these conditions. He had been struck off the Register of the City of Dublin, and had been obliged to attend two days in succession before his case was called on. It was

hopeless to expect to extend the franchise to all working men, and to expect them to attend the Revision Court day after day, at the loss of their wages, in order to secure the right of recording a vote. The refusal of this clause would be a direct violation of the principle of the Bill, which was to give the franchise to all those who were fairly entitled to it. He would strongly recommend this matter to the attention of the Government.

MR. BULWER said, he could not refrain from expressing his astonishment that the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant should, without the slightest demur, accept important Amendments moved by hon. Members below the Gangway which had nothing whatever to do with registration, as the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for the University of Dublin (Mr. Gibson) had pointed out, and should throw difficulties in the way of accepting such an obvious Amendment as this. Everybody knew that in the large towns and cities of this country, where there were a great many poor voters, the Revising Barristers did sit in the evenings. If they had wanted an illustration of straining at the gnat and swallowing the camel they could not have had a better one than the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant had just given them.

MR. HEALY said, he had not understood the right hon. Gentleman to give him an absolute refusal. He had understood him to say that he had not had time to consider the clause, owing to its having been only just put upon the Paper. The Amendment had not only just been put upon the Paper. It had been down three days; therefore, it must have, accidentally, escaped the right hon. Gentleman's notice. He (Mr. Healy) would put it down on the Report. The hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for Cambridgeshire (Mr. Bulwer) said the Amendment was an obvious one; and, that being so, and there being no objection to it on either side, he hoped the Government would give it their favourable consideration.

MR. TREVELYAN: If the hon. Member will put the Amendment down for Report we will consider it.

Clause, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Dr. Lyons

MR. HEALY said, he had another new clause to propose, requiring the Guardians of the Poor, in boroughs other than in Dublin, and in Dublin the Collector General of Rates, to give notice to the occupier of premises capable of conferring the Parliamentary franchise, in cases where the rates remained unpaid, that such rates were due. At present the practice was this—in County Monaghan, for instance, in regard to which he was able to speak, a man received notice on the 30th of June that his rates were due, and then, perhaps, two or three days afterwards, he received a summons or writ for the amount. The receipt of such summons or writ was the first intimation he received of the fact that his rates were due. Where there was strong Party feeling in a county these matters were watched very keenly by the officials, who took care not to give any notice that the rates were due. The moment they were due summonses and writs were issued for payment, the ratepayers in arrear being mulcted in costs. That was very unfair, and were tactics which, even where strong partizanship prevailed, ought not to be resorted to. The new clause would do away with these unfair tactics, would prevent many people from being improperly disqualified from voting, and besides, in that way, improving the Bill, would tend to bring about an early collection of the rates. No one would deny that it was a proper thing that the rates should be collected at the right time. At present, the balances were on the wrong side; whereas, if the ratepayers had a distinct premium offered them, in the shape of securing their votes, by timely payment of their rates, those balances would not exist, as they did now in too many cases. He asked the support of those who desired to promote efficient Poor Law administration, as his new clause would have the effect of greatly benefiting the financial administration of Poor Law Unions.

New Clause:—

(Rate when unpaid to be demanded from occupiers.)

“(1.) Where any poor rate due previously to the first day of January in any year in respect of any premises capable of conferring the Parliamentary franchise for any Parliamentary borough remains unpaid on the first day of May following, the guardians of the poor in boroughs

other than in Dublin, and in Dublin the collector-general of rates, shall on or before the twentieth of the same month of May, unless such rate has been previously paid, give or cause to be given to the occupier of such premises a notice in the form (number one) set forth in the schedule to this Act annexed, or to the like effect. The notice shall be deemed to be duly given if delivered to the occupier or left at his last or usual place of abode, or with some person on the premises in respect of which the rate is payable; and, in case no such person can be found, such notice shall be deemed to be duly given if affixed upon some conspicuous part of the said premises. Any person who shall negligently or wilfully withhold any such notice shall for every such offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding two pounds, to be recovered by civil bill, before the county court judge or recorder within whose jurisdiction such person resides, by the occupier of the premises in question.

"(2.) This section shall apply to any such premises as aforesaid, notwithstanding that the immediate lessor or owner thereof is primarily liable to pay the poor rates payable out of same,"—(*Mr. Healy*.)

—brought up, and read the first time.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Clause be read a second time."

MR. DAWSON said, he gave this proposal his most unqualified support.

Motion agreed to.

Clause added to the Bill.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Bill, as amended, be reported to the House."

MR. MELDON said, that before that was agreed to he wished to say a word with regard to Clause 4. An objection had been raised to the effect that Section 26 of the Parliamentary Voters Act was not in the Bill; and he had put down an Amendment to deal with the point. He had discovered the explanation to be that this was a Bill to assimilate the law in England and Ireland; and—

COLONEL KING-HARMAN wished to know whether the hon. and learned Member was in Order? What had all this to do with the Bill before the Committee?

MR. MELDON said, he was merely giving the reason why the Bill had not been applied to boroughs. It was because the English Act had not applied to boroughs.

THE CHAIRMAN: The hon. and learned Member is not out of Order.

MR. MELDON said, the Amendment he had proposed had been a perfectly proper one.

Motion agreed to.

Bill reported; as amended, to be considered upon *Thursday*.

BANKRUPTCY BILL.—[BILL 243.]

(*Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Solicitor General, Mr.*

John Holmes.)

CONSIDERATION.

Order for Consideration, as amended, read.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Bill, as amended, be now considered."—(*Mr. Chamberlain*.)

MR. RITCHIE said, the principal, if not the only, observation he had to make was with reference to a strong feeling which existed in many quarters as to the great number of appointments which would be made by the Board of Trade under the Bill. It was believed that the patronage which the Bill placed in the hands of the President of that Board—and in saying that he was not speaking of any President of the Board of Trade individually—would be used for political purposes. Although he himself, at one time, entertained a considerable objection to the amount of officialism imported into this measure, and which he had evinced on the second reading, yet, on further reflection, he hardly felt justified in objecting to the officialism proposed, for the principle of the Act of 1859, that there should be as little officialism as possible, had undoubtedly proved a failure. But in order to secure the successful working of the Bill the Board of Trade must exercise in a very judicious manner the powers conferred upon them, and must refrain from making appointments for political purposes, for he believed that it would be a suicidal policy, and would result in defeating the objects of the Bill. He hoped, therefore, to receive from the right hon. Gentleman in charge of the Bill a declaration that, so far at least as he was concerned, there was no disposition to treat these appointments in a political or Party sense, and that his aim would be to secure the very best men, totally irrespective of Party. He wished to bear his testimony to the great practical success which had attended the efforts of the Grand Committee in reference to the

Bill. For his own part, he did not go into the Committee with any strong prejudices in favour of the system; but he felt bound to say that it was a thoroughly business-like Committee, and that it got through its work in a most satisfactory manner. A great deal of the success of the Committee was owing to the eminently practical and conciliatory manner in which the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Board of Trade managed the Bill from its earliest to its last stage in the Committee.

Mr. WHITLEY said, he was not a Member of the Grand Committee who had sat upon the Bill; but, as representing the large commercial community of Liverpool, he had watched the discussions upon it with very great interest, and he could confirm much that had been said by the hon. Member for the Tower Hamlets (Mr. Ritchie). The only objection to the Bill by the commercial community which he represented was with reference to the official appointments to which the hon. Member had referred; but he was bound to say that, as far as that had gone, it had been thoroughly thrashed out in Committee. He believed that many of the objectionable features of the Bill had been removed and modified in Committee. He was sure that the House must be very anxious indeed to see this measure tried; and he believed there was also a very general desire throughout the country that it should be tried. He was very glad to be able to confirm what the hon. Member for the Tower Hamlets had said with reference to the right hon. Gentleman opposite the President of the Board of Trade. The right hon. Gentleman had met them generally in that friendly spirit, and with that good temper and tact, which no doubt contributed to the successful carrying of the Bill through Committee; and he (Mr. Whitley) hoped they would now, before the evening was over, be able to carry the Bill through its remaining stages.

Mr. DIXON-HARTLAND said, he had also attended all the sittings of the Committee, and he could also most willingly bear his testimony to what had been said as to the conciliatory spirit of the President of the Board of Trade, and to the business-like way in which the proceedings in Committee were managed. But he was afraid that unless the appointments were made in the most

careful manner, and unless the expenses were kept down, this Bill would be as great a failure as its predecessors had been.

Mr. NORWOOD said, it was very gratifying and satisfactory to hon. Members on that side of the House to hear the chorus of commendations from hon. Gentlemen on the other side as to the admirable tact with which the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Board of Trade (Mr. Chamberlain) had managed the Bill. He could assure the right hon. Gentleman that hon. Members on his own side equally recognized the admirable tact he had displayed. It had become evident, at an early part of the proceedings, that the essence of the measure would be the guidance of the Board of Trade; and he (Mr. Norwood) held that, in that regard, the Government had taken upon themselves a great responsibility. From the first, his own view of the Bill was that it was too official. At the same time, it must be confessed that the two systems previously tried had undoubtedly failed; and this was a great experiment by which, for the first time, the Government should furnish all the force necessary to realize a bankrupt estate, and he was extremely anxious that the Government should have the greatest possible freedom to carry out their intentions. It was a great advantage that the President of the Board of Trade would have the management of it, and would be able to set in motion the machinery of which he was the author, for if it was possible for such a system to have a satisfactory result it would be under his management. He would watch with interest the result of these experiments, and if they did not succeed he thought this would be almost the last Bankruptcy Bill which the House of Commons would be called upon to consider. The Legislature would then, no doubt, leave debtors and creditors to settle their own affairs without State interference.

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN said, it was very gratifying to him, as the Minister in charge of the Bill, to find the success of the experiment of a Grand Committee so generally admitted by hon. Gentlemen on both sides of the House. He concurred in everything which had been said on that subject. He believed there was no doubt that Bills such as that now before the House, which raised

Mr. Ritchie

no Party feeling, had a better chance of full, careful, and complete consideration before a Grand Committee than they could possibly have in a Committee of the Whole House. He appreciated very highly the kind expressions to himself personally which had fallen from various Members of the House, and said it was with great pleasure that he had found himself working in co-operation with so many hon. Gentlemen well acquainted with the subject, who had brought their intelligence to bear upon the Bill with the object of making it the best possible measure in the interest of the mercantile classes. He was not going to be very sanguine as to the result of this or of any other experiment, when so many experiments, tried by greater men than himself, had undoubtedly failed; but he agreed with the hon. Member opposite (Mr. Ritchie) that if the Bill was to be a success, that result would be attained entirely in consequence of the choice which would be made, in the first instance especially, of the officials who were to carry it into effect, and he could not conceive any policy on his part more suicidal than to allow Party feeling to influence him to such an extent as to prevent the selection of the best possible men. Although, at present, he had hardly had time to consider the exact steps to be taken if the Bill should pass into law, he had already received an immense number of applications for appointments. The places which would be at his disposal would, as he had said on a former occasion, number 50 or 60, and in value they would vary from £200 to as much as £1,500 a-year; yet for these places there were almost innumerable applications, and he looked forward with some alarm to the prospect before him of spending the Recess in considering the several applications. He proposed, in the first place, to make a rough selection, and then to refer the matter to a Departmental Committee, and, to a large extent, found his action upon the recommendation of the Committee. Although he should reserve to himself some control, he hoped to avoid any suspicion of anything like improper Party consideration entering into the selection of the officials. He confessed he was a little disappointed that the hon. Member for Evesham (Mr. Dixon-Hartland) should take a somewhat gloomy view of a measure in which he

had taken so great an interest. The hon. Gentleman expressed some fear that the operation of the measure might be expensive. It was, of course, very difficult to know exactly at first what the cost of the working of a complicated scheme of this kind would be; but the further he (Mr. Chamberlain) had gone, and the more information he had been able to obtain, the more he was confirmed in the belief that the original estimate he laid before the House was a correct one, and that the extra charge imposed, although the total cost would be considerable, yet, when spread over the number of estates, it would be small indeed compared with the average charge of the existing system. He hoped to save in other directions a great deal more than the new charges would involve, otherwise the Bill would be a failure.

Mr. SLAGG said, he must join in the congratulations of hon. Members to the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Board of Trade, by whose tact and ability, to a great extent, the Bill had reached its present stage. Of course, he (Mr. Slagg) could not refrain from sharing the fears expressed by many hon. Members opposite that the Bill might, like its predecessors, not come up to expectations; but, on the other hand, they could take comfort from the assurance that they could not be in any worse position under this Bill than they were under the present law. There was no doubt that the methods provided in the Bill were such that they were surrounded by great officialism, and that much depended upon the appointments made in consequence, but, perhaps, not to an extent which would render the measure difficult to work. He looked forward with hope to the operation of the measure; and he trusted the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Board of Trade would reap the full fruit his labours had deserved.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

Bill, as amended, *considered*.

SIR JOHN LUBBOCK, in moving, as an Amendment, the insertion of the following clause, after Clause 78:—

"Every trustee shall, at least once in each year during his tenure of office, send to every creditor a statement of his accounts as such trustee,"

said, that one of the points on which the

present Bankruptcy Law failed was that creditors were not informed from time to time of what the position of affairs was; and it was with the object of removing that objection that he proposed the clause.

New Clause (Trustee's statement of account).—(*Sir John Lubbock*.)—*brought up*, and read the first time.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Clause be read a second time."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he hoped his hon. Friend, in the interests of economy, would not press the clause; and he did so with all the more confidence, because he agreed entirely with the object in view. If they had to deal only with the mercantile community, members of which signed the Petition presented on this subject, he should at once assent to the insertion of the clause; but the hon. Baronet hardly made sufficient allowance for the difficulties surrounding a Bill in which they had to deal, not only with very large transactions, but with an immense number of small affairs. In the case of small matters, the chief object of the Bill was to prevent large expense. He had offered to his hon. Friend, and was willing to renew his offer, that when the Bill became law he would undertake to make rules for the guidance of the Official Receivers and other officials of the Board of Trade, to insure, among other things, that in all cases of magnitude there should be such an annual report from the trustee to the creditors as his hon. Friend desired. What was done was to allow the Board of Trade a very considerable amount of discretion, in order that it might "temper the wind to the shorn lamb."

MR. WHITLEY said, he was quite satisfied with the promise of the right hon. Gentleman to introduce rules under the Act.

Question put, and *negatived*.

Clause 4 (Acts of bankruptcy).

MR. WARTON moved an Amendment to limit the sub-section, making it an act of bankruptcy if an execution issued against a person had been levied by seizure and sale of his goods, under process in an action, by inserting the words "for a sum not less than £20."

Sir John Lubbock

Amendment proposed, in page 2, line 6, after the word "him," to insert the words "for a sum not less than twenty pounds."—(*Mr. Warton*.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he could not accept the Amendment. The point was much discussed in the Grand Committee, on the point that a limit was formerly imposed which a Committee of the House recommended should be abrogated, and an Amendment on the subject was rejected by three to one.

MR. WHITLEY hoped his hon. and learned Friend the Member for Bridport (*Mr. Warton*) would withdraw his Amendment.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Amendment proposed, in page 2, line 7, to leave out the words "under process in an action."—(*Mr. Arthur O'Connor*.)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Bill."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

MR. DIXON-HARTLAND, in moving, as an Amendment, to insert after Sub-section (e) a further sub-section making it an act of bankruptcy if the petitioning creditor had served the debtor with a writ specially endorsed, and also a bankruptcy notice to pay the amount endorsed on the writ, and the debtor had failed to comply with the notice within 14 days, said, its object was to provide a summary process against fraudulent debtors, which did not at present exist. He hoped the right hon. Gentleman would assent to it, or something in the same direction, as the omission of some such clause would be a great blot on the Bill, seeing that it was necessary in order to prevent a debtor from making away with all his goods and collecting the money for them, and then getting off to Spain or elsewhere, and so be lost sight of.

Amendment proposed, in page 2, line 9, after the word "himself," to insert the words—

"(f.) If the petitioning creditor has served on the debtor a writ specially endorsed with the particulars of the demand sought to be recovered in an action in the High Court of Justice wherein the creditor claims payment of a sum amounting to not less than fifty pounds, and has also served on the debtor in England, in the

prescribed form at, or at any time after the date of the service of the writ, a bankruptcy notice in writing in the prescribed manner, requiring him to pay the amount endorsed upon such writ, or to secure or compound for it to the satisfaction of the creditor, and he does not within fourteen days after the service of such notice comply with the requirements thereof: Provided, That no bankruptcy petition shall be presented on the ground of this last mentioned act of bankruptcy unless the creditor shall have obtained final judgment in the action for a sum of not less than fifty pounds within three months from the service of the specially endorsed writ."

—(Mr. Dixon-Hartland.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN said, that the subject of the Amendment was fully discussed in the Grand Committee and negatived; and he, therefore, hoped the House would not feel themselves inclined to reverse their decision. The Amendment really proposed to restore, in some form or other, the old proceeding of trader-debtors' summons, which would be very objectionable. In 1879 a Committee of that House unanimously agreed that the trader-debtor summons had been so much abused that it ought to be abolished. Moreover, the procedure which the hon. Member opposite (Mr. Dixon-Hartland) suggested would not enable a creditor, who feared he might be defrauded, to arrest a debtor before he got away, because he proposed that the debtor should have 14 days to comply with the service. He must be a very poor debtor indeed if he could not get away to Spain, or elsewhere, within that time. But the debtor might be an honest man, and might be pursued by an extortionate creditor. In fact, that was what the Committee of 1879 found was the case. The hon. Gentleman had asked him whether he could not do something in the same direction. Well, he had considered the matter carefully, and he thought he might be able to accept a subsequent Amendment of the hon. Member on Clause 25, which dealt more particularly with the absconding debtor. When they came to that clause he would accept the Amendment, which would, at all events, quicken the process of the Courts. Further than that he could not go.

Mr. WARTON said, the fact that that subject was discussed in the Grand Committee was no reason why it should not be discussed here. The House itself was superior to any Grand Committee, even the grandest.

Mr. WHITLEY said, he quite agreed with the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Board of Trade that the old law was often made use of for purposes of extortion, and that the Amendment would not effect the object the hon. Member for Evesham (Mr. Dixon-Hartland) had in view.

Mr. GREGORY, with reference to the remarks of the right hon. Gentleman opposite (Mr. Chamberlain), said, that he (Mr. Gregory) was a Member of the Committee of 1879, as well as of the Grand Committee; and it was beyond doubt that the process of trader-debtors' summonses did give rise to great abuses, and was made a means of preference.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Amendments made.

Amendment proposed, in page 2, line 17, to leave out the word "seven," in order to insert the word "fourteen,"—(Mr. Warton.)—instead thereof.

Question, "That the word 'seven' stand part of Bill," put, and *agreed to*.

Mr. ARTHUR O'CONNOR, in moving, as an Amendment, to insert the words "reduces the judgment debt to an amount less than the sum necessary to support a petition," said, that, as the clause stood, if a creditor had obtained a final judgment, and the debtor failed to satisfy the Court that he had a counter-claim equal to or exceeding the sum of the judgment debt, he might be made a bankrupt. He thought that was going further than was necessary.

Amendment proposed,

In page 2, line 22, to leave out from the word "which," to the word "and," in line 23, in order to insert the words "reduces the judgment debt to amount less than the sum necessary to support a petition,"—(Mr. Arthur O'Connor.)—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Bill."

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN said, he thought the hon. Member opposite (Mr. Arthur O'Connor) had been confusing two things which were different. The amount of the judgment debt was one thing; the amount of the debt on which the creditor might found a petition was something quite different, and there was no relation between them. According to the Bill, a judgment debt of any

amount constituted an act of bankruptcy. A counter-claim of any less amount would leave the judgment debt unsatisfied.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR, in moving, as an Amendment, to insert words making it an act of bankruptcy to execute a bill of sale over stock in trade without having paid for the same, said, that, though he agreed with the principle of doing away with the distinction between traders and non-traders, he thought it ought to be maintained in this respect.

Amendment proposed,

In page 2, line 29, after the word "debts," to insert the words—" (h.) If he executes a bill of sale over any portion of his stock in trade without having paid for the same."—(*Mr. Arthur O'Connor*.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, this was also a matter in which he must again ask the House not to reverse the decision already arrived at. It had been discussed at great length in the Grand Committee, on the Motion of the hon. Member for Queen's County; and the Amendment had been negatived by 45 to 6. An Act had been passed which limited the possibility of such bills of sale as the hon. Member had in his mind, and he did not think it desirable to go further. But the term "bill of sale" included many other things than what was commonly understood by the term; and if the Amendment was accepted, it would lay down a hard-and-fast rule, which would cause an immensity of inconvenience. The term included hypothecations of cotton, and the Amendment would have the effect of making almost every merchant in Liverpool bankrupt the moment the Bill became law, as the mode of transacting business on 'Change at Liverpool was of such a character that it came under the Bills of Sale Act; and that, he thought, was a sufficient reason why the hon. Member should have been content with the decision the Grand Committee came to, without bringing the matter up again.

MR. BIGGAR said, that, though he did not altogether approve the Amendment, he thought that the facility for giving undue preference by bills of sale should be restricted. It was unfair that

Mr. Chamberlain

a man should be able to make one creditor right at the expense of another.

Question put, and *negatived*.

MR. WAUGH, in moving the insertion of words making the estate of the bankrupt vest in the Official Receiver on the making of the order of bankruptcy, pending the appointment of the trustee, said, the object of the Amendment was to put an end to the expense of restraining and other orders, which would probably add £50,000 a-year to the cost of the bankruptcy proceedings.

Amendment proposed,

In page 2, line 36, after the word "estate," to insert the words "and the estate of the debtor shall, on the making of such order, vest in the official receiver for the time being of the said court."—(*Mr. Waugh*.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (Sir FARRER HERSCHELL) said, the Government quite appreciated the object and advantages of the proposal, and would admit that it would save certain difficulties; but it should be borne in mind that, on the other hand, certain liabilities would be placed upon the Official Receiver which would be highly undesirable, for he was the mere interim protector of the estate until the trustee was appointed by the creditors. It would be impossible for the Government, consistently with the whole scope and framework of the Bill, to accept the Amendment.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 6 (Conditions on which creditor may petition).

MR. WAUGH, in moving, as an Amendment, to leave out from ("1") to paragraph ("b,") and to insert—

"Any two or more creditors, or any judgment creditor, who has complied with the provisions of the 4th section of this Act, shall be entitled to present a petition against a debtor, but no petition shall be presented unless,"

said, that he did not like the distinctions laid down in the clause. If a man could not pay small debts, he certainly could not pay large.

Amendment proposed,

In page 2, line 37, to leave out from the word "estate," to the word "and," in line 42, in order to insert the words "Any two or more creditors, or any judgment creditor, who has

complied with the provisions of the fourth section of this Act, shall be entitled to present a bankruptcy petition against a debtor, but no petition shall be presented unless,"—(Mr. Waughs.)

—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Bill."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, that this matter had been also discussed before. In the Grand Committee, the proposal was made to reduce the amount to £20; but objection was taken to it on the ground that it would lead to extortion. He did not think it would be desirable to make the proposed alteration. No serious objection had been taken to the working of the system, which was to be continued under this sub-section.

Question put, and agreed to.

MR. WARTON, in moving, as an Amendment, after "petition," to insert "set out the particulars of his security, and the true considerations therefor, and," said, it seemed to him that the petitioning creditor should state at once that he came forward as a secured creditor, and also state the considerations for the security.

Amendment proposed,

In page 3, line 10, after the word "petition," to insert the words "set out the particulars of the security and the true consideration therefor, and."—(Mr. Warton.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he would point out to the hon. and learned Member opposite (Mr. Warton) that this was too early a stage to ask those particulars from the petitioning creditor, though it might be desirable to do so afterwards.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR, in moving to amend the clause by the insertion of the words—

"But he shall, on an application being made by the trustee, within the prescribed time after the date of the adjudication, give up his security to such trustee for the benefit of the creditors upon payment of such estimated value,"

said, that the Amendment was also considered in the Grand Committee. It was withdrawn after a short discussion, but with the intention, on his part, of submitting it to the House as a Court of Appeal against the Grand Committee,

which consisted only of one-tenth of the House of Commons; and of which 20 formed a quorum. Sometimes the Committee stopped its proceedings because it had not a quorum; and certain hon. Gentlemen, during the discussion of the Amendment he had referred to, waited in order to obtain the opinion of the President of the Board of Trade upon it, and then voted the way they thought the right hon. Gentleman wished them to vote. ["No!"] He merely proposed to insert in the Bill certain words which were in the Act of 1869, but had been left out quite gratuitously, and without any explanation of the why or the wherefore, the Government simply declining to accept the proposal. The clause dealt with the presenting of a petition by a creditor; and it provided that, if he were a secured creditor, he should state whether he was willing to give up his security for the benefit of the estate generally, or give an estimate of the value of his security. The Schedule of the Bill also provided that, in the case of proof of debt, there should be a similar option, and a mistake as to the value rendered the creditor liable to penalty. He thought what was reasonable in the case of proof was reasonable also in the case of the presentation of a petition; and he would, therefore, move his Amendment.

Amendment proposed,

In page 3, line 16, after the word "creditor," to insert the words "but he shall, on an application being made by the trustee, within the prescribed time after the date of the adjudication, give up his security to such trustee for the benefit of the creditors upon payment of such estimated value."—(Mr. Arthur O'Connor.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, that the reason for the proposed change in the law was very fully explained in the Grand Committee. If the Amendment of the hon. Member opposite (Mr. Arthur O'Connor) were accepted, a creditor might be called upon to value his security at a very early stage of the bankruptcy proceedings. There were many kinds of security which, even to a banker, were very difficult to value, and a creditor might know that his security reached the limit of £50 required by the Bill to enable him to petition, without knowing what the exact

value was; and it would be unfair to call upon a creditor to estimate the value at this early stage, and bind him to give up his security at any time afterwards at that value, or to subject him to heavy penalties if his estimate was erroneous.

MR. GREGORY said, he wished to state that, in his opinion, this question had been very fairly and fully discussed in the Grand Committee; and he protested against the statement of the hon. Member (Mr. Arthur O'Connor) that Members of the Grand Committee voted in accordance with the wish of the President of the Board of Trade. He (Mr. Gregory) thought the Amendment was clearly open to the objection taken by the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. Chamberlain).

Question put, and *negatived*.

Clause *agreed to*.

Clause 12 (Power to appoint special manager).

MR. WAUGH moved to amend the clause, by taking from the Official Receiver, and conferring on the Court, the power of appointing a special manager to act until a trustee was appointed, in order to avoid making the Official Receiver a judicial officer and Judge, as it were, in his own cause.

Amendment proposed,

In page 5, line 1, to leave out the words "official receiver of a debtor's estate," in order to insert the word "Court,"—(Mr. Waugh,)

—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Bill."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, that the Amendment was totally opposed to the whole principle of the Bill; and he hoped the hon. Member for Cockermouth (Mr. Waugh) would not consider him wanting in respect, if he declined to argue again a matter which had been so fully discussed in the Grand Committee.

In reply to Mr. WHITLEY,

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (Sir FARRER HERSCHELL) said, that the appointment of special manager would have to be made without delay, and that time would be lost in going to the Court.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

Clause *agreed to*.

Mr. Chamberlain

Clause 16 (Debtor's statement of affairs).

Amendment proposed,

In page 6, line 12, to leave out the word "three" in order to insert the word "seven,"—(Mr. Dixon-Hartland,)

—instead thereof.

Question, "That the word 'three' stand part of the Bill," put, and *agreed to*.

Amendments made.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 28 (Discharge of bankrupt).

MR. DIXON-HARTLAND moved to insert as one of the conditions on which the order for discharge might be refused or suspended, the following:—

"That the bankrupt has drawn or accepted accommodation bills upon which the words 'for value received' are written, when no such value has passed."

Amendment proposed,

In page 16, line 6, after the word "it," to insert the words,—(d.) That the bankrupt has drawn or accepted accommodation bills upon which the words 'for value received' are written, when no such value has passed."—(Mr. Dixon-Hartland.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he could not accept the Amendment; first, because he did not think it would be operative; and, second, because he could not see why accommodation bills should be necessarily bad.

SIR JOHN LUBBOCK said, he sympathized to some extent with the Amendment; but he did not think they would be justified in making so important a change in the present condition of the House; and he, therefore, hoped the Amendment would not be pressed.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause *agreed to*.

Clause 30 (Effect of order of discharge).

Amendment proposed, in page 17, line 31, after the word "liability," to insert the words "which he has."—(Mr. Dixon-Hartland.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Amendments made.

MR. EDWARD CLARKE (for Mr. STUART-WORTLEY) moved to amend the

clause by providing that an order of discharge, printed before or after the passing of the Act, should be deemed to have released the bankrupt from all debts and liabilities, from which he would be released by an order of discharge under this Act.

Amendment proposed,

In page 17, line 36, after the word "bankruptcy," to insert the words "and an order of discharge granted before or after the passing of this Act shall be deemed to have released and shall release the bankrupt from all debts and liabilities from which he would be released by an order of discharge under this Act."—(*Mr. Edward Clarke.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he quite sympathized with the intention of the hon. and learned Member, which was to meet some very hard cases which had come under his notice. The effect, however, of the Amendment would be to render the Bill retrospective, and he could not accept it.

Question put, and negatived.

Amendment proposed,

In page 18, line 7, after the word "him," to insert the words "from any debt or liability other than debts or liabilities incurred only by personal fraud or fraudulent breach of trust on the part of the bankrupt, and not on the part of such partner, co-trustee, joint contractor, or surety, and debts or liabilities whereof the bankrupt has obtained forbearance by his own personal fraud, and not wholly or partly by the fraud of such partner, co-trustee, joint contractor, or surety."—(*Mr. Edward Clarke.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 40 (Priority of debts).

On the Motion of **MR. BROADHURST**, the following Amendments made:—In page 22, line 17, after "workman," insert "not exceeding fifty pounds;" and in line 19, leave out "two," and insert "four."

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 47 (Avoidance of voluntary settlements).

Amendment proposed.

In page 25, line 39, to leave out the words "if the settlor becomes bankrupt within two years after the date of the settlement be void against the trustee in bankruptcy, and shall."—(*Mr. Dixon-Hartland.*)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Bill."

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 55 (Disclaimer of onerous property).

Amendment proposed,

In page 31, line 6, to leave out the words "as to the court may seem equitable," in order to insert the words "the amount of such damages to be estimated by the difference between the contract price and the price at which a similar contract could be entered into at the date of the act of bankruptcy,"—(*Mr. Ritchie.*)
—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Bill."

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Amendment proposed,

In page 31, line 41, at end of Clause, to insert the words—"And provided further, That the court may, upon application made before the expiration of the periods hereinbefore allowed for disclaimer and, after hearing the persons interested in such property extend the said periods within which the trustee may disclaim property upon such terms and conditions, including the payment by the trustee of such costs and other sums as to the court may seem fit."—(*Mr. Dixon-Hartland.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (**SIR FARRER HERSCHELL**) said, the point contained in the Amendment was receiving the attention of the Government.

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

SIR JOHN LUBBOCK said, he wished to point out an objection which had been raised to the provisions in the Bill relating to the liability of trustees; and though he did not then press the objection, he hoped the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Board of Trade would see his way to take the matter into consideration.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he thought there was something in the objection of the hon. Baronet, and that it would, at all events, be desirable to limit the personal liability of trustees in the matter. The Government had had it in contemplation to insert words to provide for that, but had not at present come to any decision. All he could say at present was, that they were entirely at one

with his hon. Friend with regard to the objection; and probably in "another place" words would be inserted.

Clause *agreed to*.

Clause 66 (Appointment by Board of Trade of official receiver of debtors' estates).

MR. R. N. FOWLER (for Mr. RAIKES) moved an Amendment with the object of placing a large portion of the patronage which would arise under the Bill in the hands of the Court of Bankruptcy and the County Court Judges, by giving them the appointment of Official Receivers.

Amendment proposed,

In page 36, line 3, to leave out sub-section (1), and insert the words—"A proper person or persons shall be appointed for each district to act as official receiver or receivers of debtors' estates. Such persons shall be appointed, as regards the London Bankruptcy Court, by the judge of that court, and, as regards other districts, by the judge of the County Court having Bankruptcy jurisdiction within that district. One person only shall be appointed for each such district, unless the Board of Trade shall otherwise direct, and the same person shall not be appointed for more than two districts. The official receivers shall act under the directions of, and may be removed by, the Board of Trade, but shall also be officers of the courts to which they are respectively attached,"—(Mr. R. N. Fowler,)

—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Bill."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he could not accept the Amendment, which would create much confusion. The appointment would rest with one tribunal, and their dismissal with another—namely, the Board of Trade. The whole success of the Bill would depend on the control which Parliament and the country would have over the Board of Trade.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

Clause *agreed to*.

Clause 70 (Duties of official receiver as to debtors' estate).

On the Motion of Sir JOHN LUBBOCK, the following Amendment made:—In page 37, after line 42, insert—

"That when the debtor cannot himself prepare a proper statement of affairs, the official receiver may, subject to any prescribed conditions, and at the expense of the estate, employ some person or persons to assist in the preparation of the statement of affairs."

Mr. Chamberlain

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 74 (Payment of money into the Bank of England).

On the Motion of Sir JOHN LUBBOCK, the following Amendment made:—In page 40, after Sub-section (4), insert—

"(5) Subject to any general rules relating to small bankruptcies under Part VII. of this Act, where the debtor at the date of the receiving order has an account at a bank, such account shall not be withdrawn until the expiration of seven days from the day appointed for the first meeting of creditors, unless the Board of Trade, for the safety of the account, or other sufficient cause, order the withdrawal of the account."

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 82 (Release of trustee).

Amendment proposed,

In page 42, line 15, to leave out the words "in his opinion," in order to insert the words "in the joint opinion of himself and of the committee of inspection,"—(Mr. Dixon-Hartland,)

—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Bill."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause *agreed to*.

Clause 89 (Discretionary powers of trustee and control thereof).

Amendment proposed,

In page 44, line 26, after the word "creditors," to insert the words "who have proved their debts."—(Mr. Dixon-Hartland.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause *agreed to*.

Clause 102 (General power of bankruptcy courts).

Amendment proposed,

In page 48, line 41, after the word "fact," to insert the words "and whether involving or not involving issues of fraud or amounts exceeding fifty pounds."—(Mr. Stuart-Wortley.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause *agreed to*.

Clause 116 (Disabilities of officers).

Amendment proposed,

In page 52, line 38, after the word "solicitor," to insert the words "in the court of which he is an officer."—(Mr. Waugh.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 122 (Power for county court to make administration order instead of order for payment by instalments).

MR. WHITLEY (for Mr. BOURNE) moved an Amendment to omit the words "household goods" from the provision in the clause enacting that the household goods, wearing apparel, and bedding of the debtor or his family, and the tools and implements of his trade, to the value of £20, should to that extent be protected from seizure.

Amendment proposed, in page 55, line 19, to leave out the words "household goods."—(Mr. Whitley.)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Bill."

MR. BROADHURST hoped the Government would adhere firmly to the Bill as it stood. The subject had been thoroughly thrashed out in Committee, and no Division had been taken upon it.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he certainly thought it would be undesirable to alter the clause.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 127 (Power to make general rules).

MR. LEWIS FRY, in moving, as an Amendment, to add to the clause the following sub-section:—

"No general rule under the provisions of this section shall come into operation until the expiration of one calendar month after the same has been made and issued,"

said, the clause provided for the making of general rules for carrying into effect the objects of the Act; and the aim of his Amendment was to secure that the rules should be in the hands of the public a reasonable time before they came into operation, in order that legal practitioners and the public might become acquainted with them before they had to act upon them.

Amendment proposed,

In page 59, line 14, after the word "proceedings," to insert the words—" (5.) No general rule under the provisions of this section shall come into operation until the expiration of one

calendar month after the same has been made and issued."—(Mr. Lewis Fry.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, it would be the object of the Board of Trade to give as long a notice as it could of the general rules which, with the concurrence of the Lord Chancellor, it was authorized to make; but the Act was to come into operation on the 1st of January next, and it would be very difficult, if not impossible, to prepare a great body of rules before the end of November, as would have to be done if the proposed Amendment were accepted. He would, however, endeavour to take care that the first set of rules should be in the hands of all concerned a reasonable time before the Act came into force. Then, as regarded all future rules, he would not object to come under a statutory obligation to give a certain notice. He would, therefore, suggest to his hon. Friend the Member for Bristol (Mr. Lewis Fry) that he should accept an amended form of his Amendment in these terms:—

"After the commencement of this Act no general rule under the provisions of this section shall come into operation until the expiration of 14 days."

MR. LEWIS FRY said, after the assurance given by the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Board of Trade, he was willing to accept his suggestion.

MR. EDWARD CLARKE said, he thought it was rather a serious outlook if the first set of rules were to come into operation on the 1st of January, and if the right hon. Gentleman could not have them ready by the end of November. Either the commencement of the Act ought to be postponed, or pressure ought to be put on the Government Department to get the rules ready earlier. Besides, 14 days was too short a period for people to become acquainted with the provisions of the Act; and he saw no reason why a month's notice should not be given; and he, therefore, hoped that the Amendment would not be withdrawn.

MR. STUART-WORTLEY said, he also thought 14 days too short.

MR. GREGORY said, he would suggest that the operation of the Act might be postponed by means of the rules.

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (Sir FARRER HERSCHELL) said, he thought it

desirable the Act should commence on the 1st of January. He would promise, on behalf of his right hon. Friend, that the bulk of the rules should be ready by the end of November; but they would require to be supplemented by others.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Amendment proposed,

In page 59, line 14, after the word "proceedings," to insert the words—"After the commencement of this Act no general rule under the provisions of this section shall come into operation until the expiration of fourteen days after the same has been made and issued."—(*Mr. Chamberlain*.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Amendment proposed to the proposed Amendment, to leave out the words "fourteen days," and insert the words "one month,"—(*Mr. Edward Clarke*),—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the words 'fourteen days' stand part of the said proposed Amendment."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, the matter was not worth arguing about; but if the hon. and learned Member insisted on it, he would accept the Amendment as amended.

MR. H. H. FOWLER hoped the President of the Board of Trade would not accept it.

Question, "That the words 'one month' be there inserted," put, and *agreed to*.

Question,

"That the words 'after the commencement of this Act no general Rule under the provisions of this section shall come into operation until the expiration of one month after the same has been made and issued,' be inserted after the word 'proceedings,' in page 59, line 14," put, and *agreed to*.

Clause 154 (Power to abolish existing offices).

MR. GREGORY, in moving to add after Sub-section 2 a Proviso that any person who, at the passing of the Bankruptcy Act, 1869, held his office during good behaviour, should, in the event of the office being abolished, be awarded the same compensation as if his office had been abolished under the said Act, said, that, in his opinion, it was hard that persons holding office under the former

Act should now lose their right to compensation.

Amendment proposed,

In page 65, line 24, after the word "reasonable," to insert the words—"Provided, That any such person who, at the passing of 'The Bankruptcy Act, 1869,' held his office during good behaviour, or during good behaviour subject only to removal by the Lord Chancellor by order, for some sufficient reason to be stated in such order, shall, in the event of the office being abolished, be awarded the same compensation as if his office had been abolished under the said Act."—(*Mr. Gregory*.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he did not see any great hardship in the matter. By the Act of 1869 lavish compensation was provided. The officers under that Act did not choose to take advantage of it then, and now they asked for the same lavish compensation in 1893. The principle of the Act of 1869 was one the Government did not desire to follow.

MR. STUART-WORTLEY asked the right hon. Gentleman if he could give an estimate of the salaries of the offices abolished, and of those created by this Bill?

MR. CHAMBERLAIN, in reply, said, the matter was discussed on the Motion for the Consideration of the Bill, when the hon. Member was not in his place. He (*Mr. Chamberlain*) had estimated that the total salaries of the Official Receivers and the staff of the Board of Trade would be between £50,000 and £60,000 a-year, and new credits would have to be taken in the Audit and Control Departments. As to the salaries of the offices abolished, he could give no information; but the abolition would be trifling, as most of the persons holding those offices would perform the same or analogous duties.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause *agreed to*.

Clause 155 (Performance of new duties by persons whose offices are abolished).

SIR JOHN LUBBOCK said, it was provided by the clause that it should be obligatory on the Lord Chancellor to appoint any person whose office was abolished to some other office under the Act for which he was competent. He would propose, as more desirable, an

Amendment that the Lord Chancellor "may" do that.

Amendment proposed, in page 65, line 28, to leave out "shall," and insert "may."—(*Sir John Lubbock.*)

Question proposed, "That the word 'shall' stand part of the Clause."

MR. H. H. FOWLER, in opposing the Amendment, said, the intention of the clause was, that there should be no option to the Lord Chancellor in the matter.

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (*Sir FARRER HERSCHELL*) said, he fully concurred with the hon. Baronet (*Sir John Lubbock*) in the desirability of inserting the Amendment.

Question put, and *negatived*.

Word *substituted*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 168 (Interpretation of terms).

Amendment proposed,

In page 70, line 11, after the word "taken," to insert the words "or where the trustee resides or carries on business."—(*Mr. Dixon-Hartland.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause *agreed to*.

Clause 169 (Repeal of enactments).

Amendment proposed,

In page 71, line 6, to leave out the words "passing of this Act," in order to insert the words "thirty-first day of December one thousand eight hundred and eighty-three,"—(*Mr. Dixon-Hartland.*)

—instead thereof.

Question, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Bill," put, and *agreed to*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

THE FIRST SCHEDULE.

Amendment proposed, in page 73, line 41, after the word "thereof," to leave out the word "or."—(*Mr. Dixon-Hartland.*)

Question proposed, "That the word 'or' stand part of the Bill."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Amendment proposed, in page 74, line 1, after the word "any," to insert the word "improper."—(*Sir John Lubbock.*)

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Question proposed, "That the word 'improper' be there inserted."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

MR. SLAGG, in moving, as an Amendment, to leave out the 26th section, which, as it stood, provided that no person acting under a general or special proxy should vote in favour of any resolution which would directly or indirectly place himself, his partner, or employer in a position to receive any remuneration out of the estate of the debtor, otherwise than as a creditor rateably with the other creditors, said, that the reason why he did so was that, in his opinion, it would operate prejudicially on societies existing for the protection of trade. If it were intended to guard against improper voting by individuals, the object was already secured by Section 20 of the Schedule.

Amendment proposed, in page 74, line 25, to leave out Section 26.—(*Mr. Slagg.*)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Bill."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, it had been represented to him—and the justice of the representation he quite admitted—that the section, as it stood, would press hardly on the associations referred to, the custom with such bodies being to appoint agents, who attended and voted on their behalf. He was unwilling to see the section entirely struck out; and he would, therefore, point out that it might be met by the insertion of a proviso to the effect that no person should vote for himself as trustee under a special proxy to that effect.

MR. SLAGG said, in that case, he would withdraw his Amendment.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, that he would take care and see that those words were inserted "elsewhere."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Schedule *agreed to*.

MR. SPEAKER asked when the right hon. Gentleman proposed to take the third reading?

MR. CHAMBERLAIN: Now, Sir.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Bill be now read the third time."—(*Mr. Chamberlain.*)

MR. DILLWYN said, he felt bound to congratulate the right hon. Gentleman on the way in which the Grand Committee, whose discussions he had conducted, had worked. At first, he (Mr. Dillwyn) was not sanguine with respect to the system of Grand Committees; but as regarded the Bill under notice he would now admit his error. It had been a great success, and might be the precursor of a system of legislation which would be of much public service in the future.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

Bill read the third time, and *passed*.

TRAMWAYS AND PUBLIC COMPANIES (IRELAND) BILL.—[BILL 286.]

(*Mr. Trevelyan, Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Attorney General for Ireland, Mr. Courtney.*)

SECOND READING.

Order for Second Reading read.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a second time."—(*Mr. Trevelyan.*)

MR. MAYNE said, that, in his opinion, the Tramway Clauses of the Bill would not be workable—the Grand Juries, on whom the responsibility of bringing them into operation would rest, not being the bodies to be entrusted with the working of such a measure. They did not enjoy the confidence of the public in Ireland, as was very well known; and although the construction of tramways, as provided by the Bill, might be all very well, and might be an essentially popular proceeding, the Grand Juries were certainly not the bodies to expect to carry out the work satisfactorily. The powers under the Bill were very extraordinary. The Grand Juries were to be entrusted with the appointment of certain persons on the Boards of Directors, whose power was apparently not to be limited in any way. They were to appoint as many Directors on the Boards of these Tramway Companies as appeared to them to be necessary; and he should like to know how many Companies would be likely to submit to an arrangement of that kind? In addition to having this extraordinary power of appointing as many Directors on the Boards as they chose, they were to have a still more extraordinary power—namely, the power of declaring what the salaries of the Directors

should be, and of fixing the salaries of all the officials of the Companies. It could not be seriously expected that these things would be bearable in the working of what, after all, must be commercial undertakings. In inviting Companies to undertake the construction of these tramways in Ireland, to hamper them with arrangements of this kind was surely not the way to bring about the construction of these works, notwithstanding the employment which such construction would give to the people. There was another portion of the Bill which fell very far short of what the necessities of the situation required. How was it proposed to deal with small towns? There were at present many small towns, from seven to 20 miles from a railway station, to which it did not pay to construct branch lines, and to which, probably, it would never pay to construct them; but yet to which, whether they were likely to pay or not, it would be an immense benefit to the people of the district to have communication with the nearest railway station. The inhabitants of these small towns, although their interests were so directly concerned, were to have no voice whatever in the promotion of these undertakings. He need only mention one of these places, one within his own constituency—namely, the town of Cashel, in Tipperary, which happened to be about seven miles from the nearest railway station. The town, at the present time, suffered immensely from the distance that intervened between it and the railway station. Well, if a Bill of this kind were to become the law of the land, so far as the inhabitants of Cashel were concerned, probably they would not allow a week to elapse before they made some stir to enable the town to avail itself of the provisions of the Act; but they would have no jurisdiction over the roads along which the tramways would run. That jurisdiction would rest with the Grand Jury, and the Grand Jury would certainly not second the efforts of the town of Cashel to make this very important communication. What position would these Grand Juries be in? Why, the provisions of the Bill would put them in a most advantageous position, and would also enable them to do the dog in the manger. If they did not choose to make these lines there was no arrangement by which the provisions of the Act could be availed of

in any other way. For those reasons, he certainly should be strongly inclined to oppose the second reading, unless the right hon. Gentlemen who were responsible for the measure gave the House some idea as to how they would meet the difficulties which certainly existed in the Bill as it stood at present.

COLONEL NOLAN said, that, of course, this Tramway Bill could be met by several criticisms by those who objected to the present system of local government in Ireland. At present, the only constitution in Ireland was the Grand Juries; and if they were to have working bodies under the Bill they must look to these Grand Juries for them. He agreed with the criticism of the hon. Member for Tipperary as to the absence of any provision to enable the Bill to be put in motion in the event of the Grand Juries neglecting to do anything. There ought to be some provision of that kind. He must say that in the county he represented—Galway—they very much required something of the kind contemplated by the Bill. A Memorial had been lately sent up from there praying for light railways instead of tramways; but he would point out that the Government were offering tramways, and it would be a great mistake to throw obstacles in the way of the passing of the measure. Tramways were supposed to be constructed chiefly along the roads, and the general idea of them was gathered from what was seen in large towns and cities. Tramways with their rails raised, such as were largely used in Italy, rougher ways requiring no pavement, and the construction of which was much cheaper than the ordinary tramway, were scarcely ever contemplated. Such tramways as these, which approached very closely to light railways, were what were required in the West of Ireland. If they introduced into the Bill provisions for increased speed on the road—to enable the Board of Trade to allow any rate of speed where the tramways did not run along the roads—they would be practically converting these steam tramways into light railways. In the neighbourhood of Oughterard, for instance, where the land alongside the road was practically valueless, there was no reason why the tramways should not run off the road, and in that way become practically light railways. He had once moved for a

Committee to inquire into the subject, and had brought in a Bill on the subject of tramways, his attention having been directed towards it by having served on a Tramway Committee, and by the fact that an improved means of communication was very much required in the county he represented. There was some doubt as to a broad gauge railway paying; and yet it was a great pity to see a whole district with no means of communication whatever, save the lung cars which ran through it several times a day. He did not know whether the Government could not be persuaded to include in the Bill powers to enable the existing railway system to be supplemented wherever there was a gap—as between Mayo and Tuam, for instance—by a small connecting line. There was a large district in Loughrea left out of communication for want of a small line of this kind; and, no doubt, there were many districts of Ireland suffering similar inconvenience. He believed the Government could do what was required. They were prepared to guarantee a sum of money for tramways; and probably they thought that if they had included in the Bill powers for the construction of railways extensive lines would be made which would never pay. Surely, a danger of that kind could be avoided whilst they allowed these gaps to be filled up. He believed the Bill would be a great advantage to the West of Ireland. He had received several communications and Petitions from the districts he had mentioned; and, so far as he was concerned, he sincerely hoped that if any hon. Members objected to any parts of the Bill, they would not, in the interests of the county of Galway, attempt to unduly delay its progress. He saw an hon. Friend opposite smiling at this. He had often come into conflict with the hon. Gentleman; but that, he hoped, would be allowed to pass.

MR. FARNELL said, he quite agreed with his hon. and gallant Friend that unless all sections of the House agreed to make this Bill a non-contentious measure there was very little chance of its passing into law, this Session, at all events. But, at the same time, there were certain provisions at present in the Bill which rendered it very difficult for some of them to square their ideas with those of the Government in every particular. The matters of detail which his

hon. Friend (Mr. Mayne) brought before the House, he thought, were matters which were very well worthy of attention, and, conjoined with other points, might make the Bill of a more workable character. He had no doubt some arrangement might be come to in the discussion in Committee with regard to them. But the more important questions to which he wished more particularly to direct the attention of the House were of such a ragged character that it was difficult for them, off-hand, to see their way fairly to help the Government in the way or course in which it would be necessary for all sides of the House to approach the question, so as to insure that the Bill should pass into law this Session. Take up the first part of the Bill—the part dealing with tramways. The right hon. Gentleman the Member for Bradford (Mr. Forster), in 1880, introduced certain clauses into the Relief of Distress Act for the purpose of enabling baronial authorities to give grants of money for the construction of tramways in certain scheduled districts of Ireland; and the right hon. Gentleman proposed in the measure that the rates in aid should be shared or divided between the owner and the occupier of the land. And yet, notwithstanding that provision, many of them had sometimes felt, in the absence of any Government assistance, that the clauses were extremely objectionable in the principle of giving to non-elective bodies, like the Grand Juries, the power of levying rates, and the right to say where tramways should or should not be constructed, that they offered a strenuous opposition to the passing of those clauses, although, as he had said on the Motion for leave to bring in the Bill, his objections to the powers which it was proposed by the Bill to give to Grand Juries were considerably removed by the offer of the Government to share one-half of the expenses. But he was not at that time aware that the right hon. Gentleman proposed to pass from the precedent which was set by his Predecessor in Office, and that he intended to impose the whole onus of paying the rates on the occupiers of the land. In other words, the proposal of the right hon. Gentleman was this—he intended to give the Grand Juries, which were composed, as everybody knew, in Ireland of the owners of the land, power to levy

rates at their discretion, to be paid by the occupier; and, practically, the persons who had to pay the taxation would not have the slightest control over the expenditure of their money, or over the property, after it had been expended. In this respect the proposal with regard to tramways contained in the Bill appeared to him to be utterly illusory. They included, it was true, some ostensible control by the cesspayer; but, in reality, it simply amounted to this—that the Grand Jury nominated certain persons who were called “associated cess-payers.” These persons were simply nominees of the Grand Jury, and in no sense could they be considered to represent the people who paid the rates. They could not, in fact, be said to represent anybody but themselves. He admitted there were difficulties in connection with this matter; and he thought the Irish Members showed a very great desire to meet the Government, in urging them to go back to the provisions of the Relief of Distress Act adopted by the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Bradford, and to share the rates between the owner and the occupier. In consideration of the partial guarantee by the Government, and of the great difficulties in the absence of any representative system of local self-government in Ireland, he thought that would be a fair compromise to adopt with reference to this very much discussed question. Of course, if they had County Boards in Ireland, this matter would be quite easy, for the ratepayers would be able to elect their representatives, and they would have none but themselves to blame if those representatives put charges upon them of which they disapproved. But, as matters stood, it was exceedingly hard of the Government to ask them to throw the whole of this annual burden of £40,000 entirely upon the occupiers of the land, leaving, as they did, the direction of the expenditure of the money, the appointment of the officials, and, in some cases, the management of the works themselves, to the bodies which at present undertook the duties of local authorities in Ireland. He had no doubt many valuable suggestions would be made from different quarters, and that there would be co-operation and goodwill on the part of all sections of both English and Irish Members in making this scheme a practicable and work-

able scheme, and in insuring that it should be carried on with as little jobbery as possible, and that the money would be used in such a way as to make those lines which were most to the advantage of the country, and most likely to be remunerative. It was not to the advantage of Ireland that this Bill should prove a dead letter, or be used for the purpose of private jobbery; and he was sure that everybody in the House, and all the Irishmen of every section, would approach the subject with a desire to do that which was just and right, and to secure that the intentions of the Government might have such a shape given to them as would lead to lasting benefit, or to the interest of those communities where it was proposed to make these tramways. He now came to another portion of the Bill, on which he desired to offer a very few brief remarks—he meant the portion in which it was proposed to make a grant of £100,000 for the purpose of emigration. He had promised, on the introduction of the measure, to prove certain statements which he then took the liberty of making with reference to the results of the emigration attempts which had been made in Ireland during the last 12 months; and if he did not go too minutely into details—in fact, if he rather glided over this *causus belli* at present—he must not be understood as departing in any sense from the attitude he then took up, nor as departing from the statements he then made. But it was obvious that at that time of the Session, and at that hour of the night, it was not possible to go into lengthy remarks on these matters. He believed, however, and he felt convinced, that if permitted on the present occasion, it would be possible for him to show to hon. Gentlemen opposite, who had taken such a great interest in, and who had devoted such true energy, ability, and patience to this question of emigration, that in many respects their attempts, although they had been attended with as beneficial and as remarkable results as would have been expected under the circumstances, yet had not been attended with such results as would justify them in persevering in a course of what they considered to be the forcible emigration of the Irish people. He had said he would be able to show that in many parts of the country the farmers, as a

rule, were not taking advantage of the emigration facilities conferred by the Arrears Act; and since then he had, in reply to a request he had made, received a letter from the Most Rev. Dr. M'Cormack, Bishop of Achonry, whose diocese embraced one of the most congested districts of Ireland, containing a population of nearly 120,000 people in places such as Swineford and Ballaghaderreen, including, amongst other estates, that of Lord Dillon—which probably presented the best example of a congested estate in the whole of the West of Ireland. The Bishop, in his letter, referring to a belief entertained by some of the members of Mr. Tuke's Committee that the effect of their scheme was the consolidation of holdings and the removal of congestion in the districts, said that after having communicated with all the priests in his diocese, and obtained detailed information from them, he found that out of the 120,000 population, only 40 occupiers of land—of any kind whatever, small or great—were emigrated; and that, so far from being consolidated, their holdings were mostly in the hands of friends. Some of the people, indeed, had gone away, locking the doors of their houses, and retaining the keys, evidently intending to come back again. The hope, therefore, of Mr. Tuke's Committee, so far as consolidation was concerned, had not been realized. He did not mean to say that this had been the case in every instance; for he found, on referring to a pamphlet which had been issued by Mr. Tuke's Committee, that in some districts, for instance, on the sea coast, a considerable number of occupiers of land had been emigrated. But he noticed that fully a third of the occupiers of land who were pointed to as favourable examples of the successful effect of voluntary emigration were, in reality, forced emigrants, since they were evicted tenants, and had no other resources before them but emigration. However, be that as it might, the Irish Members were willing to put this matter to the test of practical experiment; and they said that since the Government insisted upon devoting a sum of money to purposes of emigration, would they not give them the opportunity of proving what he believed they would have no difficulty in proving, even during the next few months, that it was possible to emigrate and re-settle families for the

congested districts in such a way as to enable them to live and thrive at home at least equally as well as they were likely to do in America under the Emigration Clauses? The sum of about £100,000 was proposed to be allocated to the purpose of emigration. He did not know anything which had excited so much feeling against the Government as this question of emigration in Ireland. It was believed by many people that the Government either did not wish or did not intend to give a fair trial to the people at home—that their policy was a policy of emigration, at all events at present, and little or nothing besides; and that they would not adopt the reasonable propositions or suggestions which had been made with a view of practically proving that it was possible for these people to live and to get on well, and become prosperous subjects of the Queen in their own country. After fully considering the Bill, and more particularly the Purchase Clauses, he was inclined to agree to a considerable extent with the remarks which were made on the evening of the introduction of the Bill by the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for the University of Dublin (Mr. Gibson). The right hon. and learned Gentleman, with that extraordinary acuteness and ability which had so distinguished him in that House—with almost preternatural acuteness—at once saw that the Purchase Clauses contained in Part II. of the measure might be made use of for the purpose of testing the proposal to re-settle the tenants for the congested districts at home. He (Mr. Parnell) certainly agreed with the right hon. and learned Gentleman to a considerable extent, inasmuch as he thought the Purchase Clauses, with some Amendments, might be made the basis of a proposal for the re-settlement of some of these families in question. The clauses provided that Companies might be formed, and that the Land Commission might advance to them the purchase money of estates—subject, of course, to the consent and the supervision of that Commission, and subject, also, to the further provision that the holdings of occupying tenants should be re-sold to those tenants, where they were willing to buy, under such conditions as the Land Commission might approve. It so happened that on almost every estate in the West of Ire-

Mr. Parnell

land now in the market, there was a quantity of light land which was not adapted for grazing purposes, and which was not in the occupation of tenants. This land, as a rule, was let to grazing tenants in six monthly periods or 12 monthly periods, the tenants changing almost every year. The tenures were not such as came within the provisions of the Land Act in any way. As to this land in the county of Mayo, speaking from an agricultural point of view, it was undoubtedly ill-suited to grazing purposes. It was not of that rich and fattening description that one found in Roscommon, Meath, Louth, and County Dublin. It was of a light, warm character, admirably suited for tillage purposes, and to be left in grass for a short time. Having been laid down for the 30 years which had elapsed since the Famine, it was rapidly running back into a state of waste and wilderness. He did not wish to enlarge upon this matter, which was one closely connected with practical agriculture; but he was informed, by those well acquainted with these matters, that what he had stated was the fact—that there were estates in Mayo to be purchased in the open market at present on which small tenants were living with holdings which were too small, estates on which there was plenty of land for the re-settlement of those tenants living on congested portions of the same estates. What he would suggest was that the Government should see their way to devoting a portion of the emigration money to grants in aid of emigration, for instance to the Company or Companies that might be formed under Part II. of the Bill for the purchase of estates. The Government should consider the desirability of inserting clauses in the Bill to enable the Land Commissioners to grant to any such Company so much per family, just in the same way as money was granted for emigration purposes, in order that each family might be suitably re-settled on a holding of sufficient size, and to the satisfaction of the Commissioners. This would enable them to carry to a practical test this much-vexed question of migration *versus* emigration, and would enable them to decide, to the satisfaction of the Irish and English public, whether a scheme of re-settlement or migration was possible, and would remove much—very much—of the feeling which now

existed, that the Government did not wish to give a fair chance to the people at home. He did not know whether he had made his points sufficiently clear; but what he would propose to do when the Bill reached the Committee stage would be to place certain Amendments on the Paper having regard to the provisions of Part II., which could be worked in connection with those provisions, so as to provide a plan for re-settlement of tenants from congested districts, such as would serve as a conclusive test of the practicability of the system. He did not think they made in this any very unreasonable request. The money, after all, was Irish money. It might be argued that the sum to be devoted to the purposes of emigration was not a very large one, and would scarcely bear division; but, after all, whether £100,000 or £50,000 were devoted to emigration could not make very much practical difference. He believed the gentlemen on Mr. Tuke's Committee had devoted very great pains and time and trouble to their scheme of emigration, and also believed that so far as it was possible out of the materials at their disposal for them to satisfactorily settle the emigrants in America they had done so; but, after all that had been said and done, emigration had not been attended with results such as to entitle them to support any proposal for emigration in Ireland. However, as the Session was late, and as the Irish Members did not desire to offer any factious opposition to the emigration proposal of the Government, he would only ask that the money should be shared between the two ideas. Some part of it for the purposes of migration ought to be given to a Company, the directorate of which would be composed of men of all sections of politics, and other parties in England and Ireland, and the Government ought to carry out these views to the limited extent he had suggested.

MR. GIBSON said, that, in his opinion, it was impossible for any Irishman, possessing the ordinary views which every man might be supposed to possess in regard to his own country, to approach this subject without the intention, in some part or other of his mind, of supporting the Bill. It was next to impossible for a man not to see that when he was offered, in substance, £2,000,000 from the Imperial funds it

required an effort of terrific virtue not to receive the proposal in a spirit of modified resignation. He (Mr. Gibson) felt like an Irishman on this point, and should find tremendous difficulty, even if the Government proposed to double the operation, in summoning up even a spark of that virtue necessary to resist it. It might therefore, he thought, be expected that, in the present and future stages of the Bill, whatever form the protest might take, and whatever suggestion might be made as to the modification of the clauses, the main and essential proposals of the Bill would be accepted with substantial unanimity by the Irish Members. He did not himself at all understand the time and circumstances under which these proposals were made. There was no suggestion of urgency on the subject; and why the Bill was not brought in months ago, even if it was not proceeded with, he could not understand. It was not a Distress Bill, or an Emergency Bill, to meet a position of a pressing character that the experience of the last couple of months had developed; but it was a considered effort of statesmanship on the part of the Executive charged with the administration of the country without the slightest thing to indicate that this was the special time at which it was desirable to bring it in, so that he was at a loss to understand why in this month of August they were, for the first time, asked to consider the very remarkable proposals connected with this measure—for they were remarkable proposals. Irish Members, as he had already pointed out, would readily—though with, of course, the usual protests—accept the great offers which were made to them; but from the point of view of English and Scotch Members it must challenge a certain amount of observation to find that proposals which had never yet been made to England or Scotland—namely, to assist them with a guarantee of this kind, were made to Ireland, and that without the suggestion of the excuse of the relief of distress. The proposals were without any geographical limitation whatever within the limits of Ireland; and it might very well be that the richest counties, and those with exceptional advantages, owing to population, and labour, and capital, would be those which would get the lion's share of this money. Of course,

that was a matter which it was not for him to object to. He would, however, make one objection in passing, or allude to one objection, without discussing it, for he was positive it might, if not looked to, lead to a great deal of discussion hereafter, and would modify, if not shipwreck, the Bill. In the observations he had made at half-past 3 o'clock on the morning the Bill was introduced he had expressed a hope that it would be found that no clause in the Bill would run counter to the settled and vested interests of Railway and other Companies, which had already spent large sums of money on the faith of Parliamentary powers. He did not belong to what was called the Railway interest of the country. He had some Railway shares, but was not a Railway Director, or anything of that kind, and, therefore, took an independent view of the matter. He was confident, from communications he had received from persons of high authority on the matter, that if Sub-section 1 of the clause dealing with this matter were retained, all sections of the House would not be prepared to do that which the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) said was necessary to the passing of the Bill—namely, agree not to make it contentious. If this sub-section, which was dangerous to the existence of the Railway interest, was retained in its present shape, it was plain that either the clause was introduced for committing the suicide of the Bill, or else it would have to be abandoned or modified. He would not do more than point out one matter. The hon. Member for the City of Cork, in the course of his very short speech, had pointed out the circumstances under which the rate would have to be raised. Of course, everything connected with rating and with a rate which was to carry out a particular object was always of importance, and in no place more than in Ireland. It was worthy of note that the hon. Member had pointed out—he was not very dogmatic on the subject, but he had pointed out—a precedent which the Government might follow in providing for the relief of distress. The rate was to be levied rather as a poor rate than as a county cess. He strongly suspected that the Government had adopted, on the whole, a wise view in reference to this measure. The hon. Member for the City of Cork knew

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what the incidence of this county cess was in Ireland. In holdings held up to 1870 the rates were paid by the occupier, and after 1870 they were paid, he believed, as a poor rate.

COLONEL NOLAN interrupted the right hon. and learned Gentleman with an observation which was imperfectly heard.

MR. GIBSON said, that if he were wrong he should look into the matter. The point was one which had been considered by the Government with care; and he was disposed to think, from conversations he had had upon it with persons well acquainted with the subject, that the Government would again very carefully consider it before they made any change which was calculated to excite considerable criticism. Having regard to the fact that the Government had proposed to give £2,000,000 for emigration, this £100,000 was paltry. Bearing in mind the way in which the question was regarded by many people who had an anxious desire to do what was best, and to consider how they best could give the poorer people a chance of starting in the New World, surrounded by their families and sometimes attended by their priests on the journey, he thought the House must look on the emigration proposals without any hostility and without any prejudice. He would take the case of the Tuke Fund. He had never seen, and had no acquaintance with, Mr. Tuke. He was only dealing with him as a public man, and he had perfect confidence in him. However Irish Members might differ from him, he was prepared to believe that Mr. Tuke was as high-minded and honourable a gentleman as was ever known, and that his motives were of the worthiest kind. Every fair and rational man would admit that the Tuke Fund, and Mr. Tuke's efforts, were entitled to be placed in the highest possible position. ["No, no!"] In saying that, he believed he was expressing public opinion in Ireland as well as in England; and he ventured to think that he had as good means of knowing what the public opinion in Ireland was as any hon. Member had. [An Irish MEMBER: Of Anglo-Ireland.] The hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) had said that the policy of emigration was the policy of the Government, and was to be deplored. He himself was not in favour of a

policy of mere emigration; but it was one thing to say that, and another thing to say that they would not, under sound conditions, give facilities for emigration to those who desired to emigrate. The hon. Member for the City of Cork had been very moderate in pressing his views on this subject; but really the amount was so small, and the effort made by the Government was so utterly petty, that the idea of dividing £100,000 into two parts, for migration and for emigration, was not dealing with the matter in a worthy way. Emigration by £100,000 taken from the Church Fund was a very little thing to get, unless the proposal was to be made a mere sham. If there was anything in migration, which was a big proposal, it should be submitted on broad lines as a great practical question. It was so broad a question that the idea of working it with £50,000 was pre-eminently absurd; and he would, therefore, suggest to those who had their own strong views in reference to emigration, if they were prepared to accept the £50,000, that it was not a worthy way of approaching it, as was too often done in regard to Irish affairs, by splitting the difference. As to migration, however, this was not the time to discuss it. There had been an interesting debate early in the Session on a Motion by the hon. and learned Member for Mayo (Mr. O'Connor Power), and probably there would be another next Session; but what was wanted in regard to migration was some soundly-formulated practical proposal. It would not do to throw down the word "migration," and to talk about people living in Ireland, and to say there were means not fully utilized. Those were mere platitudes, and not practical legislation. What was needed were practical proposals, calmly and soberly submitted to Parliament; and he was sure that if they were so submitted they would be carefully weighed. He did not think it necessary to occupy more time in reference to the Bill. He was as anxious as any Irishman that the Bill should not meet with any opposition which would imperil it; and, of course, it was desirable that all points of friction should, as far as possible, be put aside. He hoped that when the Committee stage was reached the Bill would not be overwhelmed with Amendments; because it was obvious if everybody put

down his own particular crotchet and panacea, this being the 14th of August, there would not be time to discuss them, as there might be early in the Session. He did not intend, so far as he knew at present, to put down any Amendment of a substantial character; but he hoped the Government would consider the important matter he had mentioned in connection with railways in Ireland, because that was one of the things which, if not attended to, would excite an agitation which would wreck the Bill.

MR. RATHBONE said, he agreed with the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) that the rate should be divided between the owner and the occupier. It was decided unanimously, he believed, by the Irish Committee which sat last Parliament, consisting half of landlords and half of tenants, that that ought to be done; and certainly the effect of the Bill would be largely to the advantage of the landlords. He would take a single case. He believed there were plantations made in the West of Ireland in 1847 which would now be available for good timber; but there were no means of using it at a moderate cost. To open out country like the West of Ireland by supplying good roads would be to confer an inestimable benefit upon landlords as well as upon tenants. With regard to the proposal of the hon. Member, that the Government should devote a considerable sum to what was commonly called migration—in other words, to the reclamation of certain lands—he could not say that he had sufficient knowledge to speak with any confidence; but when practical men like the hon. Member for South Shropshire (Sir Baldwyn Leighton) stated that he had carried out such improvements by means of the Celtic tenants of mountain land similar to that in Ireland, he certainly thought the experiment ought to be made, whether successfully or not, so that the question should be settled. He could not quite agree with the right hon. and learned Member for Dublin University (Mr. Gibson) as to this amount being petty, for it must be remembered that in all these matters there must be a beginning, and it was not always these things which were begun upon a large scale that were successful. What was very important was that the experiment should be tried on a real and well-considered and well-devised plan, with prac-

tical men at the back of it—men who, above all things, believed in the ultimate success of the experiment. It must be in the knowledge of all that experiments very often failed when they were made in a half-hearted way; and that the only chance was that they should be made by those who really believed in them. He would not now attempt a defence of the operations under Mr. Tuke; but he knew that a triumphant answer would be given by the hon. Member for Peterborough (Mr. Sydney Buxton) as to those operations. He had merely risen to say that he and those agreeing with him were no mere specialists. They did not believe in emigration as the sole cure. They believed that in certain limited districts emigration was one of those cures which were necessary to lift the people from the depths of distress, and that there were a number of men who would not be available for migration, but must be placed in happier circumstances, and in circumstances which would prevent them from feeling that hopelessness that now prevented success. But they would all be delighted to find that men could be provided for suitably in the country itself, for they had no wish to see a man or a woman sent out of Ireland who could be placed in circumstances that would enable them to live in comfort and respectability. There had been no stronger advocates of these tramways than Mr. Tuke and his Committee, for they had pressed it on the Government vigorously; and he now wished to urge the Government to give every advantage to any well-conceived scheme for the reclamation of land.

COLONEL KING-HARMAN said, there were one or two remarkable points in connection with this matter. The Bill, as a whole, had his most hearty support; and if he found fault with it, or disagreed with any sentiments here or there enunciated by hon. Members, that was only a matter of detail, and not an objection to the general principle of the Bill. He could not but join issue with the hon. Member opposite (Mr. Rathbone) as to the division of the rate, and he joined issue on the grounds advanced by the hon. Member. The hon. Member said the landlords would be the persons benefited if the country was opened up by means of tramways. If the hon. Member had said that four or

five years ago he should have agreed with him; but, the Land Act of 1881 having been passed, it was impossible that the landlords should be benefited. The landlords could no longer raise their rents. Some people might say—"So much the better;" but he merely stated that as a fact. The landlords could not raise their rents through the country being opened up; and if any were benefited they must be the occupiers. Therefore, the persons who were to be benefited, and who should be therefore responsible for any loss, should be the occupiers. He did not object to the occupiers being benefited; but he did object to the owners, who could not be benefited, being made responsible. The hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) was not, he thought, so accurate as usual in one of his remarks. The hon. Member drew attention to the clause which safeguarded cesspayers against the presumed vice or virtue of the Grand Juries—over-liberality of the Grand Juries by the Proviso which permitted six cesspayers to lodge an objection to a Provisional Order. He had understood the hon. Member to touch upon the point of cesspayers, and then to call attention to the fact that the cesspayers were elected by the Grand Juries, called associated cesspayers, and to bring this matter before the House in a way to lead to the supposition that the cesspayers provided for in the Act would be associated cesspayers. That was his impression of what the hon. Member had said, and he thought that would be the impression of other Members, and that he was justified in pointing out that the hon. Member was wrong if he said that the cesspayers by whose protest the interest of the cesspayers would be guarded would not probably be associated cesspayers, but any persons paying cess in the district. He thought it would be a perfect safeguard if, when wild schemes were proposed by Gentlemen who were known to have highly philanthropic views, the protest of six cesspayers would be sufficient to bring the matter before a tribunal competent to weigh the project, and to decide whether the road or the tramway proposed would be a benefit, and would be likely to pay or not. With regard to migration, he had very carefully, and to the utmost of his ability, thought over that subject for the last two or

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three years. He had had many conversations with men who had made that question the subject of study; and he had earnestly wished that if it were possible some scheme of that nature should be carried out. He had heard many schemes propounded by many Gentlemen; but on putting those schemes to the test of sober conversation for two or three years, and after asking the promoters of those schemes to put their ideas fairly down in figures, and to specify particular localities, he was bound to say that he had reluctantly come to the conclusion that migration was not possible in Ireland. He had come to that conclusion with the greatest regret, for no man in Ireland would be more glad to be proved wrong than he would upon this point; and he should not have opposed the proposal of the hon. Member for the City of Cork if the Government had seen their way to deal with the small sum—the very small sum—set apart for emigration, and to devote it to migration in the way suggested by the hon. Member for the City of Cork. The hon. Member had specified certain counties and localities, and had said—and he trusted the hon. Member was right—that there were certain localities in Mayo which were better suited for tillage than for grazing purposes, to which they were at present adapted, because they were now getting back to their normal state before the Famine. If the hon. Gentleman had really carefully considered this, as he, no doubt, had, and if there really were such lands, and a number of people could be taken from the congested districts and settled upon those lands, and if the experiment could be made for so paltry a sum as £50,000, in Heaven's name let it be tried! If it failed, they would be no worse off; on the contrary, they would be better off, for they would have set the question at rest. If it succeeded, a great panacea for many of Ireland's evils would have been found. He was alluding to special lands which the hon. Member had specified; to lands which the hon. Member said were not now in the occupation of particular individuals, and not of lands elsewhere. He was entirely with the hon. Member on the proposition the hon. Member had made that evening; and he should be exceedingly glad if the Government could, to the moderate extent which had been proposed, try the ex-

periment. He must, however, warn hon. Gentlemen opposite that even that might not, perhaps, be so easy as they imagined, because his experience of the Irish peasant was that he was not only exceedingly attached to his country, but was attached to his home, and he had himself had great difficulty in persuading his tenants to move from their small holdings to better holdings in the same townland, and not 500 yards off. Although they at first accepted his offer, though doubtfully, when it came to moving from under the old roof-tree they felt such a strong objection that they would not go.

Mr. T. A. DICKSON said, the reception which had been given to the Bill must be very gratifying to the Chief Secretary. According to the information he had received from the North of Ireland, the passing of the Bill was awaited with the deepest anxiety; and already extensive preparations were being made to take full advantage of the Bill when it had become law. But he wished to point out that if it was to be a success, and the success which the right hon. Gentleman intended and hoped, there must, in his opinion, be several alterations and Amendments; and his object in rising was to point out what, in his view, were the defects of the measure. In the first place, it did not empower Railway Companies to subscribe to the capital for tramways. He knew of several cases in which Railway Companies had subscribed; and if powers were given to enable them to subscribe, the burden on the ratepayers would be lightened to a considerable extent. He was surprised to hear the speech of the right hon. and learned Member for the University of Dublin (Mr. Gibson) pointing out that the Railway Companies of Ireland would be jealous of an extension of the tramways. He hoped and believed that the right hon. and learned Gentleman's fears were groundless, because he regarded tramways as most important feeders to the general railway system of Ireland; and he had no other expectation than that, when the matter came to be discussed, the Railway Companies, instead of being jealous, would give all the assistance in their power by subscribing capital, if they were allowed to do so, first getting the sanction of their shareholders. A further

suggestion he wished to make was that the powers of the Railway Commission should extend to the tramways, in order that any difference between the tramways and the railways might be settled by them. There was one very important point upon which he had received numerous communications. It was urged that under the Provisional Orders to be issued by the Privy Council there should be compulsory powers for taking land; and he wished to ask the Attorney General for Ireland whether this Bill provided for taking land compulsorily? Under the old Tramways Act of 1860 the limits of deviation were 30 feet from the road. This Bill provided for an increase of speed up to 12 miles an hour; but there were no compulsory powers provided for taking land, so as to avoid bad gradients which it might be impossible to work.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member is going into details which are only appropriate to the Committee stage of the Bill.

MR. T. A. DICKSON said, his apology for mentioning this point was that it was a matter of vital importance, and he wished to direct the attention of the Attorney General for Ireland to it. There was another point which he thought should be provided for, and that was that the Tramway Acts which had been passed this Session should be brought within the scope of the Bill. Already the Royal Assent had been given to one Tramway Act in connection with his own county. The barony had subscribed £15,000, at 5 per cent, for 35 years; and he thought it would be hard if the Bill did not include Tramway Acts passed this Session. These tramways, to be successful, must go through the country, in order to avoid the difficulties he had pointed out; and they would, therefore, really become railways. To prevent any misunderstanding or disappointment, he strongly advised that narrow-gauge railways should be included in the provisions of the Bill. In Donegal, he was quite satisfied that there would be the greatest disappointment if narrow-gauge railways were excluded from the Bill. On the question of migration, he agreed with the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) that now was the time to try a scheme of migration; and he agreed with the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for

the University of Dublin (Mr. Gibson) that there was little use in commencing such a scheme with £50,000. Why should not £100,000 be given for the purpose of emigration, and another £100,000 be devoted to testing a scheme of migration? He had no faith in emigration as a permanent cure for the ills of Ireland. He looked at it as a mere temporary expedient, and one which should only be applied to districts exposed to poverty. He should very much like to see a scheme of migration tried upon a broad and comprehensive scale. The Grand Juries formed a most unsatisfactory tribunal for dealing with such matters; and it was now evident the advantage which would be reaped in Ireland from a system of County Boards. If they introduced into the Bill an Amendment providing that the landlords of Ireland were to subscribe half the county cess, did the House think that the Grand Juries would pass tramway schemes? They would do nothing of the kind. He was extremely anxious that the Bill should be a great success, because he believed that it would do more towards developing the resources of Ireland than any measure which had been passed during the present Parliament.

MR. O'CONNOR POWER said, he did not think that any discussion on this stage of the Bill would be likely to lead to any practical result, and therefore his observations would be very few indeed. He thought that, with the Amendments which had been suggested from various quarters of the House, the measure was one which ought to be warmly supported by Irish Members; and, as far as he was concerned, he should be glad to give it his support. With reference, however, to the provisions for the formation of tramways in Ireland, he regretted to find that the poorer and the richer districts were to be put on an equal footing. He believed the effect of this would be, if it were persisted in throughout the various stages of the Bill, to render the measure inoperative in most of the districts that stood most in need of railway and tramway communication. Since the Bill was printed he had had communications from various parts of the county he represented, and this view was very much pressed on his attention. Districts like those of Newport, Belmullet, and Swineford were

willing to give even a modified guarantee of 2 per cent on the capital of the Company; and he should hope that, on further consideration of this part of the Bill, the Government would see their way to make a Schedule of what might be called the permanently distressed districts of the West of Ireland, and to provide that in the case of all baronies included in that Schedule the Treasury should itself guarantee a dividend of 4 per cent; and that the baronies in the more prosperous parts of Ireland should be called upon to guarantee a dividend of 2 per cent. The Purchase Clauses under this Act were to be extended through the agency of public Companies; and he thought that would, to some extent, promote the object which had found support in all quarters of the House—namely, the creation of a peasant proprietary in Ireland. He did not know why the view which hon. Members took on the subject of migration should bear any relation at all to the sum of £100,000, which the Bill proposed to expend on emigration. He was sure that it could not be seriously contended for a moment that a sum of £50,000 would demonstrate successfully the advantages of any scheme of migration. Such a sum would be entirely inadequate. He would be disposed to leave that sum as it stood, for two reasons—first of all, because no portion of it would be sufficient to give a scheme of migration a fair chance; and, secondly, because he believed that if the sum of £100,000, which it was proposed to spend on emigration, were diminished, the only effect would be that the assistance afforded to families to emigrate would be much less than if the larger amount were sanctioned. He believed that the operations of Mr. Tuke's Committee had been very much fettered and restrained by the fact that the amount at their disposal was of so limited a character; and his opinion was that if Parliament assisted people to emigrate at all they ought to assist them well. Therefore, it was better that, if they were reluctantly obliged to carry out a scheme of emigration at all, they should have ample means of doing so. He should think that under the Purchase Clauses a scheme of migration might be very fairly tried, and for the reason that the money advanced under the Purchase Clauses was of no specified amount. The

Land Act said that the Treasury should be empowered to advance money in aid of the purchase of farms by tenants, provided that the sum should not exceed the amount annually voted by Parliament for that purpose. If they tried to develop a migration scheme under these clauses, the matter would work in this manner. It would be done either under the authority of the Commissioners of Public Works, or under the authority of the Land Commission; and the money would be advanced from time to time without any necessity whatever for subsequent legislation, assuming that the experiment in the first instance proved successful. If in this Bill, or in any other Bill, they limited or specified the exact amount of money to be devoted to the carrying out of the scheme in any one year, it would be necessary to have further legislation, even although the scheme proved successful. He desired to call attention to these points, not at all in the hope that they could be adequately discussed, but rather with the object of indicating the line which he proposed himself to take with the view of amending this Bill when it reached the Committee stage. Just one word with regard to the operations of Mr. Tuke's Committee in reference to emigration. When he had occasion to occupy the time of the House on this subject before, he complained that Mr. Tuke and those connected with him had not given them any *data* on which to form a judgment as to the value of their operations in the West of Ireland; and he particularly asked for some evidence to show that the evil of congested populations had been remedied, not merely by transferring a certain number of people from their homes to emigrant ships, and ultimately to the other side of the Atlantic, but that something had been done to consolidate the holdings where they had been found to be too small to enable any tenant to gain a decent livelihood on them. Recently the Committee had prepared a Report on this subject, and that Report had been to him a very agreeable surprise. If the figures set forth were correct—and he had no doubt they were—he was bound to say that the operations of Mr. Tuke's Committee in reference to that scheme of emigration had been more successful than he had hitherto had reason to believe. He was glad to find

that great progress had been made in what he might call the opinion of the House, both on the subject of emigration and on that of migration, since they talked of this matter before. It seemed now to be admitted on both sides of the House that emigration was not a panacea for the misery of Ireland, but only a temporary expedient. ["No!"]

Well, the admission had come from those who had advocated emigration; and, therefore, he was inclined to regard it as a very satisfactory admission, while, in his own judgment, it was a very fair expression of the state of the case. There was some progress of opinion on the subject of migration also. It was the fate of every new proposal that it should be for a long time misunderstood, and that in some quarters it should be misrepresented. After a while, however, men of sense were apt to say—"Well, we will give the new proposal a trial." The Government were now prepared to try migration; and the House was entitled to infer, with all its experience of public matters, that a scheme of migration was consequently in a fair way of succeeding, because men would never think of subjecting it to a serious experiment if they had not some faith in the probability of its success. He should conclude by congratulating the Chief Secretary for Ireland, and those who had brought in this Bill, on having made so decided a step towards carrying out recommendations which had been made by Irish Members. He believed that if the Government would agree to some of the recommendations and suggestions which had been thrown out in the course of the debate, the Bill would become one which would be received by the people of Ireland with great satisfaction.

MR. TREVELYAN said, that every hon. Member who had addressed the House had, he thought, without exception, expressed some satisfaction at the substantial unanimity of the debate up to that point. He was glad to hear it acknowledged that the Bill was brought forward with a genuine desire to do something for the prosperity of Ireland. As to the remarks which had been made on this subject, he would merely pass in review the points of the speakers who had preceded him. The hon. Member for Tipperary (Mr. Mayne), in opening the debate, objected to the Grand Juries

as the means of setting the Bill in motion. He (Mr. Trevelyan) did not know that the hon. Member objected to the Grand Juries with any hope of the Government being able, with any reasonable prospect of success, to substitute another system; but the hon. Gentleman hoped that some means would be found to make Grand Juries do their duty. On the other hand, he (Mr. Trevelyan) found that other Members had remarked upon the great danger there was lest the Grand Juries should do their duty only too actively, and should embark the credit of the ratepayers in schemes which the ratepayers, if they were more popularly represented, would not engage in. He could not but think that the Government, who on this point had expended a great deal of care and attention, had positively hit upon something like the mean between meeting the ratepayers' interests on the one hand, and the prosperity of the country on the other. The hon. and gallant Member for Galway (Colonel Nolan) suggested that ratepayers should be able to oppose in Parliament the construction of one of these tramways. Now, in all other respects, the Government had followed the lines of the existing Tramways Act; but this proposal would involve a new provision. In the case of the present Tramways Act the only persons who had a *locus standi* against a Tramways Bill were the owners or occupiers of land which was going to be taken away, and rival Companies who were likely to have their interests damaged by the construction of another line of tramways. In this case the promoters of the Bill would be quite willing to encourage the principle which the hon. and gallant Member (Colonel Nolan) had given expression to; because they considered that the ratepayers should, in some way or other, have the power of making representations against any scheme which they deemed likely to endanger their interests. The hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) made a proposal, perhaps, of a somewhat wider nature. The hon. Member referred to the Bill for making tramways put forward by the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Bradford (Mr. Forster) at a time when various schemes were being suggested for the relief of distress in Ireland; and he (Mr. Parnell) said that in that Bill the lia-

bility to pay cess was placed half upon the owner and half on the occupier. But it was pointed out—and he (Mr. Trevelyan) thought with great force—that this was done some years ago, before the rents were in many cases fixed judicially, and at a time when the landlord, if he found that half the cess was an unexpected burden upon him, had the power to raise the rent. That power had now been taken from the landlord; and if any re-arrangement of cess was undertaken, they might find themselves under the necessity of engaging in the very complicated operation of interfering with the judicial rents. He did not see that it was a convincing reason in favour of the hon. Gentleman's proposal that there was at present no representative self-government in Ireland. It seemed to him (Mr. Trevelyan) that the question of distributing local burdens could not be treated incidentally in a Tramways Bill. The right hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for the University of Dublin (Mr. Gibson) spoke with great animation and heartiness in welcoming what he regarded as a grant of £2,000,000 from the Imperial finances. Now, he (Mr. Trevelyan) was extremely anxious, both with regard to those who gave and those who received, not to make themselves out more generous than they were. The utmost responsibility which the Exchequer took upon itself, in case circumstances occurred which could not possibly happen, would be to guarantee the interest, not upon £2,000,000, but upon £1,000,000; but the effect of this Bill, as they hoped and believed, would be to raise £2,000,000 to be expended for the benefit of Ireland. On this £2,000,000 the Government only undertook to guarantee 2 per cent. He trusted that the provisions of the Bill were so framed that very little, indeed, of this guarantee would ultimately have to be paid. He owned that tramways which did not pay their way were extremely doubtful elements in the prosperity of a country. He owned, also, that Parliament had lately, both in England and in Ireland, gone far too deeply into the system of State loans; and one reason why he had considerable satisfaction in introducing this Bill was that it encouraged a principle which he considered to be, at any rate, as an alternative principle, a very satisfactory one—the principle under

which not a single penny of public money would be laid out on any undertaking upon which the local authorities were not willing to expend an equal amount of their own money. The right hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for the University of Dublin (Mr. Gibson) wondered why the Bill was not brought in months ago, and said he did not understand what the occasion for it was now. The occasion for it was that, some months ago, a large body of the Members of the House—the most respectable Members, who thoroughly understood Ireland—made representations to the Government to have something done to further the prosperity of Ireland; and, as he explained in introducing the measure, the Government came to the conclusion that something had better be done with the object of improving the means of communication. The right hon. and learned Gentleman said that the Bill was brought forward without the excuse of the relief of distress. This was, however, in his (Mr. Trevelyan's) opinion, a desirable feature of the measure. The Government had, over and over again, expressed through his mouth their disbelief in the efficiency of relief works. What they wanted to do was something for the permanent benefit of Ireland, and something that was not mixed up with the temporary relief of distress. The hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) started an idea which was taken up very warmly in all quarters of the House. There was only one hon. Gentleman who had addressed the House who did not, at any rate, sympathize with the hon. Member's proposal. The hon. Gentleman (Mr. Parnell), speaking of the proposed Vote for emigration, paid a just compliment to the operations of, and the motives which actuated Mr. Tuke; and he appealed to the Government to let something be done, out of what he described as Irish money, in a direction which, as he (Mr. Parnell) said, Irishmen would welcome more cordially than they did the system of emigration. On the question of emigration, he (Mr. Trevelyan) had expressed his opinions pretty often, and he would not repeat them now. His own belief was that facilities for emigration were very deeply valued by a class of people who had not the opportunity, and who were not in the habit, of

making their voices heard. Those people who did very ill in Ireland, the very poorest people, had, for the most part, no votes in the counties; and, moreover, they were people who were not accustomed to make their voices heard by politicians; but whenever they had an opportunity of emigrating to countries where they might live under happier circumstances, they showed themselves very eager to take advantage of such opportunity. The hon. Member for the City of Cork incidentally said that in many cases assistance for emigration had been extended to people who were not the proper objects of it. He (Mr. Trevelyan) would not attempt at any length to refute that statement of the hon. Member, because at this moment it was not very much to his purpose to do so; but one statement he would make which was to his purpose—namely, that, as far as he could gather, where these cases had occurred—and there might be a certain number, and he dared say that in some districts there were a good many—they occurred in instances where the emigration was left to Boards of Guardians. The temptation to Boards of Guardians to send away the people who would eventually come to the workhouse, he had no doubt, in some cases, proved irresistible; but he maintained that such was not the case with the voluntary labours of the gentlemen attached to what was generally called Mr. Tuke's Committee. The hon. Member for the City of Cork quoted the Union of Swineford, which was a Union presided over by a Board of Guardians. He (Mr. Trevelyan) had a Return from Belmullet Union, in which the emigration operations were conducted by Mr. Tuke's Committee through the agency of his hon. Friend the Member for Peterborough (Mr. S. Buxton). He was informed that the people who were emigrated were very small holders, and that, out of 293 holdings vacated, 149 were taken over by the neighbours of the emigrants, so that the holdings of the neighbours were increased. Only 20 were taken over by new tenants, and 106 reverted to the landlords, while the small balance was for the present laying waste. The result was that out of the 293 holdings a little more than 1-20th had been disposed of in such a manner as to carry on the system of congestion which existed before. Now, the hon. Member's

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proposal was to divide the sum which the Government proposed to allot for emigration, and that proposal seemed to meet with a pretty warm approval on all sides. One hon. Gentleman who had supported it was a prominent and active member of Mr. Tuke's Committee. That hon. Member—the Member for Carnarvonshire (Mr. Rathbone)—had not gone into the operations of Mr. Tuke's Committee, or given statistics in support of his view; but he (Mr. Trevelyan) had found it his duty to examine very carefully what those operations were, and had come to the conclusion that £50,000 would go very far indeed, if spent in the manner in which money had been spent by Mr. Tuke's Committee hitherto. The hon. Member for Sligo (Mr. Sexton), who was not now present, being, no doubt, engaged on business of a more agreeable character, had asked for information as to the manner in which the money had been spent. On making inquiries, he (Mr. Trevelyan) had found that £26,400 was what had been spent in the course of the year by Mr. Tuke's Committee; and that, he took it, was the very outside sum which these gentlemen could possibly spend in any given year. Well, a matter of some £80,000 had been granted to the Unions. He observed, on looking through the list of Unions, that the districts from which people were emigrated by means of the agency of those Unions were the districts from which emigration had gone on steadily for a long time; while, as a rule, the districts from which people were emigrated by Mr. Tuke's Committee were those districts which were so poor that the emigration which had been normal in the rest of Ireland had hardly been going on since the Government took the matter in hand. If this assistance were given, it should be given to assist those comparatively few districts which were quite unable to assist themselves. Therefore, under these circumstances, after consulting very carefully with the members of the Committee, he could not doubt that the £50,000 would go a long way if properly spent. The hon. and learned Member for Mayo (Mr. O'Connor Power) told them that if emigration were done at all it should be done well. Well, after consulting with Lord Spencer and his advisers, he had come to the conclusion to make this amendment of the Arrears Act—namely, to raise the

sum which, under certain circumstances, could be given per head to emigrants from £5 to £8. He did not imagine that this sum would very often be drawn upon. They found that people could be emigrated to New York, Boston, or Toronto, for £5 per head, and for such other aid as Mr. Tuke's Committee, for instance, was perfectly able and willing to afford; but that was not the case when they came to send people to Manitoba and more distant places, where they could settle down as agriculturists. In these cases the fares alone came to to £4 per head. But, of course, as the larger number of the emigrants consisted of children, the extra £3 which would be granted in those cases in which the Lord Lieutenant was satisfied the money was wanted, and would be well spent, would be sufficient to make a great advance in the distance which could be covered, and in the comfort in which the poor people could travel. Before he left this subject, which was the last he should touch on, he might say that from first to last there had been no one more earnest or urgent in pressing on the Government the desirability of doing something to open up Ireland by means of tramways than Mr. Tuke. He was inclined to think that the matter was one which Mr. Tuke had quite as much at heart as emigration. He was perfectly aware that the hon. Member for Mayo seemed to have some doubt as to the desirability of dealing with emigration in the manner which it had been suggested they should adopt. The hon. Member thought it might be dealt with more largely and liberally by means of the Purchase Clauses. He (Mr. Trevelyan) almost doubted whether that was the case. Under the Purchase Clauses the money would be lent for the purpose of buying the land, and the margin that would be left to borrow from—and he would not enter too deeply into that—in some cases would be certainly very meagre. Money would be wanted for the purpose of stocking and fencing the land; and as this money was to be given a great deal by way of experiment, he should be glad if the grants could be made in sufficiently large proportions to give that experiment every chance of success. He did not think they had any right to take these poor people from one part of Ireland and put them down in another without giving them the very fairest possible chance of

being able to make a livelihood. The theory of emigration was that they should send people to places where it had been ascertained they would be likely to thrive, and there leave them. It was obvious, however, that in the matter of migration they must do more than that—that they must follow the people up a little further, and make more certain of their condition in their new homes. For that reason he would far rather himself see this £50,000 spent on a small number of families in such sums as would give them a real chance, than spent on a more ambitious scheme which, through stinting the individuals, could only fail. He earnestly hoped and trusted that some good would come of these Land Clauses. Speaking on a Motion of the noble Lord the Member for Middlesex (Lord George Hamilton) some time ago, he had said that there were two things the Government were determined on in arranging for the purchase of land by tenants. They were determined to stick to two principles—namely, that a substantial part of the purchase money should be paid down, and that the instalments should be paid over in a comparatively limited period, so that the person who bought the property might feel, as years went on, that he was really becoming the proprietor, and could go forward in the knowledge that his liability was decreasing year by year. Those principles had been adhered to in the Purchase Clauses. Whatever was done would all be in a healthy direction. He confidently hoped that the effect of the clauses would be, to some extent, to transfer land from people who felt it was not to their interest to let it to people who were only anxious to get hold of it, and thus extend the landlord system in Ireland without bringing about that alarming drain on the country, and those political difficulties, which a wholesale system of State landlordism would entail. The suggestion of his hon. Friend the Member for Tyrone (Mr. T. A. Dickson), who had taken such deep interest in this question from the very first, would be most carefully considered by Her Majesty's Government. He could assure his hon. Friend that the Bill did provide for taking land compulsorily. If it did not do so—if any hon. Member doubted that the provision proposed at the end of the Bill referring to the 48th section of the Tramways Act would not secure that

object, he trusted he would communicate with him or his right hon. and learned Friend the Attorney General for Ireland on the subject as early as possible. He would not enter further upon the details of the Bill. He could only reiterate the appeal of the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for the University of Dublin (Mr. Gibson), that hon. Members would think twice and thrice before putting down Amendments which would have the effect of starting some question which they felt of interest at this moment—would think whether the Amendments they put down were certain to secure the object at which they aimed. He felt sure, from the spirit which had been exhibited on the second reading, that the Bill had now a very fair prospect of meeting with success.

COLONEL COLTHURST said, he wished to make one remark as to the suggestion of the hon. Member for Tyrone (Mr. T. A. Dickson), because it was of great importance to the county of Cork—the suggestion, namely, that Railway Companies should have power to undertake the promotion of these tramways. There were several districts in which the people who would be the most natural to construct the tramways would be the Railway Companies. The works, if carried out by them, would be, probably, no expense to the ratepayers. He hoped, therefore, the Government would consider the suggestion.

MR. SAMUEL SMITH said, that, as a Member representing a constituency (Liverpool) containing a large number of Irish inhabitants, he wished to say a word or two on the second reading of the Bill. He would express to the Government his thanks for their important Tramway and Emigration scheme, which was drawn upon lines similar to those he had advocated on previous occasions; and he would express a hope that the action of the Government in taking this new departure would be attended with most valuable consequences for the benefit of the Sister Island. There was no possible hope of being able to develop the resources of the South-West of Ireland save by Government aid in a measure such as this. There was no hope of private enterprize carrying on the works which were so much to be desired. If the present scheme turned out the success he trusted it would be, it would be the herald of future and larger experiments in the same direction; but, whe-

ther it was a success or not, he hoped this Bill would be regarded as evidencing the sincere interest taken in the welfare of Ireland by the richer and stronger Island. He was very desirous—and he was sure many others who sat on those (the Ministerial) Benches were desirous—of convincing the Irish people that they were their true friends. At any rate, he was expressing the feelings of his own heart in what he said, and he hoped, also, he was expressing the feelings of a great many people. Many of them were ready to take a great deal of pains, and incur a great deal of expense, in order to make Ireland a more prosperous country, and he hoped that this Bill would be viewed in that light by the people of Ireland. He would urge Irish Members, when addressing their constituents, to speak of this as a sincere attempt on the part of the British Parliament to make Ireland a more prosperous country, for he was sure if such a view were taken of it it would pave the way for much more legislation of a beneficial kind. And, besides that, in this way the encouragement of a better feeling between the two countries would lead to the formation of closer relations, and the investment of a larger portion of the capital of Great Britain in the Sister Country. The annual savings of Great Britain amounted to an enormous sum. Much of this was spent upon developing foreign countries; and there was no reason why, at any rate for a time, some of that golden stream could not be diverted into Ireland, so as to lead to the development of its resources and the great benefit of its inhabitants. Looking forward, as he did, to a more happy future for Ireland, which had given us so much annoyance and anxiety of late, he hailed this Bill with hope. He was glad the Government had seen their way to a conjoint scheme of emigration and migration, as he felt they ought to consult the feelings of the Irish people in matters of this kind as far as possible. If the Government conceded a good scheme of migration, such was the love of the Irish people for their native soil, that he had good hope the scheme would prove a success. At all events, he thought they ought to try it, to show the people of Ireland that the British Parliament was anxious to meet them in every possible way to make their country more prosperous and

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happy. He trusted this Bill would be looked upon in some sense as a peace offering from England to Ireland—at all events, he wished to look on it in that way himself. He could not resume his seat without heartily wishing the scheme success, and without thanking the Government for a scheme which he believed would conduce to the welfare of Ireland.

Mr. HARRINGTON said, he was bound to say he did not think the hon. Gentleman who had just sat down had at all improved the tone of the debate by his speech. The patronizing air which the hon. Member had assumed was certainly not calculated to win for him any expression of gratitude from him (Mr. Harrington), and he should hardly think it would win expressions of gratitude from hon. Gentlemen near him. A stranger who was not familiar with the facts of the case, hearing the hon. Member's speech, would suppose that some real boon was being conferred on Ireland, for which Ireland had a right to be grateful; whereas, as a matter of fact, all that was given was a miserable measure of three parts, two of which, on the admission of the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary, were unworkable, and the third of which would merely develop a process at present in operation for the transportation of the people of Ireland from their native country. The Government in this Bill were only giving them the right to spend their own fund, and to refer to that in a patronizing manner was most objectionable—indeed, the tone of the hon. Member was insolent. He was not disposed to give the hon. Member credit for that sincerity for which he gave himself such elaborate credit. Whenever he (Mr. Harrington) saw an hon. Member get up and have to read his expression of sincerity from a paper before him, he at once doubted that sincerity. As one representing an Irish county, and as being to some extent mixed up with the Irish people, he could not allow the second reading of the Bill to pass without entering his protest against the miserable policy of emigration, to which Her Majesty's Government seemed so closely wedded, that even in this Bill granting a small concession to the poor, starved peasantry in Ireland, they still must introduce the subject. They had heard a good deal from the Chief Secretary as to the happy

condition of the people who had been sent out of Ireland by the Emigration Committee; but it must be remembered that these people had not yet had experience of one of those severe winters which occurred in Manitoba. There had not yet been a fair opportunity of placing before the House statistics of the number the summer had killed in the South of America; and they could only speculate as to what the severe winter would do to those who were not accustomed to it, and who had been driven away by this miserable policy of the Government. Had the Government taken up the subject at the proper time, and extended to the people of the West of Ireland that outdoor relief which the public opinion of Ireland had pointed to as the only means of meeting the distress, they would not have to face the difficulties which were before them at this late period of the Session. In qualification of the policy of emigration, the cases of the emigrants sent out from the district of Belmullet had been cited. A number of figures relating to the families who had been emigrated had been given, and it had been shown that these people who had been the occupiers of very small holdings at home had had their condition improved, whilst the holdings they had left had been consolidated. Why, the right hon. Gentleman had given the most severe condemnation of the policy of the Emigration Committee which he had been endeavouring to defend. Everyone knew—except, perhaps, some young sprig of a politician who, from some motive of English patriotism, found himself in the West of Ireland for a few days' tour—that the people who were really suffering, and on whom the severity of the past few days had fallen most heavily, were not the men who had the smallest holdings, but those who held larger ones and were not able to pay for them—on whom the rent pressed so heavily that they were merely eking out a miserable existence. The men who had small holdings came over to England and Scotland, and were able to earn part of their livings in these countries. In regard to what the right hon. Gentleman had stated as to the difficulty of meeting the proposal of the hon. Gentleman the Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) by throwing the incidence of taxation of these baronial guarantees on the landowners as well as upon the rated occupiers, he

failed to see how any difficulty whatever lay in the way of the adoption of that proposal. If the right hon. Gentleman, or those who had advised him in the preparation of this Bill, knew anything of the working of these baronial guarantees in Ireland, they would have known that at this moment baronial guarantees similar to those proposed by the hon. Member for the City of Cork were in operation, and that the landlords had to bear the weight of several of the guarantees to railways now working. If that was the fact, and the owners of property had to pay half the baronial guarantees in the case of railways, why should they not do the same in the case of tramways? In his (Mr. Harrington's) view the principle which regulated the one should regulate the other. If the right hon. Gentleman left to the tenants the expense of these tramways, and left to the Grand Juries the opening up of these estates, he imposed upon the very people he said he was anxious to relieve an additional tax from which they would derive no benefit whatever. He did not wish to be understood as offering factious opposition to the Bill. He wished to say that he accepted it, because the trusted Leader of the Party to which he had the honour to belong had thought it wise to accept it; but even though the hon. Member for the City of Cork had accepted the principle of the measure, he (Mr. Harrington) could not, and would not, sit idle in the House when it was proposed to continue the miserable policy of counting out of Ireland its national population, when that population was brought down to 5,000,000, by fostering the wretched system of starving the people out.

Mr. SMALL said, this measure had received such an amount of qualified and unqualified approval that, perhaps, it would be presumptuous in him to speak on the subject. But, humble Member of the House as he was, he could not sit still on the occasion of the second reading of the Bill without saying a few words upon it. The right hon. Gentleman had said that the Irish people ought to feel grateful because the Liberal Party were sacrificing so much of their economical principles in what they were doing for Ireland. That of itself would excite suspicion in the hearts of the Irish people. Why were the Government doing this? Because by it they were

enabled to carry out the principle of driving the population from Ireland. This Bill consisted of three parts; but only one part could be worked, as the others were surrounded with too many "safeguards." There were three processes to which the Tramway Clauses had to be subjected before they could be carried into effect; and every one of those processes was in the power of a body hostile to the people of Ireland. First of all, they had the Grand Jury, which was a body condemned by the opinion of the people and by that House—a body which was the stronghold of jobbery, and every principle hostile to the people. Then, they had the approval of the Privy Council, which meant the Lord Lieutenant and his Castle retainers; and it was not likely that they would be favourable to the people of Ireland. Then, the third process was in the hands of the Treasury. He did not think that when any project had passed the triple ordeal of the jobbery of the Grand Jury, the anti-popular instincts of the Privy Council, and the penuriousness of the Treasury, much good would come of it. Moreover, he could not view with complacency any Bill which contained a clause which would have the effect of helping to drive a single man from the already too diminished population of Ireland. He had read the Bill through very carefully, to see whether there was any substantial advantage offered sufficient to induce the people of Ireland to accept it; and he had come to the conclusion that they were offered nothing, and that they ought not to accept it.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

Bill read a second time, and *committed for To-morrow*.

TRAMWAYS AND PUBLIC COMPANIES (IRELAND) [ADVANCES].

RESOLUTION.

Considered in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

Resolved, That it is expedient to authorise the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to make contributions, out of moneys to be provided by Parliament, towards the construction of Tramways in Ireland, under the provisions of any Act of the present Session for promoting the extension of Tramway communication in Ireland.

Resolution to be reported *To-morrow*.

Mr. Harrington

COLONEL NOLAN said, the two subjects—this Committee and the Bill—were so closely connected, that he thought he was justified in asking the Government when they intended to take the Committee on the Bill?

MR. COURTNEY: It will be put down for to-morrow.

COLONEL NOLAN: Will it be taken to-morrow?

MR. COURTNEY: It is impossible to say, at this period of the Session, when it will be taken.

REVENUE AND FRIENDLY SOCIETIES BILL.—[BILL 269.]

(*Mr. Courtney, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer.*)

COMMITTEE. [*Progress 6th August.*]

Bill considered in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 15 (Representation in the United Kingdom to constitute the title to assets therein situate).

MR. COURTNEY moved the omission of the clause.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clause 16 agreed to.

Clause 17 (Reduction of interest on investments on friendly societies with the National Debt Commissioners).

MR. WARTON proposed, in page 8, line 28, to leave out "two and a-half per centum," and insert "sevenpence in the pound." He said he was extremely anxious to know on what ground the Bill was really to proceed. The first question was, whether it was really advisable to bring the measure forward at all? Men of all classes and parties were convinced of the advisableness of thrift; and, therefore, he was surprised to find that through this Bill the Treasury should come forward and do all they could to discourage thrift amongst the poor. He thought that at a time when the Government were willing to lend a speculative Company £8,000,000 at 3½ per cent, they might be willing to give a fair and decent interest upon the savings of the poor people of the country. It was a strange thing that the Secretary to the Treasury could not say what the loss was upon the savings of Friendly Societies; but he (Mr. Warton) thought it was a hard and cruel thing, unless there was an overwhelming necessity for it, to reduce the interest by

one-half per cent upon the savings of the thrifty poor, and he had the utmost confidence in moving the Amendment which stood in his name.

Amendment proposed, in page 8, line 28, to leave out "two and a-half per centum," and insert "sevenpence in the pound."—(*Mr. Warton.*)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause."

MR. COURTNEY said, that at that time of the night (20 minutes past 2), and at that period of the Session, it would not be expected that he should enter at any length into this question. The rate of interest allowed to these Friendly Societies was originally 3*d.* per diem. It was then reduced to 2½*d.*, and again to 2*d.*, so that this was the fourth reduction which had been proposed. He thought he should be trifling with the Committee if he now re-opened the question, which had been settled by both Parties in the State. As to the actual loss, they had had for the last four or five years, year after year, to vote £50,000 to make up the difference. The proposed reduction was a very limited matter, and it proceeded on a strict respect for what might be called vested interests. All deposits made by Societies when members had joined them on the basis of existing rates would receive 2*d.* per £100 per diem, and the new rate would only affect new deposits; so that the reduction was not on the vast scale imagined by the hon. and learned Member. Moreover, the deposits they were concerned with were only part of the deposits of the great Societies, who not only invested with the National Debt Commissioners, but invested large sums in the Post Office Savings Banks, Municipal Bonds, and many other investments. This was simply a suggestion to reduce the rate of interest allowed by the National Debt Commissioners to the same rate as, under the Act of 1875, Societies were entitled to receive. He would point out another point. The 2*d.* per £100 per day was only allowed under the Act of 1875; and although new Societies might be started, they could not get that rate unless they were certified by the Treasury as able to receive that rate. The matter was one of very limited scope; it paid the strictest regard to vested inter-

rests; it would not disturb existing Societies, and it was absolutely necessary to the Treasury.

MR. R. N. FOWLER said, the Government were quite right to economize; but in saving this money in this way he thought they were economizing in the wrong way. If there was any case in which the Government would be justified in bearing loss it would be when the loss was caused to the working classes; but he did not admit that by adopting his Resolution the Government would sustain a loss, and on that point he would quote a high authority, the President of the Board of Trade.

Notice taken, that 40 Members were not present; Committee counted, and 40 Members not being present,

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair:—House counted, and 40 Members not being present,

House adjourned at a quarter before Three o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Wednesday, 15th August, 1883.

MINUTES.]—PUBLIC BILLS—*Resolutions in Committee*—Public Works Loans [Advances, &c.]*.

Ordered—*First Reading*—Copyright of Photographs* [294].

Committee—Local Government Board (Scotland) [251]—*r.r.*

Considered as amended—*Third Reading*—Corrupt Practices (Suspension of Elections)* [281], and passed.

Third Reading—Expiring Laws Continuance* [283], and passed.

Withdrawn—Ballot Act Continuance and Amendment* [5]; Bankruptcy (No. 2)* [82].

QUESTIONS.

PARLIAMENT — ORDER — IMPEDING THE ENTRANCE TO THIS HOUSE.

MR. AGNEW: Mr. Speaker, I beg to rise to a point of Order. I wish to ask, Whether it is fitting, and whether it is not disrespectful to the Chair, for an hon. Member of this House to stand at its door with a view to prevent, by his influence, other hon. Members taking their seats, and so to prevent a House being made?

Mr. Courtney

MR. SPEAKER: I never knew of such a case occurring before, and am certainly much surprised that any hon. Member should take such a course.

PUBLIC HEALTH—INFECTION FROM IMPORTED RAGS.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE: I wish to ask the President of the Local Government Board, Whether his attention has been called to some cases of small-pox which are reported from North Devon, and which are supposed to have originated from foreign rags employed in certain paper mills? One death is stated to have occurred last week, and several other cases are mentioned. The attention of the Local Government Board is called to the subject, in the hope that some restriction or some inspection might be devised to check the introduction of infection by rags.

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: The matter is under consideration, and in the case of any strong probability appearing of the facts being true, an inquiry will be held to see the exact bearing of the matter. The Order lately issued by the Local Government Board has reference only to rags landed from Egypt, which was not the case in this instance. There has been in one a pretty clear instance of the introduction of small-pox by rags, although there has never been any case of the introduction of cholera by rags up to the present time.

PARLIAMENT — BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEAL BILL.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL: May I ask the Attorney General, if he can now say when he will be likely to take the Court of Criminal Appeal Bill?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (SIR HENRY JAMES): No, Sir; I cannot.

MR. GIBSON: If the hon. and learned Gentleman intends to take the Bill on Saturday, I will divide the House against the proposal.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD (SCOTLAND) BILL.—[BILL 251.]

(Secretary Sir William Harcourt, The Lord Advocate.)

COMMITTEE.

Order for Committee read,

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair."—(*Secretary Sir William Harcourt.*)

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, that he had the first Amendment on the Paper in regard to this very important Bill which the Home Secretary had brought before the House, and he ventured to move that Amendment on account of the extraordinary nature of the Bill itself, and of the manner in which it had been brought forward. He thought they had a right to complain that a Bill of this importance should be brought on, not only at this period of the Session, but also at this period of the present Parliament, when it was only intended to enable the Government to manipulate patronage in Scotland previous to the approaching General Election. He asked leave to make one or two remarks on the former Bills that had been brought before the House when new Departments had been created, and he thought the House would see that the course adopted by the Government on this occasion was certainly not justified by precedent. In the year 1855, the creation of an important Department was forced on the Government by the exigencies of the Crimean War. Up to that time the War Department had been under the direction of the Secretary of State for the Colonies; but during the long interval that had elapsed between the great European War and the Crimean War, the Colonies had developed themselves into such proportions that it was found impossible for one Minister to govern two Departments. In that year the necessity of a War Department was patent to the whole country, and a short Bill was brought in first, enabling the Crown to appoint a new Secretary and Under Secretary of State, and later in the same year another Act was passed, transferring to the Secretary of State the power vested in the Ordnance Department. The necessity for this new Department was established by the Minister of the day, and no one could deny that the establishment of the War Department was absolutely necessary to the welfare of the State. The next new Department created was that of Secretary of State for India in 1858, and there also the reasons for establishing the new Department were given, and were patent

to the country. The East India Company was abolished, and one of the first provisions of this new Act was to transfer the Government of India to Her Majesty's Government. On these two occasions, the Bills contained Preambles explaining the necessity for the new Department. He then came to the year 1871, when the present Local Government Board was established. In that case, the duties of the new Officer were distinctly laid down, both by the Minister who introduced the Bill, and also in the Preamble of the Act itself. Again, they had had a recent example of the establishment of a new Department in another matter. The affairs relating to agriculture had been transferred to a Minister who was already in existence, and whose duties, up to that moment, had not been of any overwhelming character. In this Bill there was no Preamble, and no reasons at all were given, either by the Home Secretary or by any of those who supported the Bill, for the establishment of this Local Government Board for Scotland. The right hon. and learned Gentleman the other day had been very indignant with him for having shadowed out that the Office was to be conferred on a particular noble Lord. Of course, if it was not to be conferred on that noble Lord, he did not see the object of the Bill at all. There was some *raison d'être* for the measure when they had to provide for the noble Lord, who had been very useful in the Mid Lothian Election. The noble Lord had been most successful in the Mid Lothian Election, and he was very widely popular in Scotland, and the Scotch people really did want this Office created in order that it might be filled by the noble Lord; but since it had been ascertained that it was not to be filled by him, all interest in the matter had dropped so far as Scotland was concerned. There had been no meetings, no Petitions, and no manifestations of opinion which justified at this period of the Session the bringing in of a Bill of this importance. He hoped that when the Home Secretary saw that his late Under Secretary was not to be provided for, he would be content to withdraw the Bill for the present. He saw the right hon. and learned Gentleman taking notes. He hoped he would answer that point. The right hon. and learned Gentleman, in the different speeches he had made, had

given no opinion whatever as to the nature of the duties that were to be performed by this new Officer. He could not even tell them whether the new President's Office was to be in England or in Scotland, or in the town of Berwick-on-Tweed. [Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT: In both countries.] He (Sir H. Drummond Wolff) asked, if there were to be two offices, why no Estimate for them had been put into the Bill? The Government had no power to go to that expense, because when they obtained money powers in Committee, those powers only provided for the payment of salaries; but no Vote had been taken to enable them to spend money on the various offices over which the new President was to preside. They were really creating an Office for which certainly there was no pressing necessity. Scotland had done without this Department since the beginning of Creation, and why could it not exist without it for six months longer, until Parliament met again? There was no pressing necessity for appointing a President of the Local Government Board, especially when there was no Local Government Board over which he was to preside. He was like the personage in the time of Louis Philippe, who went about in search of a social position. They were about to appoint an Officer who had to seek what he was to do; he was to rout out existing Departments, and he was to subject these Departments to his political influence—and all this in favour of the Government. It was perfectly clear that there could be no pressing necessity for any Bill of this kind, because it had not been shadowed forth in the Queen's Speech. It had only been brought in at an advanced period of the Session, and then they were called upon to discuss the question on a Wednesday, when they could scarcely get a House together, and many of the persons interested in a Bill of this kind were unable to discuss it, or were absent. In fact, the Government were smuggling the Bill through the House. Under these circumstances, he felt it necessary to move the Amendment which stood in his name.

Amendment proposed,

To leave out from the word "That" to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "in the opinion of this House, it is not desirable at this late period of Parliament to con-

fer functions on an officer of the Crown, to be created by Act, until the powers, duties, and patronage of such officer are more fully defined, and the cost of his office and staff more fully stated,"—(Sir H. Drummond Wolff,)

—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question."

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: I rise to make an appeal to the House, and I hope I shall have the support of both sides, that we should be allowed, at all events, to go into Committee upon this Bill. It will be remembered that, upon the second reading of the Bill, whether or not a new Officer should be appointed for the purpose contemplated by the Bill was very fully discussed. Indeed, it went over a whole day's discussion; and then there took place several smaller discussions, which are rather unusual upon the formal Committee on the money part of the Bill. Therefore, I say that few Bills have been discussed more fully than this one has been. Well, Sir, I cannot but think that it is very significant that, at this stage, there is no Scotch Member opposing the Motion to go into Committee, the opposition coming entirely from the hon. Member for Portsmouth (Sir H. Drummond Wolff). I find, indeed, other Notices in the names of the hon. Member for Cavan (Mr. Biggar) and the hon. and learned Member for Bridport (Mr. Warton); but these Members are very impartial in their opposition, and it can hardly be considered that their opposition to a particular measure has reference to any special objection to the measure itself. There is a Notice also on the Paper by the late Secretary of State (Sir R. Assheton Cross); but by what process that Notice appears I cannot conceive, and why my Predecessor has a Notice of opposition to go into Committee on the Bill I really do not know. But, after all, the Motion of the right hon. Gentleman the Member for South-West Lancashire, who is not here to support it, is of a dilatory character, and, indeed, he has got an Amendment on the Paper—having admitted that he himself proposed a new arrangement on this subject—to carry out the arrangement which he formerly proposed of having an Under Secretary, instead of adopting the proposal of the Government. Well, that is a very fair question for discussion in

Sir H. Drummond Wolff

Committee. Therefore, there is every reason, so far as he is concerned, that the proposal he has made should be discussed in Committee. Really, at this time of the Session, considering that this matter has been three or four times discussed upon its merits; considering, as I also venture to say, that every single Scotch Member who is opposed to the Bill has spoken upon the subject; and considering that by an overwhelming majority of the House, and especially of the Scotch Members, there has been a decision in favour of the Bill, it would be carrying opposition to an extreme length to attempt to throw the Bill over by a dilatory Motion of this kind. If there are to be proposals made to alter the Bill, the Committee is the time to make them; but to adopt any other course after there has practically been three second reading discussions, one of them protracted over a whole day, shows that the opposition is going beyond the ordinary form of opposition. The hon. Member for Portsmouth founded his opposition on the fact that the Government had not stated the objects of the Bill. The Government have stated the objects of the Bill over and over again, and they are set forth with particularity—which is seldom done—in the Schedules of the Bill itself. It is said in the Schedule that this Officer is to discharge all the duties of the Secretary of State with reference to the Acts set forth in the Schedule. Nothing can be clearer than that. The hon. Member for Portsmouth says—"Oh; but that is not the way that is generally taken in proceeding to create a new Office. You should give much more information. You should set forth in the Bill the staff, &c., which is to be employed." I was prepared to controvert that statement without the assistance the hon. Member himself has rendered me. What is his example? He says that in the case of 1855, when we were creating a new Secretary of State for War, we dealt with that matter in a totally different way. Yes; but the House got very much less information than is given in this Bill. The hon. Member cannot have read that Act, or he would not have used that argument. The information is contained in a single clause, that it was to enable a third principal Secretary of State and a third Under Secretary to sit in the House of

Commons. That is the information on which the House of Commons created the new Secretary of State for War. There is not a word about his duties, not a word about his staff, and not a word about the cost.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF: Read the subsequent Act.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: I have read the subsequent Act, and anything more entirely refuting the argument of the hon. Member I cannot imagine. What is the subsequent Act? An Office is created, but without any information being given.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF: It was in time of war.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: Then, why do you allege that as an example of the manner in which information was communicated to the House by that Act? There is no information in that Act as to staff or cost. By the subsequent Act what is done? It transfers one of Her Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, and the powers vested in one Department of State, and that is exactly what we do under this Act. We transfer the powers of the Secretary of State with reference to the Acts enumerated in the Schedule. The example is one which entirely refutes the proposition of the hon. Member for Portsmouth. But there is another example—the case of the India Office. The case of the India Office was peculiar, because it had to deal not only with the Secretary of State but with the Council of India. But to say that no Office is created until the powers, duties, and patronage of the Office are fully set forth in the Bill, is a proposition for which there is no precedent whatever. I said yesterday, as I have said before, that there will be, and there ought to be, a permanent Officer, whether you call him Under Secretary or anything else, and the absence of a permanent Officer to retain the traditions and records is an evil. Why, I remember I felt that very strongly in the case of the Law Officer of the Crown. No greater inconvenience can arise than for one Lord Advocate going out of Office and another taking his place without any permanent Official to preserve the traditions of the Office. If the Law Officer for Scotland went out, his Assistant might not be the Assistant of his Successor, so that the whole traditions of the Office disappeared. There-

fore, that is particularly wanted. What more is wanted under the Bill must depend upon the experience gained when the higher Official, with the permanent Under Secretary, gets into work. It would be most unwise now to attempt to commit ourselves or Parliament to a question which we are at present unable to decide. It is clearly understood that this new Official is to have a permanent Official under him, and the rest will be considered by Parliament when the experiment has been more fully tried. The hon. Member for Portsmouth made a curious objection to the Bill. He said there is no Preamble. If there is one thing more established than another by draftsmen it is that there never is a Preamble. I remember having a great fight with the draftsmen in the case of the famous Hares and Rabbits Bill as to the introduction of a Preamble. The draftsmen are against Preambles. Preambles have gone very much out of fashion, just as sentiments after dinner. I do not, therefore, think it is fatal that this Bill has no Preamble. The hon. Member said that Scotland has done very well since the creation of the world without a Secretary of State. But somewhere about the time of the creation of the world, Scotland had a Secretary of State, and, therefore, to say that Scotland had done without a separate Officer for its own business is a statement historically inaccurate. The hon. Member has also referred to what I would have been glad to have forgotten. His observations upon Lord Rosebery show admirable impartiality. The hon. Member attacked the Bill on the last occasion because the Office was to be filled by Lord Rosebery, and to-day he attacks it because it is not to be filled by Lord Rosebery. To-day he says he has satisfied himself—I do not know how—that Lord Rosebery is not to fill the new Office, and therefore he calls upon the House to throw out the Bill. I leave these two arguments to refute one another. He also says we are smuggling the Bill through the House; but how you can say that about a Bill which on the second reading went into a second day's debate I cannot understand. I do think that the House will feel that we have had preliminary discussion upon this matter quite adequate to the subject, and that the reason alleged against the Bill ought not to prevent its being proceeded with, that reason being that it

does not give the requisite and usual information in such case. In point of fact, we have given all the information that it is possible to give. Having done that, and having, as I have said, the overwhelming opinion of the Scotch Members in favour of the Bill, I do ask the House, as a matter of Business, to allow this Bill now to go into Committee. If any hon. Member thinks that an Under Secretary of State would be better than the proposal of the Government, there will be an opportunity of expressing an opinion on that matter and taking the judgment of the House; but considering the fact that my Predecessor in Office was distinctly of opinion that the present state of things was unsatisfactory, and that there ought to be a new arrangement, considering that the right hon. Gentleman adheres to the opinion in favour of the arrangement which he proposed, and has put an Amendment down for consideration in Committee, proposing an Under Secretary, I think we are justified in saying that we have the assent of both sides of the House that something ought to be done in this direction, and I think we should go into Committee and decide exactly what the character of this Office is to be, and what the duties of the Officers are to be. I am quite sure that hon. Members from Scotland who were opposed to this Bill have very definitely and very fairly stated their objections to it, and I claim the support of those Scotch Members for going into Committee, in order that we may see how much we differ in detail. Those hon. Members, I am sure, do not wish to withhold from Scotland what the majority of the Representatives desire. There is no Amendment hostile to going into Committee from any Scotch Representative; and, under these circumstances, I hope hon. Members will not protract this discussion, but allow you, Sir, to leave the Chair.

Mr. J. A. CAMPBELL said, the right hon. and learned Gentleman had remarked upon the absence of any Amendment against the Bill by a Scotch Member; but he hoped it would not be thought on that account that those opposed to the Bill were acquiescing in the Government going on with a measure of this kind at the present period of the Session. He should have thought that the appearance of the Notice Paper on the day after the

Bill passed its second reading would have made the right hon. and learned Gentleman hesitate about proceeding further. There were Amendments from both sides of the House, showing that there was the greatest difference of opinion as to the whole question involved in the Bill. Some of these Amendments had disappeared from the Paper. Why, he knew not; but he should have thought they were of such a nature as to shake the right hon. and learned Gentleman's courage in proceeding with this Bill. The question before the House now was whether this Bill, which led people to expect such changes as the result of its operation, was one which ought to be proceeded with at this period of the Session? The Bill itself gave very little indication of what the changes were which it would bring about. It was expected to interfere in some measure with existing arrangements for Scotch Business, and they might say for local government; but they had not heard what was defective in the existing arrangements in Scotland. No case had been made out for any change. He would even go further and say that no change had been suggested. It was, therefore, rather an unusual thing to propose changes before they had been asked for, and before they had been suggested. This Bill gave them no help at all in their endeavour to find out what the duties of the proposed Board were to be. It was true that one clause professed to give the House that information; but it did not give it, as it only referred to the powers and duties of the President of the proposed Board. It was, perhaps, going too far to say there was not a word in the Bill about the powers of the Board, because there was the expression that the Board might appoint such Officers as the Treasury might sanction; but, on the other hand, they had no information what those Officers were expected to do. They had been told that this Bill was introduced because of a demand made by the majority of the Scotch Members for an Officer of State to secure greater attention to Scotch Business in Parliament. The Bill did not say a word about that. There was no need for haste in regard to this Bill. Any favour which it had received from Scotland had been largely owing to the general expectation that it meant the appointment of a certain

popular Nobleman who was highly respected in Scotland, and whose services had been already of great value to the country. Now that it was ascertained that that appointment was not to be made, he thought it would be well to allow the country a little time, in order that it might dispassionately consider the provisions of the Bill; because, in his opinion, those who had petitioned in favour of the Bill had not looked much further than the name of the Nobleman whom they thought it was intended to appoint. The hon. Member for Portsmouth (Sir H. Drummond Wolff) said no Petition had been presented from Scotland in favour of the Bill; but he had himself that day presented a Petition in its favour; but he wished to explain that it was handed to him for presentation in the absence of an hon. Member to whom it was addressed. The date of that Petition was some time back, and when it was agreed to he believed the Petitioners were not aware of the change that had taken place in the public expectations with regard to the new President. It was necessary in any Bill referring to Scotland to safeguard the position of the Lord Advocate, who had had the conduct of Scotch Business hitherto. That was to be done, not by a clause in a Bill, but by a careful definition of the duties and functions of any new Official who was to be appointed. On these grounds it seemed to him scarcely seemly—he used the expression without offence—to go on with a Bill of this kind at this period of the Session—a Bill which was indefinite in itself, but which suggested the expectation of considerable changes.

Mr. BRYCE said, that though he did not represent a Scotch constituency, he was a Scotchman, and should like to say a few words on the Bill. It appeared to him that a measure of this kind might accomplish three possible objects. One would be to secure better attention to Scottish Business by getting Scotland directly represented in the Cabinet. If this Bill were to do that, there would be a great deal to be said for it. The desire of the people of Scotland was to have greater attention given to Scotch Business, and it was felt that that could only be done by having someone to represent Scotland in the Cabinet. But it was clear, from

the debates on the Bill, that this Office was not intended to be a Cabinet Office.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: Who said so?

MR. BRYCE: Well, it was very improbable that this Office would be a Cabinet Office, although he did not mean to say that it might not be so. He believed the favour with which the Bill was received in Scotland and by Scotch Members was largely due to the fact that it was thought this would be a Cabinet Office, and that the appointment would be conferred on one single Scotch Nobleman; but now that they thought that unlikely, their zeal was very much abated. Scotch Members felt difficulty in opposing anything which could possibly do good to Scotland; but those conversant with the Scotch Members must have come to the conclusion that their interest in the Bill was now very languid indeed, though he did not think they could expect Scotch Members who had supported the Bill to come forward and say so. A second object which a Bill of this kind might have would be to relieve the Home Office of some part of the duties which devolved upon it. No doubt, the Home Secretary was overworked; but the Scotch part of the Home Office work was provided for by the Lord Advocate, who had a knowledge of Scotland, and who had enjoyed the confidence of the Scotch people. If it were intended to relieve the Home Office, the best plan would be to have an Under Secretary to look after Scotch Business, instead of turning the whole matter over to a Local Government Board. The third object the Bill might secure was that there would be considerable advantage in providing for the administration of Scotch affairs by a person who was particularly conversant with Scotland, and who would be able to administer Scotch affairs on distinctly Scotch principles. What were the affairs which ought to be separated from the general Business of the English Secretary of State? They belonged to two categories. Either they were matters concerning Scotch law, or they were matters concerning which Scotland was historically different from England. They all knew that the law of Scotland was distinct in many points from the law of England, and there were excellent grounds for placing the adminis-

tration of Scotch law under a separate Minister; but he did not see that much would be gained in this way by the Bill, because the Business proposed to be transferred to the new Minister was not Legal Business. That, he supposed, would mainly remain with the Lord Advocate; and the only result that he saw would be a further complication and difficulty between the functions of the Lord Advocate, as the Legal Representative of the Crown, and the functions of the new Local Government Board. Then there was other Business, Ecclesiastical and Civil, in which Scotland was historically different from England. He would instance education, which in Scotland was different in many points from England. In his opinion, it would have been well if 40, or even 30, years ago a Scotch Minister of Education had been appointed, because many of the great evils which had resulted to Scottish education by its management upon English lines would have been avoided if that step had been taken then. He did not see that anything would be gained by appointing a distinct Minister of Education for Scotland now; but he thought, on the whole, perhaps it would be better to have it administered by a central English Official. However, the Bill did not propose to touch that; it did not touch the things in which Scotland was distinct from England. It did not satisfy the feeling which the people of Scotland had, that, being in many respects different from and, in their view, superior to the people of England, they ought to be allowed to manage their affairs on their own principles. What did the Bill propose? The Home Secretary said the Schedule told them what were the principles of the Bill, and what were the reasons which had caused Her Majesty's Government to bring it in. Let them see whether the Business in the Schedule was Business that was in any way appropriate to a Scotch Minister, and Business which ought to be disjoined from the English system. He would begin with the Poor Law. There were some points of distinction between Scotch and English Poor Law, no doubt; but, on the other hand, he thought there were points in which the experience of the English Local Government Board, in its Poor Law administration, would be excessively valuable for Scotland; and

Mr. Bryce

he was inclined to think that the benefit to be gained by separate administration would not outweigh the loss. Then, as to vaccination, that was a matter purely administered by Statute; and what possible good could there be to Scotland in having a Vaccination Law administered on a different principle? Then he found Prisons, Locomotive Regulations, and Rivers Pollutions, Food and Drugs Adulteration, Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act, Artizans' and Labourers' Dwellings, and Vivisection; but these were all administered under Statute. The control of vivisection was the most trivial and unimportant part of the Home Secretary's Office; but it seemed to him to be part of the Home Secretary's duties that ought to be discharged on one principle all over the country. Was it desired to send vivisectionists hither and thither over the Border, according to whether the English or Scotch authorities were the more indulgent in granting licences? The same remark applied to factories and workshops, industrial schools, reformatories, and mines, which really exhausted the whole Schedule. These were all matters in which unity of administration was what they wanted, and not separate administration; and he should have thought that the execution of these Statutes would have been rendered much more difficult and troublesome under this Bill than heretofore. This seemed to him only one of those cases in which the vague idea that something ought to be done induced the Government to do something that ought not to be done. They did not seem to have started by considering what was really wanted. They knew the Home Secretary's heart was very soft; and he might say the right hon. and learned Gentleman had listened to the groans of the North Britons, and, determining to appease them, he had hurriedly in this way brought in at the end of the Session a Bill which, the more it was looked at in Scotland and in this House, the less it was liked. He thought it would be a comparatively useless Bill; and, without desiring to offer it a strong opposition, he hoped the Government, having called public attention to the matter, and given them something to talk about in Scotland during the autumn, would withdraw the Bill for the present Session.

Mr. A. ELLIOT said, that his hon. Friend who had just spoken had made what seemed to him to be an attack upon the Bill. He could not join his hon. Friend in all the criticisms he had made. If his hon. Friend had been a Scotch Member, he would no doubt have felt, as a great many Scotch Members did feel, that Scotch Business had not been done in a manner which was satisfactory to them. One object which they had been trying to gain, and which he hoped they should gain by a Bill of this sort, was that they should have some influential Scotchman who could put his shoulder to the wheel, and take care that Scotch Business was properly attended to. He should just refer to the manner in which they were now dealing with this question. Here they were on the 15th August going into Committee on this important measure, and who were the Scotchmen present to discuss its details? The great majority of them had gone to Scotland long ago, and those remaining could not be described as a proper representation of the country. Here they were going into the details of a measure which even Scotch Members who were left had not had proper time adequately to consider, and as to some points this was almost the first time they had heard of them. He was not aware until to-day, for instance, that there was to be a Permanent Under Secretary. That was a very proper step in advance. Though his hon. Friend the Member for Edinburgh (Mr. Buchanan) had put an Amendment on the Paper in that direction, it was not until to-day that he (Mr. A. Elliot) heard the Home Secretary was going to do anything of that kind. That showed the changes which had been made at the very last moment. Although the Bill had been before them for some time, and there had been plenty of opportunity for the Government to put down the Amendments they thought necessary, he saw only to-day a number of Amendments put down by the Lord Advocate. Did they really suppose that Members had time to rush away to the Library and turn up the Statutes, and see exactly what was the bearing of the Amendments of the Lord Advocate? There was no time for that. What he felt Scotch Members had a right to complain of was, that such an important Scotch Bill was to be considered in detail

when so many experienced Members were away from the House. That was a point which ought to be insisted upon. They knew that Scotch Members last year thought Scotch Business was pretty well and efficiently looked after. They thought that Lord Rosebery was an individual of great activity, and of considerable experience in Scottish affairs; but then he had left, and they were without him, while they were also unfortunately deprived of the services of that very eminent Scotchman the Duke of Argyll, who was able to look after Scotch Business, and who had the advantage of a Cabinet position. They were thus in a worse position than they used to be; but when, at the last moment of the Session, this Bill was introduced, he thought they must make the best of it. There were most important matters connected with it to be considered, and he was sorry that Scotch Members were not present whom he should like to see. There was the question of police, which was one of the questions now dealt with by the Home Secretary. Take such a matter as the crofters' riots in Skye. The Home Secretary was the person who was responsible, and to whom the question was referred whether a police force should be sent. No matter was more important than the maintenance of peace and order, and by this Bill those powers were to be transferred to a new Official. That was taking a very large step. It was to take the function of maintaining law and order in regard to the Police Force from the Secretary of State, and give it to a person in a somewhat inferior position. Then there was the important subject of education. He was glad to see an Amendment on the Paper on that subject; but it was hardly worth while discussing, before 14 or 15 Scotch Members, what ought to be discussed before 40 or 50 of them. He would do what he could to support the Bill, in the hope that it might be in time made worth a good deal more than it was at present. He was sure the Home Secretary was trying to satisfy Scotch wishes in bringing in the Bill, and he hoped it would be passed in some shape or form, not with the hope that it would give satisfaction, but that, when it came into working order, they should be able, gradually, to improve it.

Mr. A. Elliot

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE: Sir, I had no anxiety to interpose in the debate at this stage; but I could not avoid rising after the speech we have heard from the hon. Gentleman who has just sat down, and the very powerful speech, it struck me, of the hon. Member for the Tower Hamlets (Mr. Bryce), who, though not representing a Scotch constituency, appeared to me to represent a good deal of Scotch feeling on the whole subject. The object for which I venture to interpose is, to ask the Home Secretary whether, looking at the whole position of Business and the position of this Bill, the Government would not really facilitate the general progress of Business by allowing this matter now to be withdrawn, and taken up again when it can be more fully discussed? I do not profess myself to have any intention of interposing or endeavouring to prevent the House going into Committee on the Bill. I have no doubt it is a desirable object to make better provision than has hitherto been made for the conduct of Scotch Business. That is an object which has been in the minds of many for a great number of years; and, certainly, ever since the present Government came into Office, we have had intimations from time to time that they have been considering it, and endeavouring to do something. But all they seem to have arrived at is the conclusion that something ought to be done, and they refer us to the discussion which is to take place in Committee as to the merits of the particular scheme which they propose, and they invite the House on this day—Wednesday, the 15th August—to undertake the careful revision of the scheme in all its details. Of course, the general provision that something should be done to improve the administration of Scotch Business is one which those of us who have known the difficulties that have occurred are not disposed to interfere with; and I should not myself wish to oppose the Speaker leaving the Chair, and this Bill being taken up, if it came to a Division. But I think that the discussion that will have to take place must be of considerable length and minuteness, and I doubt whether it will be possible to carry it through in any satisfactory way, or to produce anything like satisfaction when you get it through. The right hon. and learned Gentleman

says, when you get it into Committee you are to consider what are the functions you are going to assign to your new Officer, and that you will find these stated in the Schedule. But the Schedule contains no less than 38 Acts relating to the powers and duties of the Secretary of State, and three other Acts relating to the duties of the Privy Council or the Local Government Board of England, all of which are to be transferred; and, besides all those, there are a number of Notices given by the right hon. and learned Lord Advocate opposite, who desires to introduce other functions into the list to be handed over to the new Office. It is obvious that many of these Acts will have to be considered carefully, in order that we may see what the powers are which are to be transferred, and whether it is fit and proper that they should be so transferred. That is a matter which we cannot undertake with any advantage at such a time as this, especially in the absence of so many Gentlemen who ought, indeed, to be consulted on the subject, and ought to give their opinions. I have no doubt even the few Scotch Members present to-day will contribute very largely to the discussion of these matters; but, besides them, there are others who would have a right to be heard, but who, owing to certain circumstances, are not here to-day. I cannot help thinking that in the conduct of Scotch Business we have hitherto been in the habit of relying very much indeed on the Lord Advocate; and I may say that never, in my recollection, have we had the advantage of having a Lord Advocate who has more thoroughly deserved and enjoyed the confidence of the House than we have at the present time. I must myself say that I should attach very great importance to the views of the Lord Advocate on the whole question of re-organization. I have not always been here; but, so far as I am aware, the Lord Advocate has not given us his views upon the whole subject, and I think that is a great disadvantage, because, although there is a clause which provides that nothing in this Bill shall interfere with the rights, powers, and privileges of his Office, still one would like to know if that great high Officer is not really to be set aside or his functions degraded by the Bill we are about to consider. The Home Secretary commented on my hon. Friend's remark

that there is no Preamble to the Bill, and stated that Preambles were going out of fashion. Well, Preambles are going out of fashion, and in many cases it is convenient not to have them; but in a matter of this sort, where you have something in the nature of an organic change, I think a Preamble would have been convenient and appropriate, so that we might know, not merely from expressions used in debate, which may or may not be forgotten, what is the meaning and object of this great alteration in the re-organization of our governing system. It may be that it is a mere matter of convenience, as the hon. Member for the Tower Hamlets (Mr. Bryce) says, which he would very gladly welcome, and such as the Scotch Members, and English Members too, would gladly welcome if it really conduces to the better transaction of the Business affecting Scotland. But it may mean something more than that. It may mean that this is to be the first step in the direction of altering the relations between England and Scotland, and between the Imperial Parliament and the people of Scotland. There was a sentence in the speech of the right hon. and learned Gentleman in which he said that things had gone on very well since the beginning of the world. "The beginning of the world" was a phrase; but when was there a Secretary of State for Scotland?

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: Since the Union to 1745.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE: I had forgotten that circumstance; but, undoubtedly, one would be glad to know what are the grounds on which the alteration was made, and why this great Office was abolished at the time? The question which one would like to study is one of Imperial organization—whether by degrees we are to go back to the state of things in 1745? Perhaps we may go back to what they were in 1745, and perhaps we may go back to what they were half-a-century before that time, and see whether there could not be some better system for the administration of Scotch Business by devolution or delegation, as they call things now-a-days, which may lead to something very like a repeal or a great modification of the Act of Union itself. I apologize for having made these remarks. My object is really to ask the

Government whether seriously they do not think they would facilitate the general progress of Business, and would do no harm to the measure itself; by allowing it to stand over to another Session, when they would be able to bring it forward, and when it could be fully considered and discussed at length?

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: Sir, I have no right to speak again; but I understand the right hon. Gentleman to address a question to me directly, which I will answer promptly. If I thought the speech of the hon. Member for Roxburghshire (Mr. A. Elliot) expressed at all the sentiments of Scotch Members sitting on this side of the House, of course the Bill would be at an end. My hon. Friend was not able to be present on the second reading, and if the sentiments of Scotch Members were at all those expressed by him, there would be no use in going on with a Bill that was so regarded by the Scotch Members. But I do not believe that is the fact. I believe the majority of Scotch Members desire that this Bill should be proceeded with, and so long as I believe that I shall think it my duty to go on with it.

MR. A. ELLIOT: The right hon. and learned Gentleman, not having been in the House, must have got rather an imperfect notion of what I said. I said we had better take the Bill and try to make the best of it, but we could not make it what it ought to be.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: I heard the hon. Member's speech, and I adhere to what I said.

DR. CAMERON said, that as a thorough supporter of the Bill, he should not contribute to talking it out; but he thought it desirable that the speeches of hon. Members who opposed it should not be the sole expression of the opinion on the part of Scotch Members that should go forth to the public. It seemed to him that the right hon. Gentleman the Leader of the Opposition had manifested one great qualification of statesmanship. Russell Lowell in his well-known *Biglow Papers* said—

“Your genuine statesman should be on his guard,

If he must have beliefs, not to believe them too hard.”

When the right hon. Gentleman opposite was in Office, he and his Colleagues considered the conduct of Scotch Business to be so unsatisfactory that they in-

troduced a Bill to create a new Official—an Under Secretary of State for Scotland—with the view of ameliorating the conduct of Scotch Business. That was by no means the first time the thing was mooted. The right hon. Gentleman the Member for Montrose (Mr. Baxter), than whom no Member was more respected, had told him (Dr. Cameron) that 15 or 20 years ago he had submitted a Memorandum on the subject to the then Government, and that the Bill which was now brought in embodied substantially what he then proposed. After the late Government went out of Office a Conference took place amongst Scotch Members, and the great majority of them, excluding the Members then in Office, who might be supposed to be favourable to the Bill, decided to send a deputation to the Prime Minister to urge him to do something to remedy the condition into which Scotch Business had fallen. The hon. Member for the University of Glasgow (Mr. J. A. Campbell) said they had asked for a Secretary of State, and not for a Minister such as was proposed by this Bill. That was not his (Dr. Cameron's) impression or recollection of what did occur. The Prime Minister asked distinctly—“Do you demand a Secretary of State for Scotland?” And no single member of the deputation went so far as to say they did—that was to say, not one member was prepared to say they should always have a Scotch Minister with a seat in the Cabinet. The Minister proposed by this Bill was spoken of as if he were an anomaly. Hon. Members appeared to forget that the President of the English Local Government Board at the present time was a Cabinet Minister, but that under the late Government he was not a Cabinet Minister. The present Postmaster General was not a Cabinet Minister, while in the last Administration he was. The present Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant was not a Cabinet Minister, but his Predecessor was. The Cabinet was a fluctuating body, and was properly composed of Ministers who had the largest knowledge and the greatest influence in connection with matters which were at the time before the public. That seemed to be precisely what they wanted in connection with Scotch matters. The hon. Member for the Tower Hamlets (Mr. Bryce) and the hon. Member for Roxburghshire (Mr. A. Elliot) pointed out what

Sir Stafford Northcote

they considered to be a number of defects in the Bill. What on earth, asked the hon. Member for the Tower Hamlets, was the use of putting Poor Law matters into the hands of this Minister—

MR. BRYCE: I did not say that. I said there were some things to be gained by making the administration of the Poor Law in the two countries distinct; but there were other things to be lost, and that the loss would be greater than the gain.

DR. CAMERON said, he did not exactly see what was to be lost; but he did see much that was to be gained. The Poor Law Boards of Scotland controlled not merely the administration of Poor Law matters, but the entire sanitary administration of the country; and he could assure his hon. Friend that what was said the other day by the President of the Local Government Board in the late Administration (Mr. Selater-Booth), to the effect that there was actually no central sanitary administration in Scotland, was not in the least exaggerated. He dreaded to think what would occur in case a widespread epidemic broke out in the rural districts of Scotland. The Board of Supervision had no special knowledge on the subject. It was a Board composed in a most extraordinary manner. What had been repeatedly complained of was, that Scotch Members and Scotch deputations coming to London to consult anyone on Scotch Business were referred from one Minister to another—were told to go to this Department and to that Department—and that in the present state of things it was utterly impossible to know who was responsible, or who had power to do any definite thing, and that, in fact, there was circumlocution in its worst and most offensive form. This Bill, it appeared to him, was intended to remedy that. It was based, as he had said, on lines which were proposed many years ago by the right hon. Member for Montrose (Mr. Baxter); and it appeared to him to carry out precisely what was asked for by the deputation which waited on the Prime Minister. For that reason he should have very great pleasure in supporting it.

MR. M'LAGAN said, he had not intended to take part in the debate, as he was particularly anxious that the Bill should proceed; but after hearing the speeches which had been delivered, par-

ticularly those of the hon. Member for Roxburghshire (Mr. A. Elliot) and the hon. Member for the Tower Hamlets (Mr. Bryce), he felt compelled to say a few words. It was notorious that English Members were generally most ignorant of Scotch affairs; and he was afraid that the hon. Member for the Tower Hamlets was playing on that ignorance when he had mentioned that in Scotland the Poor Law was not very different from what it was in England.

MR. BRYCE remarked, that he had said the Poor Law was different; but he had said that, though there were advantages in that, the disadvantages far outweighed them.

MR. M'LAGAN, resuming, said, that, in his opinion, the advantages certainly outweighed the disadvantages. As illustrating the differences in the local government of Scotland and England, he might mention that the Fishery Board and the General Police and Burgh Police Acts had nothing corresponding to them in England. The law relating to fairs and markets was quite different in the two countries. In Scotland they had a county general assessment; they had no such thing in England similar to what they had in Scotland. The law respecting roads and bridges was also different. It was, therefore, necessary to have some Scotchman to overlook all those matters. There was also the difference between the Burial Laws of the two countries. This question of having a separate Department for Scotland was not new. There was an agitation for it in 1868 or 1869, and so great was that agitation that a Commission was appointed to inquire into the whole matter. Nothing was done at the time; but all Scotch Members who had sat in the House since then had complained of the great neglect of Scotch Business, and of the necessity of having a Secretary of State, an Under Secretary of State, or such a Department as was now proposed. He hoped the Bill would pass. He thanked the late Government for what they had done. They had brought in a Bill to give Scotland an Under Secretary. He would have been satisfied with an Under Secretary if one had been appointed at the time. But that had not been done, and now they asked the Prime Minister to put Scotch affairs in that House in a better position than they had been in hitherto. The Bill

was the outcome of the representation which had been made to the Prime Minister; and he thought it would be most ungracious in them, as Scotch Members, to refuse the Bill, after the attempt that the Government had made to give them what they asked. Scotchmen who came to London had great difficulty in knowing to what Office they were to go to for information. They found the duties of those charged with Scotch matters scattered over different Departments, and they often had to go away without the information they wanted. The effect of the Bill would be to concentrate everything relating to Scotland in one Department. They would have a Permanent Under Secretary for Scotland, who would be able to give them all the information they wanted, as was done by the Under Secretary in the other Departments. They should have to apply to the Scotch Office, and to the Scotch Office alone, and people who came from Scotland would get all the information they wanted. He should give a most earnest support to the Bill in Committee.

Mr. DICK-PEDDIE said, he rose in consequence of what the Home Secretary had said with regard to the speech of his hon. Friend the Member for Roxburghshire (Mr. A. Elliot). The right hon. and learned Gentleman said that if the Government had reason to suppose that the sentiments of Scotch Members generally were at all those expressed by the hon. Member for Roxburghshire, they would consider that there was no use in going on with the Bill. He (Mr. Dick-Peddle) thought that a very unfortunate statement, for it was calculated to convey the impression that the Government had itself no great confidence in the Bill. He desired to assure the Home Secretary that the feeling of the great majority of Scotch Members was strongly in favour of the Bill; and he ventured to say that the public opinion of Scotland generally was not less strongly in favour of it. Reference had been made to the small number of Scotch Members who had spoken in the previous debate. If few had spoken it was from no indifference to the Bill; but entirely because the Scotch Members wished to do nothing to delay its passing. He himself had acted from that motive, and had abstained from speaking, although he had intended to take part in the debate on

the second reading. The hon. Member who moved the Amendment said that there was a marked absence of Petitions in favour of the Bill. If there was not a large number of Petitions, the reason was simply that the people of Scotland knew that their Representatives were generally so favourable to the Bill that they thought its passing was a certainty. As for the small number of Scotch Members present, that must not be taken as an indication that those who were absent were indifferent to the passing of the measure. He knew that many hon. Members who had gone away had done so because they believed that the Bill was safe; and he knew that many of them would have returned, even at the expense of much personal inconvenience, had they supposed that at this stage the passing of the Bill would have been seriously challenged. It was true that in Scotland there was a general desire for something more than the Bill proposed to give. The general feeling was that the Minister entrusted with Scotch affairs should be a Cabinet Minister, and there was some disappointment that the Bill did not go that length. But it was undoubtedly a step in the right direction; and the Scotch people were too sensible to reject a good measure, and one which went in the direction of their demands, because it did not give them all they wanted. He trusted that the Government would not give the slightest heed to those who urged them to abandon the Bill.

Mr. ANDERSON said, there was one argument that had already been used too freely in opposition to the Bill, and that was in reference to the absence of Scotch Members. He imagined that that should, on the contrary, tell rather in favour of the Bill than against it; because if Scotch Members had so very small a feeling against the Bill that they were able to go away and leave the duties for which their constituencies sent them to Parliament, and went away to shoot grouse in Scotland, or to amuse themselves in some other way, it either showed that they had no antipathy to the Bill, or that they were not to be regarded very representative Scotch Members. If the latter were the case, of course that was a matter to be settled between their constituencies and themselves. But he did not think that was the case. Their absence rather indi-

Mr. M'Lagan

cated that those hon. Gentlemen were satisfied with the Bill, and went away in confidence that it would be passed. It had been a great disappointment in Scotland to learn—not by any formal announcement, but by a general understanding—that the Scotch Minister to be created by the Bill was not to hold a Cabinet Office—at least at present. That, he said, had been a very great disappointment, because the feeling in Scotland had been a feeling of want of someone in the Cabinet to press forward Scotch measures within the Cabinet. It was felt that there was a rivalry between Cabinet Ministers as to which of their measures should be most pressed. At the same time, they lived in hope that if a Scotch Department was created, even though they did not get a Cabinet Minister now, they would get one at some future time. He should, therefore, assist the Government in going on with the Bill.

MR. ERNEST NOEL said, he thought the Home Secretary had misunderstood the hon. Member for Roxburghshire (Mr. A. Elliot) when he said he opposed the Bill. What his hon. Friend had said was that, if Scotch affairs had been so well attended to as he thought they ought to be, so important a Bill as this would not have been brought up on a Wednesday. That was an illustration of how much this measure, or something like it, was wanted. The hon. Member had, indeed, gone on to say that he did not think the Bill provided all that was required in a Scotch Office; but he had said very distinctly—and he (Mr. Ernest Noel) believed it represented the great body of opinion in Scotland—that this Bill would form a Scotch Department which before long might be brought into perfect harmony with the wants of Scotland; and therefore he was ready to support the Bill, and thank the Government for bringing it in. He (Mr. Ernest Noel) hoped the Government would have no thought of dropping the Bill, but would carry it through. If it was not all they wanted, it was a step in the right direction, and would go a long way towards securing what they desired.

MR. A. GRANT said, he rose to express a general approval of the Bill, which he thought was calculated to effect very great improvements upon the ma-

chinery of government in Scotland. It seemed to him that those who had taken it upon themselves to interpret the wishes of the Scotch people in the matter had altogether erroneously interpreted those wishes. If they were to judge of the public opinion of Scotland as it was expressed in the Press and elsewhere, they would find that the Bill had been received with very great favour by the people of Scotland. At the same time, he was bound to say that, owing to the length of time the Government had taken to make up their minds with regard to the measure, a large amount of time had not been allowed to the people of Scotland to express their sentiments in regard to the Bill; but, at all events, the Bill had this in its favour—that it supplied to the Scotch people a Governmental Head, to whom they might apply on all those various matters which were comprised in the Schedule, and who was to be authorized to act and decide upon all the ordinary matters of administration without being liable to be interfered with, and, he was afraid, in very many cases thwarted, by an overruling authority as to the course he might think proper to follow. With regard to the Board to be established, he presumed the object of constituting that Board was to maintain a general superintendence and a general authority in the hands of the Supreme Central Government, and that it was not intended that the Board should interfere with the President in the ordinary discharge of his duties. Of course, in matters of any great importance, where Imperial interests were involved, no doubt the President would consult his Colleagues on the Board; but he confessed he wished the Board had made more clearly understood what were to be the relations between the President and the other Members of the Board. What, for instance, was to be the class of questions on which he was to consult the other Members? What were the matters on which he was to be subject to be overruled by his Colleagues? There was no doubt that if the Bill was to prove a success, the new Minister must be one who was conversant with public opinion in Scotland, who was acquainted with the wants and wishes, the peculiarities and prejudices—for they had both peculiarities and prejudices—of the people of Scotland. And, further, he thought it was absolutely necessary

that the people of Scotland should have an assurance that, in approaching the new Minister, they were dealing with the Head of a Department, and with one who was authorized to speak definitely to them on behalf of the Government; further, the new Minister should have assigned to him the right of initiative in all Government measures exclusively relating to Scotland; and, most important of all, he should have allotted to him a sufficient portion of the Government Parliamentary time to carry out the measures that he might introduce. Of course, they were not so unreasonable as to claim that Scotch local legislation should interfere with measures of primary importance—of Imperial magnitude. All they asked was, that Scotch Business in Parliament should have a fair allotment of Parliamentary time, in common with measures of corresponding importance relating to other parts of the Kingdom. He thought it could not be denied that, in late years more especially, Scotch Parliamentary Business had been liable to be relegated to the shreds and odds and ends of Parliamentary time, and that it had also been liable to be overlooked and thrust into the background by the Government of the day in making their arrangements for the legislative work of the Session. It seemed to him that the new Minister bore a very strong analogy to the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. It was true they were not to have in Scotland a figurehead in the form of a Viceroyalty; but they did not desire that in Scotland, and it certainly was not necessary as a stimulus to their loyalty. Of course, all Scotland would like to see the new Minister a Member of the Cabinet. But he confessed he saw very great difficulties in the way of a hard-and-fast rule being laid down that he should be a Cabinet Minister. The Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant was not necessarily a Cabinet Minister. He was or was not in the Cabinet as circumstances might demand; and he thought they might be content to leave the question whether the Minister for Scotland should be in the Cabinet or not an open one, in the same way. The question whether the educational interests of Scotland should be committed to the new Minister was a very important one; and it seemed to him that the people of Scotland would be the losers if they

were to be deprived of the benefit of the large stock of experience which must have been acquired by the central educational authority administering the educational business of the whole country. When they considered that in the Education Department, as at present constituted, there was a Scotch branch, which devoted itself exclusively to Scotch Business, he thought they might consider that the educational interests of the country were sufficiently protected. During the years immediately following the introduction of the Scotch Education Act of 1872, he had had some experience, as Chairman of a School Board, of the working of the Local Board for Education in Scotland; and he regretted to say that his experience of the working of that Board was not altogether what he could have wished. It was an utter mistake to say that Scotland was languid or lukewarm in her desire for the passing of the Bill. He trusted the Home Secretary would proceed with it, and that it would be carried.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, his remarks would be greatly curtailed by the observations of the hon. Member for the Tower Hamlets (Mr. Bryce), who had expressed in a very able manner his general views concerning the Bill. He wished to read to the House an extract from the Report of Lord Camperdown in 1880. In regard to the proposal made by the right hon. Member for Montrose, the Report stated—

“Mr. Baxter proposed that there should be a Secretary for Scotland connected with the Privy Council rather than with the Home Office.”

That was not the proposal of the Bill. Then the Report said—“He would be in exactly the same position as the Chief Secretary for Ireland;” and it further stated that the right hon. Member for Montrose stated he had no detailed information as to the duties to be performed. Therefore, much as he respected the opinions of the right hon. Member for Montrose, he thought that on this occasion they must be taken with some little reserve. The longer this debate went on the more unfortunate did he think it was that this Bill should have come on at the present time. Even the hon. Member who had just spoken had pointed out his objections to the Bill in a certain way. It was quite natural that the hon. Member for Edinburgh (Mr. Buchanan) and the hon. Member for Leith (Mr. A.

Mr. A. Grant

Grant) should like a Bill which would centre all Scotch Business in Edinburgh; and that was what would be done if this Bill passed. It was only last week that he had thought it his duty to go to the North of Scotland to inquire what the people in his part of the country really thought about the Bill. He had been to two large shipping ports in the North of Scotland, and he found the people there saying—"Oh, we think it a very good thing; but we do not know anything about it." They did not know what benefit or advantage it would be. He did not find any person who had read the Bill. They said—"Of course, we would like anything that would be of advantage to Scotland; but we do not know whether it would or not." A very able man, and a great friend of his, had said—"Capital thing; capital thing; but why stop there? Give us a Scotch Parliament? Why should we be bothered with an English Parliament?" With regard to the remarks of the Home Secretary respecting Scotch Members, only 20 Scotch Members out of the 60 had voted for the Bill; and out of those five or six were Government Officers sitting on the Government Bench, who, of course, whether they liked it or not, voted with the Government; and some of those who had voted for the Bill, he knew, did not approve of it. ["Oh!"] He repeated what he had said. They voted from the desire to vote with the Government. He should like to vote with the Government, if he could; but those who had an independent position felt that they had a right to vote as they thought best. That reduced the number of Scotch Members in favour of the Bill to a very small number. This new Minister, as he understood the Bill, was to take the place of several Boards in Edinburgh; but he wished to remind the House that the duties performed by those Boards were performed under Statute, and this Bill contained no authority to transfer those duties from the Boards. Therefore, the new Minister would not be able, under this Bill, to interfere with these duties. The duty now resting with the Secretary of State was to advise the Sovereign in regard to the appointment of certain officials. He did not know whether it was intended by this Bill that the new Minister was to advise the Sovereign in regard to those appointments; it was

not so stated in the Bill; and it was a theory of the Constitution, he believed, that Her Majesty's instructions to her subjects should be conveyed through a Secretary of State. These were points which would have to be considered in the Bill. He found that all the powers of the Privy Council and the Secretary of State in regard to Bills mentioned in the Schedule were to be transferred from those two Departments to the new Minister. The tendency of the Amendment he had put down on the second reading was that they should have a Scotch Department, separate from the English Department, but reporting and acting under the authority of a Cabinet Minister. It appeared to him that the speech of the hon. Member for Linlithgow (Mr. M'Lagan) was a strong argument against the Bill. His friends in the North of Scotland said they wished to go to the person who could give them a final answer. They wished to present their business to the Head of the Department, and have their answer from him; whereas in future, under this Bill, they would have to filter their business through Edinburgh, if the Office were in Edinburgh, or if in London, through the Minister in London, who would only be able to say—"I understand your views and wishes. I will represent them to Government, and see what they will do." He believed this step would greatly increase their Parliamentary Business in that House. The tendency of a Scotch Department would be to keep Scotch and English Business separate instead of amalgamating them; and whereas now they had every Session a large number of Acts of Parliament which were applicable to both countries—what were called United Kingdom Acts—they would in future have one Act for England, and one Act for Scotland, as they had had the other day for the Agricultural Holdings Act. He had been unable for a long time to understand why that question had been handled by two separate Acts, because the operative clauses of the Scotch Act were word for word the same as in the English Act, the only difference being in details relating to the Sheriffs and County Court Judges, which were always provided for in a United Kingdom Act; but the two Bills appeared to have been taken separately in order to endeavour to show the necessity for a Scotch Department. He

was one of those who did not wish to oppose the Government in regard to the measure; but he thought they were taking a leap in the dark; however, he hoped in Committee the Bill would be put into some practical shape.

Mr. GIBSON said, he would remind the House of the manner in which Scotch Members usually flocked to attend a Scotch discussion on a Wednesday. The Scotch Members attended better than any others if the Business was really of a kind that excited interest and sympathy in Scotland. It was obvious that even in the case of those who did not oppose the Bill—and that was the highest form of approval the Government could command—their sympathy was of the most languid kind imaginable. At the present time there were only 15 Scotch Members present. His proposition was, that there were not 15 Scotch Members present in the House, and if a Division were taken he dared say they might muster 16. If anyone objected to the length to which the debate had extended, let it be borne in mind who was answerable for the duration of the discussion. The hon. Member for Roxburghshire (Mr. A. Elliot), in a temperate and clear speech, expressed his views, and indicated that he intended to vote for the Bill; but he, at the same time, indicated many points upon which he thought it was fairly open to criticism, and the hon. Member made a speech full of information and valuable suggestions. But the Home Secretary was not prepared to allow the criticisms of the hon. Member to pass without something—he would not say in the nature of defiance—at least, without a very distinct challenge; and the right hon. and learned Gentleman practically called upon every Scotch Member who was present to rise up and testify what his opinion was in relation to the Bill. Accordingly, some five or six Gentlemen, who were entitled to speak with authority, stood up on the Government side of the House and took part in the discussion, because they felt bound not to remain silent after the invitation given by the Home Secretary. It was impossible to speak upon the Bill with enthusiasm or energy. It was an unreal Bill to create a sham official to perform bogus duties; and those who had spoken on the Government side of the House had certainly spoken in a

way which showed that although they were not prepared to oppose the Bill they gave it only the minimum of blessing. He had a profound respect for the Scotch; he respected their ready intelligence, keen wit, and the sturdy reserve which they could occasionally show; but certainly, if they had any enthusiasm for the Bill, and if they did like it, they had expressed their love in the most cold-blooded way possible. The hon. Member for the Tower Hamlets (Mr. Bryce), not being hampered by representing a Scottish constituency, but still speaking with the fulness of heart of a Scotchman, was disposed to put it on this ground—that he would not oppose the Bill, because he did not think, on a calm consideration of its provisions, that it would do much harm; and he (Mr. Gibson) believed that that sentence contained about as much truth as could be put into any form of epigram. Then the hon. Member for Roxburghshire, who was a sound Party man, and who, although he felt compelled, for the sake of the interests of eternal truth, occasionally to speak words of real sound criticism in relation to the Government measure, felt bound to say he would not oppose the Bill as a Party man; but he indicated a very important Amendment which had been put down on the Paper in relation to the Schedule, which was the real substance of the Bill, because if they struck out the Schedule the new President would have nothing to do. He hoped the Lord Advocate would take part in the discussion, and explain the changes that he had made on the Schedule of the Bill.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR): I shall explain them all in Committee.

Mr. GIBSON said, he should have thought that, having regard to the dignity and antiquity of the Office of Lord Advocate, the present holder of the Office would have taken some part in the debate on the second reading, or in the present discussion. The hon. Member for Leith (Mr. A. Grant) made the most astounding defence of the Bill. He said he was in favour of the Bill because it would enable the Minister for Scotland, with a seat in the Cabinet, to take the initiative in all discussions upon Scotch Business in the House, and he supposed that he would occupy a very similar position to that of the Chief Se-

cretary for Ireland. If there was one thing to be anticipated with regard to the effect of the Bill, it was that not one of these wishes could be satisfied under its provisions, and yet the hon. Member was in favour of the measure. The hon. and gallant Member who had last spoken (Sir Alexander Gordon) certainly could not be said to have made a speech in favour of the Bill, and he rather gathered that the feelings of the hon. and gallant Member were distinctly against it. He was positive that his representation of what was said to him in the North of Scotland really represented what he (Mr. Gibson) had been informed accounted for any approval that had ever been expressed about the Bill in Scotland. "It is a very good Bill; tell us all about it," or "It is a very good Bill; but I know nothing about it." He ventured to think if any intelligent person in Scotland who was said to have expressed an opinion in favour of the Bill were asked for the reasons why he was in favour of it, he would say—"I am all for having Lord Rosebery given a place, and for having Scotch Business put under his charge;" and since it had been more than whispered abroad—and it was pretty generally understood—that Lord Rosebery was not to be the Officer under the Bill, the enthusiasm, which had never reached more than a temperate stage, had vanished altogether. He did not pretend to any enthusiasm himself for the Bill. He thought it was not a real Bill. One did not like to use strong language in reference to the Bill; and he should close his observations by a word of suggestion and advice to his hon. Friend the Member for Portsmouth (Sir H. Drummond Wolff), and that was, that as the present discussion had elicited all the information which the Home Secretary had, he should be satisfied with the approval of his own conscience, and leave the Government the privilege, if they thought it worth while, of working through the clauses of an utterly unworkable Bill.

Mr. C. S. PARKER observed, that he would not say a word on the principle or on the details of the Bill. The principle they had had an opportunity of discussing on previous occasions, and the details they would be able to discuss when the hon. Member for Portsmouth (Sir H. Drummond Wolff) withdrew

his Amendment. He rose merely to protest against two or three misrepresentations which had been made in the course of the debate. In the first place, it had been stated at the opening of the discussion that there were only eight or 10 Scotch Members present; and the right hon. and learned Gentleman opposite (Mr. Gibson) had told them there were 15 or 16.

Mr. GIBSON: Only 14 now.

Mr. C. S. PARKER said, he had a list of the names of 22 Scotch Members, which he was ready to show the right hon. and learned Gentleman.

Mr. GIBSON: They are not in the House.

Mr. C. S. PARKER: They had been in the House while he had been sitting there. He also challenged the right hon. and learned Gentleman to furnish him with a single instance in which Scotch Members had flocked together to debate Scotch Bills after the 12th of August. The absence of Scotch Members on the present occasion was to be accounted for by their engagements in Scotland, and their confidence that the Bill would pass through the House without their assistance. The second point upon which there had been misrepresentation was with regard to the Petitions from Scotland. The hon. Member who moved the Amendment was wrong in saying there were no Petitions in favour of the Bill. Petitions had been sent from the Town Council, the Parochial Board, and the Chamber of Commerce of Edinburgh. There was also a Petition from the Town Council of Leith.

Mr. ANDERSON: And the Town Council of Glasgow.

Mr. C. S. PARKER said, there had also been a Petition from the Town Council of Aberdeen in favour of the Bill, and the Town Council of his own constituency (Perth) had petitioned in its favour. Further, there was a very representative Petition from the Convention of Royal and Parliamentary Burghs of Scotland. Also, he thought there had been misrepresentation as to the state of public opinion. He was willing to admit that Scotland was not very well informed as to the precise nature of the Bill, and it was possible that the Scotch Members might have more to say on the Bill in Committee; but he had no doubt that, so far as information on the subject went, public

opinion generally throughout Scotland was in favour of the principle of the Bill. The most that had been said against the Bill had been said by a Scotchman, though not a Scotch Member, whose authority the right hon. and learned Gentleman (Mr. Gibson) endeavoured to place higher than his own abilities undoubtedly entitled him to be placed, by reminding the House that he spoke as one who was not hampered by representing a Scotch constituency. That was a strange argument to come from the Constitutional Party. He (Mr. Parker) thought the fact that the hon. Member spoke not as representing a Scotch constituency rather detracted from, than added to, the weight of his personal opinion on a matter concerning Scotland. On two points the people of Scotland were hopeful about the Bill. One was, that it would increase their opportunities of carrying on Scotch Business in that House; and the other was, that it would provide, for the future, some place where the permanent records of Scotch Business were to be found easily at hand, and where they should find a permanent Officer of the Department in charge of them, to give any explanations that might be required. If they got nothing else by the Bill, they would get one thing which would be highly appreciated by the Scotch people; they would get rid of what was the chief blot in the system of administration by Lord Advocates—namely, that when each one in turn passed away, he left no trace behind him, except it might be on the Statute Book, of all that he had on hand, and whoever came next had not the advantage of finding the materials ready to continue the work of the Department. For that reason, if for no other, he thought the people of Scotland would gratefully accept the Bill.

Mr. WARTON said, the ground on which he opposed the Bill was that the intentions of the Government were hidden in the murky gloom of studied ambiguity. He trusted the Lord Advocate would address the House, as a few words of explanation from him now would conduce more to the speedy passage of the Bill than a great number of observations made in Committee. The vice of the Bill was that it might come to very little, or it might come to a great deal, and nobody knew what its effect would really be.

Mr. C. S. Parker

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Main Question, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair," put, and *agreed to*.

Bill considered in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1 (Short title) *agreed to*.

Clause 2 (Constitution of the Local Government Board).

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF begged to move an Amendment which stood on the Paper in the name of the right hon. Member for South-West Lancashire (Sir R. Assheton Cross), to substitute an Under Secretary of State as the Head of the Local Government Board instead of a President.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 9, leave out "a President," and insert "an Under Secretary of State."—(Sir H. Drummond Wolff.)

Question proposed, "That the words 'a President' stand part of the Clause."

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, he felt bound to oppose the Amendment, on the ground that it would entirely frustrate the whole scheme of the Bill; and, considering that the Bill had been discussed on the second reading for a day and a-half, and that it had undergone two hours' discussion that day before going into Committee, he thought the principle of the Bill ought to be very well understood. He took it that the right hon. Gentleman the Member for South-West Lancashire (Sir R. Assheton Cross) desired, by the present Amendment, and others of which he had given Notice, to convert the present Bill into his own Bill of 1878. In that year the right hon. Gentleman brought in a Bill the object of which was to establish an Under Secretary of the Home Department, who should have charge of Scotch Business; and he now put a series of Amendments upon the Paper which would practically convert this measure into his own Bill. He (the Lord Advocate) took it that when the House had already passed the second reading of the Bill, as they had done in this case, in which the plan laid down was the constitution of a Scotch Board somewhat like the English Local Government Board, with a President of greater dignity and larger powers than an Under Secretary, it would be going against the entire principle of the Bill to

introduce the Amendment now proposed. He had pointed out more than once that the whole scheme of the Bill would be found set out in the Schedule, which enumerated various Statutes by which certain duties were imposed upon the Secretary of State for the Home Department, the Privy Council, and the Local Government Board. The object of the Bill was to transfer these duties to the President of the Scotch Local Government Board. The idea of transferring these duties now imposed on the Principal Secretary of the Home Department to an Under Secretary was clearly opposed to the whole scheme of the Bill. It was not necessary to occupy the time of the Committee longer than to point out that the whole aim and object of the measure would be frustrated by the adoption of the Amendment.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE BALFOUR asked the Lord Advocate what was the object of having a Board at all? He could not understand why on earth they should have a Local Government Board for Scotland. The existing Scotch Boards might be susceptible of improvement; and if so let them amend defects, and then leave them to carry on the local business of Scotland without dragging the details to London. He was not prepared to accept the Under Secretary, because he thought such an appointment would be opposed to the whole framework of the Bill, and unsuited for the kind of work to be transacted; but he failed to see why there should be a Board at all. What they wanted was a person connected with the Administration who should have the conduct of Scotch Business, and mainly in relation to the Parliamentary duties; and he desired an explanation from the Lord Advocate as to what necessity there was for keeping up the form of a Board.

SIR JOHN HAY said, he saw his hon. Friend the Member for Linlithgow (Mr. M'Lagan) in his place, and he wished to call attention to the evidence given by his hon. Friend on a former occasion. His hon. Friend stated that he did not think the creation of another Office would be warranted unless the duties were placed in the charge of the Scotch Lord of the Treasury. He would not go into the details of the evidence given by his hon. Friend, with the whole of which he (Sir John Hay) agreed. He also agreed with the hon. and gallant Member for Kincardineshire

(General Sir George Balfour). He could not conceive what this Board would have to do. It was quite impossible to understand how the work was to be made for the new Officer. His own opinion was that his hon. Friend the Member for Banffshire (Mr. R. W. Duff) would be able to conduct the Scotch Business to the satisfaction of the people of Scotland quite as well as Sir William Gibson-Craig or Mr. Forbes Mackenzie, or any other Gentleman who had preceded him. The real mistake was that his hon. Friend the Member for Banffshire was engaged in the performance of other duties which had no special reference to Scotland; and, for some reason or other, the learned Lord Advocate was not entrusted with the whole of the Scotch measures, many of which fell upon the Home Secretary. [SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: All of them.] He (Sir John Hay) understood the noble Earl (the Earl of Rosebery), who had been before alluded to in the debate, and who had been spoken of as having performed his duties with satisfaction to the Scotch people and to himself, was entrusted with the charge of Scotch Business. [THE LORD ADVOCATE dissented.] The right hon. and learned Gentleman shook his head; but, at any rate, it was so understood, and it was also understood that the Home Office was in communication with the noble Lord. The real difficulty was that since the Duke of Argyll left the Cabinet there had been nobody to look after Scotch Business.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: Will the right hon. and gallant Gentleman allow me to say that the Duke of Argyll never interfered with Scotch Business at all?

SIR JOHN HAY said, that was also a great misfortune, because the ordinary way in which the Scotch Business had been conducted had been by a Scotch Member of the Cabinet, such as the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, the Duke of Argyll, Lord Minto, or some other Cabinet Ministers, and not by a special Scotch Minister. The usual practice was to endeavour to get a Cabinet Minister to arrange with his Colleagues that there should be a Scotch day in the House on which Scotch Business could be discussed. That had long been the ordinary practice; but it had now been given up. The right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister, no doubt, was now the Scotch Minister of the Cabinet; but

they could hardly expect that he would take charge of Scotch Business. The real mistake, at the present moment, was that there was no Scotch Minister of sufficient importance who could look after Scotch affairs. There had never been much for such Minister to do, and yet the duty was discharged by the Lord President of the Council or the Secretary of State for India, or by any other Cabinet Minister able to support the Scotch Lord of the Treasury. He could always, in the last resort, refer to the Lord Advocate, and was able to obtain an arrangement from the Cabinet, whereby opportunities were afforded for the discussion of Scotch Business, such as giving up a day before Easter, perhaps, another day before Whitsuntide, and a third later on. He believed that that was all they wanted now. There was really very little Scotch Business to do; and why on earth they were going to have a President of the Local Government Board created for Scotland alone he could not conceive. Very recently they had made the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster the Agricultural Minister; and now that new Office had been created, he did not see why the Lord Privy Seal could not be re-appointed and required to attend to the conduct of Scotch Business. There was no necessity at all for the arrangements contemplated by the Bill, because all that was necessary was that a Scotch Peer should be appointed Lord Privy Seal, and such Minister could perform the duties of that Office and attend to Scotch Business as well. He confessed he heard with regret that, at the present moment, there was no one in the Government whose special duty it was to attend to Scotch Business; but if it were attended to in the manner in which it had been in former days, that would be quite sufficient without the creation of this new Board, which was to interfere with and overthrow all Boards now existing in Scotland, although for many years they had been able to conduct Scotch affairs not only cheaply, but satisfactorily. He should certainly support the Amendment.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, he rose to answer the question of the hon. and gallant Member for Kincardineshire (General Sir George Balfour), who had asked why, instead of there being a single functionary or official, there was to be a President and also a Board. The answer was

very simple. About the year 1870 or 1871, a Board was constituted for England on this model; and he believed that the experience which had been gained in regard to that Board was very satisfactory. It was perfectly true that neither in the English Board had it been, nor in the Scotch Board would it be, the practice for the Board to meet often, if at all, or to take from the President the performance of the chief duties; but, at the same time, it was highly convenient for a high Officer to be able to have a ready and quick recourse to persons who were really his Colleagues when he might think it necessary to advise with them. Their advice would be that of persons who stood in official relation to him; and there was no objection to the constitution of a Board to advise with the President when necessary. Certainly, there could be no more objection to a proposal of that kind than to the practice which now existed.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE BALFOUR said, the explanation of the Lord Advocate was far from being satisfactory. He had been a Member of a Board for 10 years, and he knew how difficult it was to work executive business with a Board. He thought it would be a pity to interfere with the existing Boards in Edinburgh unless they knew what defects had to be remedied. He therefore entered his protest against this new Board. He believed it would be inefficient, and that it would be a sham in reality. He believed a special administrator for Scotch affairs to be necessary in order to attend to details of Scotch affairs. An Office in London with an efficient first-class civil servant at its head, and a few clerks, was also needed, to enable Scotch Members to refer for information on all Scotch matters. He agreed with what the Leader of the Opposition had said as to the Lords Advocate in the last Parliament; and he bore testimony to the good service which the present Lord Advocate had rendered.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE said, he did not think that he had ever made any observations that reflected in any way upon the Lords Advocate of previous Parliaments. If he had done so it had been quite unintentionally. He bore testimony, with the greatest goodwill and pleasure to the merits of the present Lord Advocate; but he in no way in-

Sir John Hay

tended to cast a slur upon the right hon. and learned Gentleman's Predecessors, who were men of high position and authority in the House.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE BALFOUR said, he had understood the right hon. Gentleman to admit that there were defects in the last Parliament, in connection with Scotch Business, which he desired to see remedied; but the inference was that the inefficiency was occasioned by accidental circumstances.

MR. BUCHANAN said, the point now before the Committee had reference to the title of the new Minister; and his own opinion was that some other title than President of a Local Government Board should be devised. Personally, he approved of the Amendments of which Notice had been given by the hon. and gallant Member for East Aberdeenshire (Sir Alexander Gordon), and the right hon. Gentleman the Member for South-West Lancashire (Sir R. Assheton Cross), the object of which was to provide that the President should be a Member of the Privy Council.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, he thought the Lord Advocate had somewhat misinterpreted or mis-stated the analogy between the Local Government Board of England and the Local Government Board proposed to be established for Scotland. By the Act of 1870 it was provided that from and after the establishment of the Local Government Board in England the Poor Law Board should cease to exist. The English Board took over the duties of the administration of the Poor Law in England. There was no such proposal in the present Bill. The Board of Supervision was to go on discharging its duties precisely the same as before. There was, therefore, a great difference between the reason for establishing a Local Government Board in England and a Local Government Board in Scotland. They had yet to learn what duties the new President was to discharge in connection with the new Board of Supervision.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: He is to do the duties of the Secretary of State.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, he would tell the Committee what the duties of the Secretary of State were. The duties of the Secretary of State were to receive once a-year a Report

from the Board of Supervision, and to place it upon the Table of the House. He had no power of revising that Report, and could not send it back for amendment.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: How do you know that?

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, he knew that, because an Act of Parliament directed what he was to do, and he entertained respect for the provisions of an Act of Parliament. He thought it was time that the Government should tell the Committee where the Office of the new Board was to be, because the constitution of the Board should all depend upon whether the Members were able to attend or not. If the Offices of the new Board were to be in Edinburgh, it was a ridiculous farce to appoint as Members of that Board the Lord President of the Council, Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, or the Chancellor of the Exchequer. It would be altogether impossible for them to attend meetings that were held at some Office in Edinburgh; and, therefore, the Committee ought to be told distinctly where the Office was to be. They were told yesterday by the Home Secretary that this was an experiment. He quite agreed with the right hon. Gentleman that it was a very grave experiment indeed. They had now come to the Business of legislation, and he wanted to know whether this was to be a practical Board or a dummy Board? "Dummy altogether," some hon. Member said. It was proposed to add the Lord Advocate; and, therefore, if the Office was in Edinburgh there would be the President of the Board and the Lord Advocate, when he was not in the House during the Session. But it was provided that the whole duties and powers of the Board were to be exercised by the Lord President by himself, and not in conjunction with the Lord Advocate, or any other Member; and the President himself was to have superior power to issue any order or regulation he thought proper. That was a power which was not given to the President of the English Local Government Board, who had no power to exercise any of the powers of the Privy Council, and the sanction of three Members of the Privy Council was required to any order issued by the Board. Nevertheless, it was proposed in this case that one Minister, who need not be

a Privy Councillor, should exercise the whole of these powers. Therefore, they ought be told at once, before the Board was formed, where the Offices of the Board were to be situated.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL said, he would suggest to his hon. Friends that, if they would wait for a short time, they would have an opportunity of quieting their minds, seeing that the late President of the English Local Government Board had placed an Amendment on the Paper, which he (Sir George Campbell) should heartily support, to vest the duties of the Board of Supervision in the new Local Government Board. The result would be amalgamation of the Local Government Board and the Board of Supervision. From the first, he had expressed a favourable opinion of the general purposes of the Bill. He thought its principal defect was that it did not give the Local Government Board enough to do. The view expressed by the Home Secretary was that the functions of the new Board should be applied to the control of the existing Boards now engaged in the management of Scotch Business, in order to see whether such Business could be amalgamated, or whether it ought to be left separate. He (Sir George Campbell) intended to propose a step in which approximation might take place; and he hoped he should receive the support of the Scotch Members.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, he thought it was rather hard for the Lord Advocate to object to English Members expressing an opinion upon Scotch measures; more especially as the Lord Advocate had not given the Committee the benefit of his own opinion until now. Certainly, Scotch Members were not backward in expressing an opinion upon English measures. What he complained of was the exclusive feeling which existed among Scotch Members, and which would be increased by establishing a chief Office for Scotch Business. The Bill was practically introducing a kind of Home Rule for Scotland, which might in time attain much larger proportions. As, however, the Lord Advocate had recovered the use of speech, he (Sir H. Drummond Wolff) would withdraw the Amendment for the present.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Sir Alexander Gordon

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, he rose to move an Amendment providing that the President of the new Board should be a Member of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council. The object of the Amendment was to give some importance to the Minister at the head of the new Board. He thought the new Minister ought to have the rank of a Privy Councillor, because it was absolutely necessary that he should be a Privy Councillor before he could obtain an audience of the Sovereign; and if there was anything at all in relation to the Office of a Privy Councillor, it was his privilege of advising the Sovereign. He, therefore, thought that the Minister who was to hold this important position should have the rank of a Privy Councillor, otherwise what would happen would be that some other Member of the Board who was a Privy Councillor would have to go to the Sovereign, while the President of the Board could not. It appeared to him that the President of the Board would be in an inferior position to all the other Members of the Board except the Lord Advocate.

Amendment proposed,

In page 1, line 9, after "President," insert "who shall be a Member of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council."—(*Sir Alexander Gordon*.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, it seemed to the Government entirely unnecessary, and, indeed, unfitting, to put in an Act of Parliament a declaration that a particular individual should be a Member of the Privy Council. No doubt, the propriety of making the President a Member of that Council would always receive due consideration; but to make a statutory declaration to that effect would not only be without precedent, but unbecoming. He did not wish to express any difference of opinion from his hon. and gallant Friend; but he merely protested against putting this provision into an Act of Parliament.

SIR LYON PLAYFAIR said, he thought the hon. and gallant Member would withdraw the Amendment when he saw what the effect of it would be. For instance, the Postmaster General was always made a Privy Councillor, and there were various other Offices in

the same position; but the effect of adopting the Amendment would be very largely to limit the selection for the Office which could be made in that House. In point of fact, beyond his right hon. Friend the Member for Montrose (Mr. Baxter), the right hon. and gallant Gentleman opposite (Sir John Hay), and himself (Sir Lyon Playfair), there were no other Scotch Members who were Privy Councillors; and, therefore, the effect of the Amendment would be to compel selection to be made in that House out of three Members. He did not think that that was the hon. and gallant Gentleman's wish.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON: Certainly not.

SIR LYON PLAYFAIR said, the hon. and gallant Member might himself be selected, and it might be a very good selection, and the hon. and gallant Member could be made a Member of the Privy Council afterwards; but to make Membership of the Privy Council a preliminary condition would largely limit the area of selection, and he did not suppose that to be what his hon. and gallant Friend wished.

MR. BIGGAR said, he thought the argument of the right hon. Gentleman the Member for the University of Edinburgh (Sir Lyon Playfair) had considerable weight. Nothing could be easier than to make the President a Member of the Privy Council after he had accepted the Office, unless it were considered desirable that even more dignity should be attached to the Office. At present, no one knew where the Offices of this Local Government Board were to be, what the duties were, or anything about the matter. It seemed to him that the Committee were asked to pass the clauses of the Bill without any explanation from the Government of their intention in regard to the Office. He thought that the Government had not yet made up their own minds, and that all they wanted was to pass the Bill, leaving all the rest to chance.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, he hoped that the hon. and gallant Gentleman opposite would go on with the Amendment, because he thought it of the utmost importance that this Officer should be a responsible Minister of the Crown. They had already decided that he should not be an Under Secretary; and if they were to place a particular

individual at the head of this Department in Scotland, it was necessary that he should be a responsible Minister of the Crown. He presumed that the Minister would have charge of the Scotch Estimates, and that he would be responsible for them. If he were not a Privy Councillor, there would then be no one in the House of Commons who really was responsible for them. The Chancellor of the Exchequer would certainly repudiate any connection with them; and he should like to know, therefore, who was to be responsible for advising the House upon the Scotch Estimates, if the new Officer was not a Privy Councillor?

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL said, he could not see that being a Privy Councillor would give a man any additional financial ability. The matter was in a nutshell. He had no doubt that this Officer ought to be and would be a Privy Councillor; but there was no precedent for putting such a provision into an Act of Parliament, and it ought not to be so put in.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON remarked, that his Amendment did not say that the Minister selected should previously have been a Privy Councillor, but that the person selected for the Office should be made a Privy Councillor, in order that he might be able to approach the Sovereign. The House was asked to specify who were to be Members of this Board—namely, the President of Her Majesty's Privy Council, the Principal Secretary of State for the time being, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and so on; and he, therefore, saw no objection to the House also stating that the President should be a Privy Councillor. That was his only object, and he had no desire to lay it down as a rule that the President should have been previously a Privy Councillor.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (Mr. CHILDERS) said, the only strict analogy to this Bill was the Bill which constituted the Local Government Board in England. In that Bill there was no statutory provision requiring that the President of the Board should be a Privy Councillor; but it was well known that the President always held that rank. There was, so far as he knew, no precedent for enacting that a particular Member of the Government should be a Privy Councillor.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF wished to point out that by Clause 5 it was provided that—

"All powers and duties vested in or imposed on one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, or the Privy Council, or the Local Government Board for England, by the enactments in that behalf specified in the Schedule hereto, so far as such powers and duties relate to Scotland, shall, on and after the establishment of the Local Government Board, be transferred to, vested in, and imposed on the President of the Board."

If they were going to vest in the new Officer powers that were now vested in a Privy Councillor he ought to have a sense of responsibility much greater than an Under Secretary who was not a Privy Councillor. The only question was, whether a Privy Councillor had not greater responsibility than an Officer who did not hold that rank?

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE said, it was obvious if they considered the composition of the Board that the President must be a Privy Councillor. The Lord President of the Council was himself to be a Member of the Board, and the Principal Secretaries of State, who were all Privy Councillors, as well as the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Lord Advocate. The whole of those officers were to be Members of the Board, and as they were every one of them Members of the Privy Council the Minister who was to preside over the Board could hardly be otherwise than a Privy Councillor himself.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, that after the statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer and of the right hon. Gentleman the Member for North Devon (Sir Stafford Northcote) he had no wish to press the Amendment. If they were to be guided entirely by precedent he did not think the Bill would be now before the House.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, the next Amendment on the Paper was in the name of the right hon. Member for South-West Lancashire (Sir R. Assheton Cross). They were consequential Amendments which he (Sir H. Drummond Wolff) did not propose to move. He wished, however, to ask the Lord Advocate why the Lord Privy Seal was omitted from the Membership of this Board?

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, the Office of Lord Privy Seal was practically abolished.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, the name of the Lord Privy Seal was inserted in the Bill which constituted the Local Government Board for England. He was not aware that the Privy Seal was abolished, and he should like to know whether that was so or not?

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (Mr. CHILDERS) said, there was no reason why the Lord Privy Seal should be a Member of the Board, in so much as he was to be, if the Bill passed, an Officer receiving no salary, but the holder of a purely honorary Office.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, the Chancellor of the Exchequer told them in one breath that the Bill was drawn exactly on the lines of the Bill which established a Local Government Board in England, and in another that it was not so.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON moved to add, in line 15, the words "and the office of the Board shall be in London." He moved that Amendment purely to get a definite answer from the Lord Advocate or the Home Secretary as to where the Office was to be. If the Office was to be anything but a sham it must have records and archives to enable it to carry on its Business, and it appeared to him far more important that it should be in London than in Edinburgh. It was during the sitting of Parliament that the Office would be of importance, and it would be then necessary to make frequent applications to the Office. If it was to be transferred every half-year from London to Edinburgh, he wanted to know whether the President was to carry with him all his office books and records wherever he went? If so, each person who desired to consult the Office would have to attend at one time in London, and at other times in Edinburgh, and the uncertainty with regard to Scotch Business would be greater than it was now. At present, people knew that they had to go to London to transact their business, and they were able to do so without any difficulty whatever. It was, therefore, most desirable for the Government to decide where the head Office should be. Rooms might be occupied in Edinburgh; but the permanent Office ought to be in London, unless the Office was simply to be a

gossiping shop for Scotch Members who had really no business to transact.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 15, after "Advocate," insert "and the office of the Board shall be in London."
—(*Sir Alexander Gordon.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

SIR JOHN HAY said, he thought the Committee ought to have some information as to where the Office was to be and how it was to be obtained—whether it was to be taken out of some other public Office in Edinburgh for half the year and in London for the rest of the year. Where was the Office to be located? He thought these were matters of detail upon which the Committee were entitled to have some information, together with the reason why the Office of the Board should be in London. There would certainly have to be an Office of some kind or other in Edinburgh, unless the Office was to be a van travelling backwards and forwards on a railway, brought to London when Parliament was sitting, and taken back again to Scotland when it was not required in London. Surely, there ought to be some bricks and mortar or stone and lime somewhere, and the Government ought to state where they had it in contemplation to fix the Office—whether in London or in Edinburgh.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, the proposal of the right hon. and gallant Member would practically exclude the possibility of having an Office anywhere else than in London. It was perfectly certain that an Office would be required in London; but it was equally necessary that there should be an Office in Edinburgh. Of course, while Parliament was sitting the President of the Board would be in London, and London would be the place where he would require to keep the papers and records; but while Parliament was not sitting the Office might be in Edinburgh, and it would be desirable to have a place there to which people who had business to transact in connection with the Office could go. But these were details which were quite unsuited to be put into an Act of Parliament. They would depend very much on the organization of the staff; and he thought it was enough to say that there would be an Office in each place. His right hon. and gallant Friend

said there ought to be a declaration as to where the papers and documents would be kept; but that would depend on where the papers and documents were wanted, and it was very unlikely that they would be kept in one place if they were wanted in another. When the papers were wanted in Edinburgh they would be taken there, and when they were wanted here they would be brought here. There was very little difficulty in the matter when the facilities of communication were borne in mind.

MR. WARTON rose to move an Amendment to the Amendment of the hon. and gallant Member for East Aberdeenshire (*Sir Alexander Gordon*)—namely, that the word "head" should be inserted before the word "office." He thought that Amendment would fairly raise the question; but, not being a Scotch Member, he could not tell what might be most agreeable to the Scotch Representatives. If they preferred a head Office in Edinburgh then let them say so; and if in London then let them declare that it should be in London. He only moved this Amendment to elicit the opinion of the Committee, and it was for them to say what it was they wanted. It appeared to him that Her Majesty's Government left the Bill entirely to the Scotch Members to express their opinion upon it. The Government told them that the Bill was to be passed in accordance with the views expressed by the Scotch Members; but the Scotch Members seemed to have no opinion of their own; and, therefore, he moved to insert the word "head" before "office" in the Amendment of the hon. and gallant Member.

Amendment proposed to the proposed Amendment, after the word "and," to insert the word "head."—(*Mr. Warton.*)

Question proposed, "That the word "head" be there inserted."

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, he meant by his Amendment that the head Office should be in London. If that were not done, a deputation coming to London might be told that the papers bearing on the case were in Edinburgh, and *vice versa*, and that they must wait until the papers came back again. That would be a most inconvenient and unsatisfactory course. However, as the Lord Advocate seemed opposed to the Amendment, he would not press it.

MR. J. A. CAMPBELL asked the Lord Advocate if he could give the Committee any information as to the expense which would be incurred by this Office, and how it was to be met? It might be owing to his ignorance of Parliamentary Business; but he did not find in the Bill any provision to meet the expense of the Office. The only provision on the Bill was in respect of salaries, and salaries only; whereas the office rent and other expenses might form a very considerable item.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (MR. J. B. BALFOUR) said, he thought it would not be in accordance with usage to put in a measure like this any general Estimate for the expense of the Office. That would appear under the head of the Board of Works. It was necessary, however, to make provision for the salaries. No doubt there would be adequate accommodation for the Office; but the cost would come under another head.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE asked if the Government could make any general statement of the expense which they estimated would be thrown upon the Department?

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (MR. CHILDERS) said, that, so far as he was able to judge, as representing the Treasury, he believed the expense would be very small indeed. What was proposed to be done was, after the President of the Board had been appointed, to direct him to make a careful inquiry, either alone, or with the assistance of other Scotch officials connected with the Government, into all the details of the expenditure that would be required in connection with the new Offices, and in connection with the other Scotch Departments placed under its supervision. That inquiry would take place under instructions from the Treasury, and it would be the duty of the Government to make the necessary provision in the Estimates next year, when the exact financial result was ascertained. It was absolutely impossible to say more before the inquiry took place; but he might add that the Government hoped to effect a considerable saving in connection with some of the other Departments in Scotland.

SIR WALTER B. BARTTELOT said, he had no desire to take part in the discussion of this Bill, except to call

the attention of the Committee to a statement which had been made over and over again, that the Lord Advocate was in no way to be deposed from his Office. Therefore, if they were to have all the appliances and office clerks which would be necessary in establishing a new Department with an entirely new staff, the expense must be considerable. The right hon. Gentleman the late Leader of the House, together with other Members, and especially the present Chancellor of the Exchequer, had always insisted upon knowing the expenditure which was to be incurred under any new proposal. When in Opposition, no one was more determined than the right hon. Gentleman to have that matter clearly explained; and yet the right hon. Gentleman now came down to the House and deliberately stated that, although the Government considered it necessary to introduce a Bill of this kind, they had not thought it necessary to ascertain what the cost of the new Department would be. That clearly showed that there was no necessity for passing the Bill this Session, and that it might have waited without any injury to Scotch interests until next year. He thought they had had about as lame a statement as it was possible to put before the House to justify the course which was now being taken—namely, that at this period of the Session it was not right to ask for any details in regard to the proposed change. He was afraid that the Department of the Lord Advocate was to be interfered with. He was quite sure that that Department had worked well, and that the right hon. and learned Gentleman who now occupied the position of First Law Officer for Scotland was entitled to great praise for the way in which he had conducted Scotch Business. They were now creating a new departure, and forming a new Office, and the Committee had a right to know what the cost of the new Department would be.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, the system of finance carried on in that House was a very curious one. The other day they were asked to subscribe £8,000,000 towards a new Suez Canal, and they were told that no Estimate had been proposed. They were now asked to establish a new Office in connection with the management of Scotch Business, and they were told that no Estimate

had been made of the cost. He thought, at any rate, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer ought to say what the sum would not exceed. He protested against this "happy-go-lucky" way of doing Business. He could well understand that the Chancellor of the Exchequer would not be able to give the exact cost; but the Committee ought at least to have a distinct promise from the Treasury that the expense of the Office would not exceed a certain sum.

MR. WARTON said, it was quite clear the Government had not the slightest notion how many clerks would be wanted and what the expense would be. It was, therefore, impossible for Her Majesty's Ministers to answer a question which they were utterly unable to answer, having no conception of the requirements of their own Bill.

DR. CAMERON said, the discussion had wandered away from the real point at issue. The suggestion of the hon. and learned Member for Bridport (Mr. Warton), to insert the word "head" in the Amendment of the hon. and gallant Member for East Aberdeenshire (Sir Alexander Gordon), in order to provide that the head office of the Board should be in London, was the only question before the House. They were told that the Committee were entitled to have information in regard to the cost of the staff, and they had been told also that the cost of the office, so far as bricks and mortar were concerned, would come on subsequently. The real question at present before the Committee was simply whether they should limit the discretion of the Government in regard to this Office by declaring that the head Office should be in London, or whether they should deal with the matter in a more convenient manner? All the other points which had been raised in connection with the Amendment seemed to him to have nothing to do with it. He thought it would greatly facilitate the Business of the Committee if they were asked to deal only with the matter actually in hand, and to confine the discussion to the Amendment which had been proposed.

SIR JOHN HAY said, he understood the Amendment before the Committee was the Amendment which had been moved by the hon. and gallant Member for East Aberdeenshire (Sir Alexander Gordon) that the Office of the Board should be in London.

DR. CAMERON said, the hon. and learned Member for Bridport had moved an Amendment to that Amendment to provide that the "head" office should be in London.

THE CHAIRMAN: The question now before the Committee is the Amendment which has been moved by the hon. and learned Member for Bridport. I am not prepared to say that the discussion which has taken place is out of Order, because the question really is whether there should be an office in Scotland as well as in England?

SIR JOHN HAY said, that the Bill provided that there should be paid to the President a salary of £2,000 a-year, and that the Secretary and other officers of the Board should receive such salaries as the Treasury might from time to time determine, and which should be paid out of money provided by Parliament. They had, however, been led to believe that £2,000, the salary of the President of the Board, would be taken from the Office of the Lord Privy Seal; but there was no provision for the expense of the Office apart from that sum, and he believed they would require from £5,000 to £6,000. They were led to understand that the whole of the sum taken from the Office of Lord Privy Seal would be applied in payment of the salary of the new President. The passage relating to the salary of the other officers did not state any sum whatever, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer did not appear to know what the expense would be. In addition, he saw no provision whatever for office expenses. The Amendment now before the Committee said that there should be an office in London; but there was no provision in the Bill to provide the money that would be necessary to maintain an office. The Treasury were instructed to apply a vague sum towards the payment of certain salaries, and they were told that the Office of Privy Seal was to supply £2,000 a-year for the payment of the principal salary. His right hon. Friend the Member for North Devon (Sir Stafford Northcote) and other Members asked for information upon the matter, whereupon the hon. Member for Glasgow (Dr. Cameron) ran a red herring across the trail. At present the Committee were told to vote the money without having the slightest idea what the cost would be.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (Mr. CHILDEES) said, the answer already given by his right hon. and learned Friend the Lord Advocate was perfectly plain. It had never been the usage to insert in an Act of Parliament of this nature the provision that was to be made for office expenses. It would be the duty of the First Commissioner of Works to ascertain what rooms could be made available for the new Office, and that sum would come out of the Vote for Public Offices. The statement that the sum would be £5,000 or £6,000 was altogether a fancy estimate. It was impossible to say what the sum would be until an inquiry was made; but, as he had previously stated, he believed the sum would be very small, and nearly the whole of the expense would be met out of existing funds.

Question, "That the word 'head' be there inserted," put, and *negatived*.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, he would not press the Amendment.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL moved to amend the clause by inserting—

"The President of the Local Government Board shall be *ex officio* Chairman of the Board of Supervision for Relief of the Poor and of Public Health in Scotland, and the officer heretofore Chairman of the Board of Supervision shall be Vice President of that Board."

He regretted the absence of the right hon. Gentleman the ex-President of the Local Government Board (Mr. Selater-Booth), because he recognized in that right hon. Gentleman a man of very strong common sense, of great experience in these matters, of impartiality, and who had acted without Party views. He was satisfied that the right hon. Gentleman would have been anxious to assist the House in this matter rather than to obstruct the measure. The right hon. Gentleman had put down an Amendment upon the Paper which he (Sir George Campbell) understood to be identical with the provision contained in the Act which constituted the Local Government Board in England, and he was sure if the right hon. Gentleman had been present to move it, that the Committee would have had very valuable assistance from him. The Amendment of the right hon. Gentleman was very much of the same cha-

racter as that which he (Sir George Campbell) proposed to move. The right hon. Gentleman's Amendment provided that after the appointment of the President under this Bill, the Board of Supervision in Scotland should cease to exist, and all the powers and duties invested in it by the several Acts relating to the relief of the poor should be transferred to the Local Government Board, whereas his (Sir George Campbell's) Amendment provided that the President of the Local Government Board should be *ex officio* Chairman of the Board of Supervision, and that the Chairman of the Board of Supervision should be Vice Chairman of that Board. The Board of Supervision was the principal Board now existing in Scotland, and his (Sir George Campbell's) proposal to appoint the President of the Local Government Board *ex officio* Chairman of the Board of Supervision was to place him as far as possible in the position now occupied by the Chief Secretary for Ireland towards the Local Government Board in Ireland. He believed that a great deal of friction would be avoided if this Amendment were agreed to, as the President of the Local Government Board would be able to conduct the business without that official correspondence and that arm's-length position and friction which necessarily resulted from separate Offices. On the other hand, the President would be enabled, as the Chief Secretary for Ireland was now enabled, to attend in his place in Parliament and perform the functions of Minister; and that, in spite of what had been said, was what the people of Scotland were desirous of seeing done. It seemed to him that, unless some arrangement of this kind was effected, the future President of the new Local Government Board would not have enough to do. There was a certain anomaly in getting one Board to superintend another; but he gathered that it was the intention of the Government to have these powers overhauled, and in the end it would be necessary to arrive at some such arrangement. He thought, therefore, as a first step towards facilitating Public Business, that it would be much better to adopt his suggestion now than that it should subsequently have to be done by a separate Act. There was another reason which, in his opinion, favoured an arrangement of this kind—namely, that if this Bill passed the

House of Commons, as he hoped it would, it would still have to pass through "another place;" and its passage through the House of Lords would be much facilitated if this Amendment, or that proposed by the late President of the Local Government Board, with all his experience and authority, were accepted. It must be remembered that the existence of the Bill was threatened in "another place," and the difficulty might, he believed, by such a course as this be very much obviated. There was another consideration which seemed to him to tend in the same direction, and that was the consideration of expense. The Home Secretary seemed to have forsaken the House since the Bill went into Committee; but he (Sir George Campbell) did not know why. On one occasion a statement was made to the effect that the expense might be met by getting it out of the other Local Boards in Scotland. Now, there was a general feeling in Scotland that, although these Boards performed their functions very well, there were too many of them; they were not directly responsible to Parliament; and that there was room for a little amalgamation. He thought that by having one President for these two Boards—the Local Government Board and the Board of Supervision—they might manage to run both together, so that a considerable expense might be saved, and this, accompanied by the abolition of the Office of Lord Privy Seal, would provide the necessary funds. If the Government thought it was better to put the Amendment in the form in which it had been placed on the Paper by the right hon. Member for North Hants (Mr. Selater-Booth), if the Government showed any preference for that Amendment, he (Sir George Campbell) would withdraw his in favour of that of the right hon. Gentleman's. If they were to meet the difficulty of having a Board with an administrative area in one country and Parliamentary duties to perform in another, it would be necessary to pass some such Amendment as this, so that a Vice President might be able to act while the President was performing the Parliamentary duties connected with the Office.

Amendment proposed,

In page 1, line 15, after "Lord Advocate," insert "The President of the Local Government Board shall be ex officio Chairman of the Board

of Supervision for relief of the Poor and of Public Health in Scotland, and the officer heretofore Chairman of the Board of Supervision shall be Vice President of that Board."—(Sir George Campbell.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Mr. A. ELLIOT said, that what they wanted was a Minister for Scotland; but if the Amendment of the hon. Member were adopted, instead of such a Minister they would merely have a Chairman of a Local Board. The duties of the President of the Board of Supervision required that he must be constantly at work where the Board sat; indeed, if the new Official were to be made Chairman of the Board of Supervision, he would have to devote himself specially to the duties of that position. That was not the intention of the Bill. Scotch Boards did their work admirably; but the object of the Bill was to put a Minister in a position where he could be referred to by any of the Boards. He trusted the Government would not accept the Amendment.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, the Government considered this matter very fully before the Bill was introduced, and the position proposed to be assigned to the President of the new Board was defined as it was in the Bill. His hon. Friend the Member for Roxburgh (Mr. A. Elliot) had stated by anticipation the considerations which led the Government to that conclusion. The Board of Supervision was one of the several Boards which sat in Scotland. It was a very important Board, and its duties were admirably performed. If the present proposal were adopted the President of the Local Government Board would be placed in a very anomalous position; he would become a member, although, no doubt, the chief member, of one of the Boards whose action it would be his duty to supervise. He might take his seat on the Board of Supervision, and be outvoted. That would be quite inconsistent with his position as a general Supervisor and Reviewer of the different Boards. There was a Lunacy Board, a Fishery Board, a Prisons Board—a large number of Boards in fact—all of which were to be subordinated to the President of the Local Government Board. He was sure his hon. Friend (Sir George Campbell) would see it

would be quite inconsistent with his duties that the President of the new Board should be placed in the position suggested by the Amendment. The intention was that the President of the Local Government Board should assume a position with regard to the Board of Supervision and other Boards which was now held by the Secretary of State and the Privy Council, and the Secretary of State was not a member of any of the Boards.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, the right hon. Gentleman the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. Childers) had informed them that this Bill was drawn entirely on the lines of the English Local Government Board Act.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (Mr. CHILDERS): I said nothing of the kind.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, then, he might ask what was the meaning of calling this a Local Government Board Bill? If it was not like the English Local Government Board Act, what possible reason was there for appointing this new Officer unless he had some duties to perform? On every occasion when they asked the Government to define the duties of the new Officer they declined to do so; and even when an hon. Member who was in favour of the Bill, and who had spoken in its favour, and who was an ardent supporter of the Government, asked that certain functions should be assigned to the new Officer, the Government refused to assign those duties to him, or even to say what his duties were to be. He appealed to the Prime Minister to withdraw the Bill, and postpone its consideration to next Session. Why did the Government insist upon bringing it in now unless it was for some hidden motive that no one could judge of but themselves? Indeed, he doubted whether they knew what their motive was. The Bill was not required this year, and if they postponed it it would only be for a period of five months.

THE CHAIRMAN said, that the question before the Committee was the Amendment of the hon. Member for Kirkcaldy (Sir George Campbell).

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, he was merely illustrating the difficulty they had in arriving at a decision. He, of course, bowed to the Chairman's dictum at once; but he could not help

hoping that the Prime Minister would see the desirability of postponing the further consideration of the Bill.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL said, it seemed to him that the arguments of the Lord Advocate were somewhat inconsistent with what he had previously said in the discussions of this Bill. He was given to understand that one of the first functions of the new Officer would be to overhaul the Boards of Scotland. He did not admit the Boards worked so satisfactorily as the Government imagined. He had heard a good many complaints of some of the Boards, and his impression was that, sooner or later, the Boards must be amalgamated. He had, however, not received that support which would induce him to press his Amendment to a Division, and, therefore, he would ask leave to withdraw it.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF proposed to insert, after the word "may," in line 21, the words "in writing." He took the Amendment from the English Local Government Board Act, and he thought its adoption was absolutely necessary, because so many mistakes arose through things not being done in writing.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 21, after "may," insert "in writing."
—(Sir H. Drummond Wolff.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (Mr. CHILDERS) said, that, in the interests of the Treasury, he should like the words inserted, because the Amendment would involve payment for stamps on these appointments being made; but he would not recommend the Committee to adopt it. When the English Local Government Board Bill was passed, the law was not as it was now.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, he would withdraw the Amendment, though he thought the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. Childers) might have adopted it with the view of paying the expenses of the Office.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

MR. BUCHANAN said, he had intended to move an Amendment providing for the appointment of a Permanent Under Secretary; but, after

what had been said, he would not move it. His second Amendment, however, was taken from the English Act, and he saw no reason why the Government should not accept it. If they could not, perhaps they would state the reason. He begged to move the second Amendment which stood in his name.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 21, after "secretaries," insert "assistant secretaries, auditors, clerks, messengers."—(Mr. Buchanan.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL FOR SCOTLAND (Mr. ASHER) said, the clause, as it stood, gave power for the appointment of Secretaries and such other officers as were required, and, therefore, he could not see what advantage would be gained by the insertion of the proposed words.

MR. WARTON said, it was quite clear that the word "officer" would include officers of every description. But the Committee were misled by the expression, "Local Government Board," because in no way whatever was there any analogy between the proposed Board and the English Local Government Board. The Government seemed to have hit on the name, Local Government Board; but it had nothing whatever to do with the duties which the Board would have to perform. He trusted that on Report the Government would abandon the phrase, Local Government Board.

MR. BUCHANAN said, that in the hope there was no misunderstanding as to the appointment of a Permanent Under Secretary, he would ask leave to withdraw his Amendment.

MR. BIGGAR said, he agreed with the hon. and learned Gentleman the Solicitor General for Scotland (Mr. Asher) that this Amendment would be exceedingly mischievous. It appeared to him the hon. Gentleman the Member for Edinburgh (Mr. Buchanan) wished to create a number of places for some of his friends in Edinburgh. The Solicitor General for Scotland very wisely pointed out that the Bill in another part gave authority to appoint everyone really required. The Government would, of course, employ anyone whose services were necessary. This was an exceedingly ill-judged Amendment, unless the

hon. Member for Edinburgh (Mr. Buchanan) had in his eye someone whom he would like to be appointed as an Assistant Secretary, or as an Auditor, or as a Clerk, or as a Messenger.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON asked whether there was to be any Permanent Under Secretary, because he understood the hon. Gentleman withdrew the Amendment on the understanding there was to be such an official? If there was to be a Permanent Under Secretary, would the appointment be a political one; would the officer, like the President, be liable to be removed in case of a change of Ministry?

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL FOR SCOTLAND (Mr. ASHER) said, it was the intention of the Government that there should be, in connection with the new Board, some functionary who should not surrender his Office upon a change of Government, so as to give continuity to the conduct of the Business of the Department. He, however, did not wish it to be understood there was to be anything of the nature of an appointment which could be described as that of a Permanent Under Secretary. That would not correctly describe the appointment. A person with a less high-sounding title than Permanent Under Secretary would be appointed to attend to the management of the Department irrespective of a change of Government.

SIR JOHN HAY said, the hon. and learned Gentleman (Mr. Asher) had now given them some further information, and, of course, it opened up a still further vista of expense. There was to be a permanent functionary; there was to be a Permanent Under Secretary to all intents and purposes. He supposed an Officer of that kind, who would reside some time in London and some time in Edinburgh, would hardly be a person with a less salary than £800 a-year. He confessed he saw with alarm the number of functionaries whom the hon. Member for Edinburgh (Mr. Buchanan) intended to provide for in the Bill. It would be very desirable that the Solicitor General for Scotland or the Lord Advocate should tell the Committee who the Permanent Under Secretary was to be. Would he be some one in the House of Commons? If there was to be a Parliamentary Under Secretary in addition to a Permanent Under Secretary, the Committee would like to know of it. Perhaps the

Lord Advocate would indicate what the nature of the staff was to be?

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, it was not intended that there should be a Parliamentary Under Secretary. It was, however, intended that there should be a permanent functionary to preserve the continuity of the Business, to attend to the Papers, to explain the practice in case of a change of Government, and to deal with a particular class of cases. Of course, in the administration of the numerous Statutes set out in the Schedule, it was important that there should be uniformity, and that knowledge of established precedents should be preserved, and a permanent Official would always have these at his fingers' ends. He (the Lord Advocate) did not know that he could add anything to the information that had already been given by the Home Secretary (Sir William Harcourt) and by the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. Childers) with regard to the staff. The idea was that it should not be a large one, for the reasons already given; but it would not be possible to define it at present.

MR. WARTON said, they were getting on by slow degrees. The Solicitor General for Scotland (Mr. Asher) had said there was to be some permanent functionary; but that might be a charwoman, or a small boy in the office. They, however, learned a little more from the Lord Advocate (Mr. J. B. Balfour), because he had said there were the Papers to look after. The permanent Official, therefore, might be a librarian or a clerk. Was the Committee to be told no more? They were, on the one hand, to have a President of the new Board; and, on the other hand, they were to have a permanent Official who might be a charwoman or a small boy.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF moved to insert, after "the," in line 22, the words "Board may with the sanction of the." His object in moving this Amendment was to assimilate the words of this Act to those of the English Local Government Act. It was important that the Board should have a voice in the appointment and designation of the officials. The Treasury might make appointments which would be very damaging to the interests of the Board.

Sir John Hay

He knew cases in which the Treasury had done harm, and he could not see why these words, which were in the English Act, should not be inserted here.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 22, after "the," insert "Board may with the sanction of the."—(*Sir H. Drummond Wolff*.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, he thought the clause was better as it stood. The appointment of the officers was intended to rest with the Board; but the determination of the number and character of the officers would necessarily rest with the Treasury. The Board, no doubt, would confer with the Treasury as to what staff was necessary, and then, the number of officers and their *status* having been determined by the Board in conference with the Treasury, the nomination of the individuals would be made by the Board. The object in view would be better carried out by the clause as it stood than as it would be if the clause were amended as proposed.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Amendment proposed,

In page 1, insert the following sub-section:—
"The appointment of any officer to a new office made by the Local Government Board in pursuance of this section shall be deemed to be temporary only until the salary of such office has been provided for by Parliament."—(*Sir H. Drummond Wolff*.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, the Amendment was quite unnecessary. Parliament always had the absolute control over voting or not voting the salary of a particular official, and, of course, an officer taking an office under a Board must know that his tenure of office was dependent upon the will of Parliament. There would be ample Parliamentary control without the introduction of such words as were now suggested.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, he did not think the Lord Advocate had put the case quite correctly. They were told by the Home Secretary (Sir William Harcourt) that the officers of the new Board were to be taken from

other Boards. There might be a good deal of changing about in the case of the Scotch Local Government Board which could not exist in the case of the English Board. As the clause now stood the President would have a kind of roving commission, and he might act in a way which Parliament might not desire. He (Sir H. Drummond Wolff) did not see why the Lord Advocate should refuse the control of Parliament. The words he proposed to insert were in the English Act. Surely it was not intended to ask more for Scotland than for England.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR): Certainly not; but we think the control of Parliament is satisfactorily provided by the Bill.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF: Then why do not you say so?

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, he would be glad to consider the question upon Report; but he thought there was no doubt that such officers as would be appointed would, from the nature of their tenure, be answerable to, and under the control of, Parliament.

SIR JOHN HAY said, he agreed with the Lord Advocate, and considered that the hon. Member for Portsmouth (Sir H. Drummond Wolff) was in this Amendment ill-advised. He thought the hesitation to appoint men permanently would result possibly in the loss of the services of the best men. He did not like the Bill; but he did not wish to make it worse than it was by inserting the words proposed.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause agreed to, and ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 3 (President may sit in Parliament).

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF proposed to omit the words "if not a Member of the House of Lords, nor a Peer of Scotland." The words were not absolutely necessary, inasmuch as without them it was laid down that "he should, if otherwise qualified, be capable of being elected." He wished particularly to omit the words, because he did not question the right of the Government to appoint a Member of the House of Lords; but he did question their right to appoint a Peer of Scot-

land, as he was neither a Member of the House of Lords nor a Member of the House of Commons. It would be inconvenient if a Peer of Scotland who was not a Representative Peer were appointed. He hoped the Lord Advocate would accept the Amendment.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 28, leave out from "if not," to "Scotland," in line 29, both inclusive.—(Sir H. Drummond Wolff.)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause."

MR. J. A. CAMPBELL said, he did not rise to support the Amendment moved by the hon. Member for Portsmouth (Sir H. Drummond Wolff); indeed, he had an Amendment on the Paper going in an entirely opposite direction. He did not know whether it was regular for him to speak to his Amendment now; but the object he had in it was to confine the new Office to Members of the House of Lords or to Peers of Scotland. What they all desired was to attain the purposes of this Bill without incurring a greater danger than was necessary of interfering with the position and functions of the Lord Advocate, and it appeared to him they would not only do so, but that they would attain the object much better, by having a Nobleman as President of the new Board. It must be remembered that the object in view was not to get additional assistance for carrying on Parliamentary Business in the House of Commons, but it was to get additional assistance for arranging Scotch Business for the House of Commons. A Nobleman would discharge the duties with more effect on account of the independence of his position, and his freedom from the local influences which beset a person who represented a constituency. The great advantage of confining the new Office to a Nobleman was the avoidance of the danger of interfering with the position of the Lord Advocate. If the President were a Member of this House, he (Mr. J. A. Campbell) did not see how it was possible to prevent his infringing, in some measure, upon the position of the Lord Advocate. Why, the very fact that he was the President of a Board, of which the Lord Advocate was only a Member, was of itself sufficient to give him some

kind of precedence. With regard to the conduct of Scotch Business in this House there was no need for a change. They had in the Lord Advocate the person most fitted to conduct Scotch Business. The Home Secretary (Sir William Harcourt) referred yesterday to the measure as an experiment, and he (Mr. J. A. Campbell) desired to move his Amendment, if he had an opportunity of doing so, with the view of making that experiment as safe as possible.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL said, he entirely differed from the hon. Gentleman who had just spoken, and he hoped the Government would save time by accepting the Amendment of the hon. Member for Portsmouth (Sir H. Drummond Wolff). It seemed to him the Amendment could do no harm, but would do good. A man must not be excluded from public life because he happened to be a Peer—a man could not help being born a Peer. At the same time, he (Sir George Campbell) thought the Committee must feel there would be a great disadvantage by the new President being a Member of the Upper House, because the real work of the Board must be done in the House of Commons. Although he was quite willing to admit there might be a case in which a Peer had such pre-eminent qualities as to fit him for the Office of President of the new Board, he hoped it would not be understood that a noble Lord had always to be designated to the post. He trusted that if it was true, as rumoured, that the noble Earl (the Earl of Rosebery) was going to the other end of the world, it would not be considered a foregone conclusion that another Peer must be designated in his place. It appeared to him that the position of the Lord Advocate would be rather raised than lowered by the new functionary being a Member of the House of Commons, for he would be relieved of work which he now did as a mere subordinate.

MR. BRYCE said, he did not think the Amendment of the hon. Gentleman (Mr. J. A. Campbell) could be intended seriously, because no one would suppose it was desirable to limit the choice. There was no Office in the Government which was limited by Statute to Peers.

SIR JOHN HAY said, he believed the Lord President of the Council and the Lord Privy Seal were necessarily Peers.

Mr. J. A. Campbell

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (Mr. CHILDERS) said, they were so customarily, but not invariably. Lord John Russell was President of the Council when he was a Member of the House of Commons.

SIR JOHN HAY said, he thought it was desirable they should have an assurance that a Peer would hold the Office of the President of the new Board, and that they should still continue to rely upon the Lord Advocate for the conduct of Scotch Business in the House of Commons.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT said, that in the interest of Parliamentary control, which, under the present Government, was fast slipping away, it was necessary this Office should be confined to a Member of this House. He understood that would be the effect of the Amendment of the hon. Member for Portsmouth (Sir H. Drummond Wolff). The Government had shown a disposition to play "ducks and drakes" with the public money, and to make bargains behind the back of Parliament.

THE CHAIRMAN said, he must call the hon. Gentleman's attention to the Amendment before the Committee.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT said, he was giving the previous conduct of the Ministry as a reason why the control of Parliament should be maintained over this new Office; but, of course, he would not continue the observations he was making, as the Chairman saw fit to interpose. It was quite clear that unless this Office was held by a Member of either House, the control of Parliament was very seriously weakened. He had, therefore, great pleasure in supporting the hon. Member for Portsmouth.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, the principle upon which this clause was framed was that there should be no restriction put upon the choice of the President of the new Board. The idea was that the best man should be chosen, whether he was a Member of the House of Lords, or a Scotch Peer, or a Member of the House of Commons, or a person who might become a Member of the House of Commons; in short, that the choice should be absolutely unlimited. Hon. Members were aware that there was a restriction as to the number of Under Secretaries who might sit in the House—he believed the number was re-

stricted to four. It was for that reason, no doubt, that the Bill introduced by the right hon. Gentleman the Member for South-West Lancashire (Sir R. Assheton Cross) provided that it should be competent for another Under Secretary to sit in the House. This was really a qualifying, and not a disqualifying, clause, and he thought it would meet not only with the sympathy of the Committee, but of the country. No doubt, there would be a general preference that the President of the Board should be a Member of either House for reasons which had been already explained; but that there should be an unlimited range of choice was very desirable. In the selection of this Official, the Government of the day would be responsible to Parliament, and to public opinion; and he, therefore, thought in that there would be ample safeguard for a proper choice being made.

LORD JOHN MANNERS said, he agreed that the clause was intended to be a qualifying, and not a disqualifying, clause, and in that sense he was prepared to support it. But what would happen if a Scotch Peer, who was not a Peer of Parliament, were appointed? He had not heard the Lord Advocate (Mr. J. B. Balfour) say what would occur in that case. This was an important point, and one which should not be passed over without some explicit explanation on the part of the Government.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, it would be wrong to say that a Scotch Peer who laboured under the disability of not being a Member of the Upper House, should not be appointed to the Office. If there was any person of such distinguished abilities as pre-eminently to fit him for the Presidency of the Board, it would be very unfair to him, as a son of Scotland, to shut him out of a chance of selection, simply because he was not a Member of the House of Lords. If the President sat in the other House, the question had been asked by whom the Board would be represented in this House? There were other Members of the Board who would sit—some in the House of Lords, and some in the House of Commons. The *ex officio* Members of the Board would be the Lord President of the Council, Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, the Chancellor of the

Exchequer, and the Lord Advocate; so there was ample provision made for the representation of the Board in either House. It was quite plain that the President could only be in one House himself, and that there must be someone in the House in which the President did not sit, who could speak for him. That circumstance was an additional argument in favour of constituting a Board, rather than of appointing a single individual, to manage the business specified in the Schedule to the Bill.

MR. MACFARLANE said, that in case a Scotch Peer should be found so pre-eminently qualified for the post in other respects, it would be very easy to render his qualification complete by making him a Peer of the United Kingdom.

SIR JOHN HAY said, that, after what they had heard on the subject, they might, he thought, ask the hon. Member for the University of Glasgow (Mr. J. A. Campbell) not to press his Amendment. He was reminded that it was not quite correct that no such appointment had ever been made. At one time it was requisite that the Postmaster General should be a Peer, and it was only within the last few years, and by a special Act, that that requirement was no longer insisted upon. Under the special circumstances of the case, the hon. Member for the University of Glasgow, having that precedent before him, was quite justified in moving his Amendment; but it would be well for him not to insist upon it.

DR. CAMERON said, the words in the clause "if not a Member of the House of Lords" were unnecessary, as the President would, of course, be disqualified from sitting in the House of Commons if he were a Peer.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, he very much agreed with his hon. Friend upon what he might call the legal construction to be placed upon the clause—namely, that these words were not necessary; but, at the same time, he would submit it was desirable that they should be retained. If they were not there, it would seem as though there was an exclusion by inference of Members of the Upper House.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL said, he hoped that, after what had fallen from the Lord Advocate, the words would be omitted. The right hon. and learned

Gentleman admitted that they were unnecessary. He gathered that the object of putting them in was to point to the possibility of Peers being appointed.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, he should be sorry if the statement of the hon. Member (Sir George Campbell) were to be allowed to pass unchallenged. The hon. Member could not have understood him. The words were introduced for the purpose of clearly setting forth the qualification. The words were not put in to point in one direction or the other. They were not to make an exclusion either upwards or downwards, but to show that there was a full range of choice amongst all persons, whatever their grade.

MR. BRYCE said, he hoped the words would be left out. Could anyone suppose that if they were not in the clause it would be imagined that the President, if a Peer, could be elected to the House of Commons? Certainly not. The words were simply a matter of drafting, and, to his mind, it would be well to leave them out.

MR. WARTON suggested that, in putting the Amendment, the Chairman should only propose that the words "if not" stand part of the clause, in order not to put out of court the next Amendment. The two Amendments could be discussed together, seeing that if either were accepted the other would be lost. He was strongly in favour of the proposal of the hon. Gentleman the Member for the University of Glasgow, which was to the effect that the new President should be either a Peer of the House of Lords or a Peer of Scotland. It appeared to him (Mr. Warton) essential in the interests of Scotland that they should preserve the authority of the Lord Advocate, and always have him as the authority on Scotch matters in the House of Commons. In that way Scotch Business would be well looked after. The Lord Advocate, with that modesty which distinguished him, refrained from expressing this view. Modesty was amongst the right hon. and learned Gentleman's many virtues, and he was too delicate a man to defend his position in the House; nevertheless, the House wished him still to continue in his place with all the powers he ever had. If they had another Scotch authority with another class interest, so much the better; it was desirable that the representation should

be as complete as possible. If they were to appoint to the Office the most able man they could find, it was just possible—within the bounds of possibility—that they might select an Englishman or Irishman. He must protest against the manner in which the hon. Baronet the Member for Kircaldy (Sir George Campbell) lost his temper when speaking of the Peerage. The hon. Baronet spoke about the misfortune of having been "born a Peer." That was a misfortune which very seldom befel a man, seeing that it was necessary for him to be a posthumous child for that to take place. He (Mr. Warton) should support the Amendment of the hon. Member for the University of Glasgow, as he thought it desirable in the interests of Scotland that it should be adopted.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, the Lord Advocate reproached them with slow progress; but he himself would be open to that reproach if he persisted in refusing the most palpable Amendments. It was evident to everybody that the Government in their Bill were pointing to some Peer whom they wished to appoint. There could be no reason for wishing to appoint a Scotch Peer, unless they had a particular one in their mind, because there were only about 30 Scotch Peers who did not possess seats in the House of Lords, either as Representative Peers or as Scotch Peers having also English titles. The Lord Advocate acknowledged that the words in the clause were unnecessary; why, therefore, should he insist on retaining them against the strong view entertained against them? He (Sir H. Drummond Wolff) considered the Committee was treated with very scant courtesy by the Home Secretary, who did not consider it necessary to see his own Bill through the House. The Lord Advocate had not been allowed to speak on the details of the Bill; and now, when the Bill was in Committee, the Home Secretary disappeared. The Chancellor of the Exchequer should take the place of the Home Secretary.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (Mr. CHILDERS) said, he did not see any occasion for either of these Amendments—either that of the hon. Baronet or that of the hon. Member for the University of Glasgow. The hon. Gentleman who had just spoken was evidently under the impression that the

Sir George Campbell

Amendment before the Committee was to leave out the words "nor a Peer of Scotland;" but that was not the fact. It was to leave out the words "if not a Member of the House of Lords, nor a Peer of Scotland."

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF: That makes no difference.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (MR. CHILDERS): But the hon. Member addressed his observations entirely to the question of the retention of the words "nor a Peer of Scotland." As to the absence of the Home Secretary, I may state that my right hon. Friend the Home Secretary, who is obliged to be absent, has requested me to take his place.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, it would have been much better to have adjourned the debate. He would now appeal to the right hon. Gentleman at the head of Her Majesty's Government. The clause said—

"The President of the Local Government Board, if not a Member of the House of Lords, nor a Peer of Scotland, shall, if otherwise qualified, be capable of being elected to and of voting in the Commons House of Parliament."

He had moved to omit the words "if not a Member of the House of Lords, nor a Peer of Scotland," inasmuch as the remaining words were quite sufficient to enable the gentleman appointed to the Office to be elected a Member of the House of Commons. The Lord Advocate had informed them that the reason the words were put in was to give to the Government the faculty and power of nominating a Scotch Peer to the post. He spoke under correction—that was what he had understood the hon. and learned Gentleman to say. The object of this was to give the Government the greatest range of choice, so that, if necessary, they could appoint a Scotch Peer. The whole object of the measure was to provide Parliamentary representation for Scotch Official Business. If they appointed a Scotch Peer to the post, and he was not an English Peer as well, or had not been elected as a Representative Scotch Peer, they would do away with the representative character of the new Official, because he could not be a Member of Parliament, and could not sit in the House of Lords. He could not see why the Government could not accept his Amendment. They had been discussing this matter now

for half-an-hour, and the necessity for the discussion would have been put an end to if the Official in charge of it had accepted this slight Amendment. He appealed to the right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister to use his influence with his Colleagues to accept the Amendment.

MR. J. A. CAMPBELL said, he would state the course he proposed to take with regard to his Amendment. He had no wish to move the Amendment standing in his name; but, at the same time, he would express a hope that the new Office would never be occupied by any but a Peer. He was anxious that, whatever appointment was made, the honourable Office of Lord Advocate, so ably filled by his hon. and learned Friend opposite, should not suffer thereby.

SIR JOHN HAY said, he did not agree with the whole of the Amendment of the hon. Member for Portsmouth (Sir H. Drummond Wolff), but confessed that he thought the words "nor a Peer of Scotland" were superfluous. They made provision in the Bill that the person appointed might be one who could not sit in the House of Commons. It would be possible for the Prime Minister to recommend the new Official to a Peerage; but, as a Peer of Scotland, he would not be able to sit in the House of Commons or in the House of Lords unless elected a Representative Peer. Therefore, the Office of President of the Scotch Local Government Board, which they were now creating for the purpose of giving Parliamentary Representation to Scotch affairs, might be held by a person in neither House of Parliament. That appeared to him to be entirely wrong. There were 28 or 29 Peers of Scotland who were not either English or elected Peers; and, unless amongst that number there was some person specially suited for the Office, why should they disfigure the Bill by inserting the names of 24 or 25 persons, excluding those who were minors or ladies, in a measure which was intended ostensibly to give them a Parliamentary Representative in one House or the other? It appeared to him that the words objected to should be struck out; and if the Amendment were altered so as not to refer to Scotch Peers, he should agree with it.

MR. BIGGAR said, that, before the Amendment was put, he wished to say

that the Government were acting in a peculiar manner. It had been pointed out by the right hon. and gallant Gentleman who had just spoken (Sir John Hay) that the sole object of the Bill was to give Parliamentary Representation to Scotch Business. As a matter of practice he (Mr. Biggar) thought the new Official should have a seat in the House of Lords and not in the House of Commons, for the reason that the Government had for some years past, so far as his experience had gone, always been remarkably well represented by the Lord Advocate for the time being in the House of Commons. It seemed to him to be a stupid thing that the Lord Advocate, who was competent to do any Business that was required so far as this House was concerned, should have put alongside of him as a superior or inferior Official the President of the Scotch Local Government Board. It seemed to him that what the Government ought to do, if it were competent for them to do it, would be to say that this Gentleman should always be a Member of the House of Peers. It seemed to him to be preposterous, after all the discussion which had taken place, that the Bill should be pushed through as it was, and that it should be open to the Government, whether the House like it or not, to have the option of appointing to the new Office either a Peer having a seat in the House of Lords, a Scotch Peer, or a Gentleman having a seat in the House of Commons. He thought the Government should give way on this point, and make the Bill of a rather more reasonable and practical character.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, that if the Amendment were modified so as to exclude the words "nor a Peer of Scotland," the Government would agree to it.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, he would amend the Amendment in the manner proposed by the right hon. and learned Gentleman.

THE CHAIRMAN said, the hon. Member must withdraw the Amendment, and, after that, he could move to omit the words "nor a Peer of Scotland." The Question which would now have to be put would be "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause," and would render it impossible to discuss Amendments to earlier words.

Mr. Biggar

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF: I move to omit all the words after the word "Lords," to the word "shall," in line 29.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 29, leave out "nor a Peer of Scotland." —(*Sir H. Drummond Wolff*.)

Question, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause," put, and *negatived*.

Clause, as amended *agreed to*, and ordered to stand part of the Bill

Clause 4 (Seal, style, and acts of Board).

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, he wished to move the insertion of the following Proviso in line 24:—

"Provided, That no act done, or instrument executed, and no rule, order, or regulation made, by or on behalf of the said Board, shall be valid, unless notice of the Board meeting at which such act, instrument, rule, order, or regulation was done, executed, or made, shall have been previously sent to each member of the Board in sufficient time to enable him to be present at such Board meeting if he desires to attend."

He should like to ask the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General how the three authorities mentioned in the clause would hang together? The second paragraph of the clause said—

"A rule, order, or regulation made by the Local Government Board shall be valid if it is made under the seal of the Board, and signed by the President or one of the ex-officio members of the Board, and countersigned by a secretary."

But the first paragraph said that—

"Any act to be done, or instrument to be executed, by or on behalf of the Local Government Board, may be done or executed in the name of that Board by the President, or by any member of the Local Government Board, or by a secretary."

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, the explanation of the difference in phraseology between the different parts of the clause was that they dealt with different subject-matter. The first part of the clause referred to "any act to be done, or instrument to be executed;" and it might not be necessary, in the case of every act or instrument, to go through all the formalities required in the second part of the clause, which dealt with "rules, orders, and regulations." It seemed proper that, when they were dealing

with rules, orders, and regulations, they should observe a degree of formality which might not be necessary in the case of an act or instrument.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, that, such being the case, he begged to move the Amendment which he had read. Four or five Members of the Board might live 500 miles distant from the President; and it was very desirable that these important duties, as the Lord Advocate described them, should not rest entirely on the *ipse dixit* of one man. One of the Members of the Board was to be the Lord Advocate, who, by Statute, had the responsibility of performing several duties with regard to the Board of Supervision, the Public Health, and so on; but the whole of these duties were by Clause 5 of the Bill imposed on the President. This appeared to be a distinct departure from what was stated in the Bill—namely, that the duties of the Lord Advocate were not to be interfered with. If they looked at Clause 11 of the Board of Supervision Act of 1845, constituting the Board, they would find the Lord Advocate had distinct duties not included in this Bill. In the Public Health Act the Lord Advocate was authorized to appoint the Special Commissioners when a special inquiry was required during any epidemic of disease, or such like. These duties would now have to be imposed on the President of the Council, and upon him only. At any rate, the Members of the Board ought to have the opportunity of attending the meetings of the Board which performed such important functions, if they thought proper to do so.

Amendment proposed,

In page 2, line 24, insert "Provided, That no act done, or instrument executed, and no rule, order, or regulation made, by or on behalf of the said Board, shall be valid, unless notice of the Board meeting at which such act, instrument, rule, order, or regulation was done, executed, or made, shall have been previously sent to each member of the Board in sufficient time to enable him to be present at such Board meeting if he desires to attend."—(Sir Alexander Gordon.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, that to accept this Amendment would really be to put a construction upon the Act, as regarded its practical operation, quite at variance with that which had already on more than one

occasion been explained. It had been pointed out that the practice under this Act, like the practice under the English Act, should be that the President should be the principal functionary, and that he should be competent to act alone. But there were certain other high Officers with whom he might take counsel if he thought fit, and who should be competent, no doubt, after consulting with him, to issue certain rules and regulations. If it were made essential that, before rules and regulations could be drawn up, there should be a meeting of all these Officers, it would render it quite impossible for the President to perform any act, however slight, or issue or execute any instrument, rule, or regulation. This, he thought, would not be in accordance with the scheme of the Bill, and would put a great restraint on the competency of the President taking action which would sometimes be action of a very important character. With regard to time, the hon. and gallant Member's Amendment proposed that "no instrument, rule, order, or regulation shall be valid" unless notice of it had been previously sent to every member of the Board "in sufficient time to enable him to be present at such Board meeting if he desires to attend." The hon. and gallant Member did not propose to define the time, and it was probable that at certain seasons members of the Board might be great distances from each other. The Amendment would interpose a practical obstacle to the performance of any duty which required to be promptly executed, such as some action in the case of disease or epidemic. The Amendment was not in accordance with the general scheme of the Bill which had been explained to the Committee; therefore, he could not accept it.

Mr. BIGGAR said, the position of the President of the Scotch Local Government Board would be a very absurd one. They had a President, and, besides this, they had other Members who were never expected to attend the meetings. He would not say that the other Members would never attend the meetings; but they would not always be consulted as to what took place on the Board. He should like to make a suggestion on this matter, and it was this. Assuming the head Office to be in Edinburgh—assuming the Secretary and President were the two Officers to be in Edinburgh

—it would be reasonable that the Presidents and the principal Secretaries of the Local Boards in Scotland were made *ex officio* Members of the new Board. In that way they would bring together a number of officials connected with different Departments, who would each have special knowledge of the matters relating to his Department. They would be able to consult together and to decide what was best for the time being in the event of any emergency arising. He certainly thought the present arrangement was a very absurd one, and he would urge the Government to consider whether some more reasonable proposition could not be laid before the Committee.

MR. WARTON said, that, without wishing to give any opinion of the merits of the question, he must say that the last five words of the Amendment—namely, “If he desires to attend”—seemed altogether superfluous. It seemed to him that the attendance of a Member of the Board should not depend upon his desiring or not desiring to attend. How could a Member's desiring to attend create a title for him to do so? With regard to time, the Amendment seemed to him to imply that notice should be given in time to enable a Member of the Board to cover a certain space.

Amendment proposed to the proposed Amendment, in line 6, to leave out all the words after the word “meeting.”—(*Mr. Warton.*)

Question proposed, “That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the proposed Amendment.”

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, he should be very happy to accept that Amendment.

Question put, and *negatived*.

LORD JOHN MANNERS said, any-one would suppose, at the first glance, that the Board was to meet together for the purpose of transacting business; but the reverse was really the case. One or two Commissioners would be able to walk into the Office and to interfere with its work. These great names were submitted to them, probably for the greater glorification of the new Office, or for some other reason they need not inquire into, but certainly not on the understanding or under the idea that these

Mr. Biggar

Officials were to meet in the Office of the Local Government Board of Scotland in a formal way for the purpose of helping to prosecute the duties of that Office. If the Amendment were agreed to, it might tend to exaggerate the erroneous idea which some people outside the House seemed to entertain as to the meaning or creation of the Board. He could not support the Amendment of the hon. and gallant Gentleman.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, he should be sorry to put the Committee to the trouble of a Division; but he must say that the discussion had shown how complete a farce this Board, as a Board, would be. The Local Government Board, as proposed for Scotland, was very different to that which existed in England, which sat at Whitehall, and to the meetings of which the Secretaries of State, or the Chancellor of the Exchequer, could come at any moment. [“No, no!”] Yes, they could, if they liked. The Scotch Board would meet for half the year in Edinburgh; and it was a ridiculous farce to legislate, at this period of the century, that important Officials should be Members of a Board which they could never attend. He, however, would ask leave to withdraw his Amendment.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause *agreed to*, and *ordered to stand part of the Bill*.

Clause 5 (Powers and duties of Local Government Board).

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, he wished on this clause to move a very important Amendment—namely, in line 25, after the word “duties,” to insert the words “except the power of issuing Orders in Council.” They were about to transfer to this one Officer, this one Minister, all the powers and duties now vested in the Privy Council, the Secretary of State, and the existing Local Boards. These powers comprised far more than was given to the English Local Government Board. They included, amongst other powers, the issuing of the Orders in Council. The Bill practically conferred upon the new President and the new Board the powers of the Queen in Council. As the law at present stood, no less than two Members of the Privy Council were in some cases required to issue Orders, and in other cases no less than three were required,

one of whom must be a Secretary of State; so that, if these powers were framed for the purpose of protecting the public from Orders too hurriedly given, and given without sufficient judgment, it should be borne in mind that that object the Government were now proposing to defeat. It was proposed to take away these powers from two or three Members of the Privy Council, and to hand them over to a certain person of inferior rank. The Bill would enable the President to issue Orders in Council in the Queen's name, just as he thought proper. That might be all very well; but, if it was, why not do it for England as well as for Scotland? Why should the English nation be hampered with these rules as to Orders in Council, which were not necessary in Scotland? The duties and business of the Executive in Scotland were quite as important to the Scotch people as were the duties and business of the Executive to the English nation. If the English required that protection, the Scotch required it also. This clause, it seemed to him, might be used as a very powerful argument for the cutting down of the Estimates when they next came before the House, if it was the fact that Scotland could be administered with such a very much smaller Office than England. This was a very important clause in the Bill, carrying with it all the Schedules, and he should like to call attention now, as he had done on the second reading, to the fact that they did not know whether this clause transferred the whole of the duties which were required for administration with these 36 Acts, or only the duty which was discharged by the Secretary of State. When he asked that question on the second reading, he was told by the Secretary of State for the Home Department that he had evidently not read the Schedule, or he must have known that the duties were only those which were discharged by the Secretary of State. Now, however, they were told that it would include all the duties; and if they would read the wording of the 5th clause, they would find that all the powers and duties vested in the Secretary of State and the Privy Council, or the Local Government Board for England, would, so far as such powers and duties related to Scotland, be transferred to the Scotch Local Government Board.

So that Her Majesty's Government, through their Secretaries of State, would not, so far as Scotland was concerned, be able to transact any of the duties referred to in the Acts of Parliament contained in the Schedule. If these duties were transferred, they could not remain with the Secretary of State, and he did not think that altogether could be intended, as there were many most important functions, important to England as well as to Scotland, which the Secretary of State ought to discharge. They were asked to give to the Local Government Board of Scotland far more duties, and far more powers than were given to the Local Government Board of England. He did not think it was intended that this should be the case; and, if so, the Committee ought clearly to know it. The 5th clause was really the operative clause of the Bill, and he should like to know whether he was correct in supposing that all the duties belonging to the Secretary of State, and the Privy Council, and the Local Government Board of England, so far as Scotland was concerned, were really to be vested in the new President for Scotland? As he read the language of the clause, that was the case, and he would, therefore, move the Amendment of which he had given Notice.

Amendment proposed, in page 5, line 25, after "duties," insert "except the power of issuing Orders of Council."—*(Sir Alexander Gordon.)*

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, he thought the clause, as it stood, was quite clear, if he might so say, in regard to the effect of the transfer which it was intended to make. The clause proposed to transfer the powers and duties vested in or imposed upon one of Her Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, or the Privy Council, subject to the qualification—"So far as such powers and duties relate to Scotland." Subject to that qualification, it was the intention and the effect of the clause to transfer from one set of functionaries to another that clearly-defined and limited class of duties. That was his reply to one part of the question put by the hon. and gallant Member. But then the hon. and gallant Member

wished to know whether there was not something more given to the Scotch Local Government Board than was given to the English Local Government Board, and, in reply to that, he (the Lord Advocate) must say that, in some respects, the Bill gave more powers to the Scotch than to the English Board, and, in other respects, less power. The English Local Government Board, as he understood it, performed a great many duties which, in Scotland, were performed by the Board of Supervision. Although the English Board had been taken as a convenient precedent for setting up a particular kind of administration that was thought expedient, it did not follow that all the powers and duties were to be identical; that was a matter that was to be considered during the progress of the Bill. The Amendment was altogether unnecessary. The President of the Local Government Board could not, as such, issue an Order in Council. The hon. and gallant Gentleman first called attention to the fact that he had an Amendment on the Paper dealing with the Schedule at the foot of page 4. He (the Lord Advocate) might mention that the powers and duties of the Privy Council, which were here proposed to be transferred, were exclusively under the Public Health Act. They proposed to limit that to Part III. of the Public Health Act, and he could explain by anticipation the reason for that. There were some powers and duties vested in the Privy Council as to quarantine which it had been thought better—regulations of this kind being of a general and national character—to keep under the Privy Council. He could not accept the Amendment.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON wished to know how the right hon. and learned Gentleman made his statement agree with the duties of the Privy Council under the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act, 41 & 42 *Vict.*, which was exclusively worked by the Privy Council? Under that Act it was required that the Orders should be signed by two Privy Councillors.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (MR. CHILDERS): Or by a Secretary of State.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON: Only in local cases; in no others. All those important Orders as to interchange of

cattle between one country and another, required two signatures—that of the Secretary of State might be one. Was it intended that all the important duties as to the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act were to be transferred to this new Minister, and that there was to be another Veterinary Department established in connection with the Scotch Board?

THE LORD ADVOCATE (MR. J. B. BALFOUR) said, the hon. and gallant Member could scarcely have read the Schedules. If he did so, he would see that, while the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act was in the First Schedule, under which it was proposed to transfer duties from the Secretary of State, that was not the case with the Second Schedule, which dealt with the powers of the Privy Council, which were not to be transferred. If the hon. and gallant Gentleman would look at the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act, he would find that there were certain duties under it vested in the Secretary of State, as distinguished from those vested in the Privy Council. It was the duties vested in the Secretary of State, and not those vested in the Privy Council, that were to be transferred. The hon. and gallant Member would find, on referring to the Act, that the Secretary of State was responsible for regulating the advance of money to local authorities for public works.

Question put, and *negatived*.

SIR JOHN HAY said, he hoped the Lord Advocate would be able to accept the Amendment he now wished to propose, for it seemed to him that it was necessary, not only as saving the hon. Gentleman's Office, which derived its authority from the Crown through the Home Office—and which was partly saved by Clause 6—but because the Home Office ought, he thought, to be excluded from relief from exercising authority over certain business in Scotland, especially factories, and workshops, industrial schools, and reformatories, and perhaps mines. He was quite aware that the clause suggested that "the enactment specified in the Schedule," so far as the powers and duties relating to Scotland were held, were to be transferred to the new Board; but it seemed to him that the whole administration of Scotland would be dislocated if the

Home Secretary was not excluded from being relieved from Imperial duties which appertained to his Office. The management of school affairs, from the time of the Rebellion of 1745 to the present time, had been conducted through the Home Office by the Lord Advocate, and until now he had never been interfered with. As an illustration of his case, he would mention the Merchant Shipping (Scotland) Bill which was now before Parliament. He had no doubt that that Bill would be amended in the shape in which it had come from the House of Lords; but in that Bill the whole of the duties which were performed, and admirably performed, by the officers under the administration and the regulations of the Lord Advocate, were entirely subverted by a clause inserted by the House of Lords. He referred to that in order to illustrate the way in which at this moment the Office of the Lord Advocate was being attacked on all hands, and discredited by other Departments of the Government, with a view to throwing the affairs of Scotland into confusion. Upon that confusion the Government would say they were going to provide officers to set everything right. As a Scotchman, he viewed with the greatest alarm the creation of a new Officer to manage the affairs of Scotland in preference to the Home Office and the Lord Advocate; and he, therefore, hoped the Lord Advocate would accept the Amendment he suggested.

Amendment proposed, in page 2, line 26, after "State," insert "except Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department."—(*Sir John Hay.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (Mr. CHILDERS) said, the right hon. Gentleman had said the object of this Bill was to throw the affairs of Scotland into confusion, and to depreciate the Office of the Lord Advocate.

SIR JOHN HAY: I said that would be the effect.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (Mr. CHILDERS) said, that the right hon. and gallant Gentleman had expressly said that the object of the Government was to throw the affairs

of Scotland into confusion. But nothing was further from the intention of the Government than in any way to depreciate the Office of the Lord Advocate; and in order to make that clear, the rights and duties of his Office were preserved in the most formal way. The main object of the Bill was to substitute for the Home Office an Office to deal with the administration of the lay affairs of Scotland. He hoped the Amendment would not be pressed.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn.*

MR. WARTON said, he wished to omit from the clause the words "or Privy Council." According to the Schedule, the powers of the Privy Council only affected one matter, the public health; but a great deal of harm might be done, because the Privy Council discharged all sorts of duties. Under the 29 *Vict. c. 68*, Her Majesty might, by Order in Council, on the representation of the Principal Secretary of State, order the closing of a burial-ground. Something might be done on the representation of the Secretary of State by Her Majesty in Council; but it seemed to him that the effect of having this in the Schedule was to refer only to the duty of the Secretary of State, which was to make a representation for something to be done; but the 5th section of that Act threw the duty on the Privy Council or Her Majesty in Council. He wished to suggest whether that section should not be included in the Schedule; and, whether it was worth while, for the sake of introducing the words he sought to omit, to do that which might have an effect much greater than was intended.

Amendment proposed, in page 2, line 26, omit the words "or Privy Council."—(*Mr. Warton.*)

Question proposed, "That the words 'or Privy Council' stand part of the Clause."

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, the Government could not agree to this Amendment. By the English Act of 1871, the administration of the Statutes relating to the prevention of disease, which were substantially the same as the Scotch Public Health Act, was transferred to the Local Government Board, and he thought the administration by that Board had been satisfactory.

What would remain to be transferred from the Privy Council to the Scotch Local Government Board would practically be the 3rd Part of the Scotch Public Health Bill. Such duty was eminently a matter to be done by such a Board—the Board being well cognizant of the existing affairs and necessities of Scotland at the time. It was not a matter that required any very great consideration, and it was evidently a local matter limited to Scotland, and fit to be transferred, as regarded Scotland, to the Scotch Local Government Board in the same way as was done in England. With regard to burial-grounds, he believed that by the 18 & 19 *Vict.* it was provided that the Privy Council might on a representation from the Secretary of State cause a burial-ground to be closed. What was here proposed was to transfer, under the First Schedule, the duty of the Secretary of State to make a representation to the new Board. The scheme of the Burial Grounds Act was that there should be the Secretary of State and the Privy Council called into operation. If now the two sets of powers were transferred to the same functionary, the result would be that he would have to represent them himself. That would, however, be an anomaly, and it seemed to the Government that it would be better to leave the matter in the hands of the Privy Council.

MR. WARTON said, that when they came to the question of public health, and considered burial-grounds, he should call attention to this matter again.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

MR. DICK-PEDDIE said, he begged to move an Amendment standing in the name of his hon. Friend the Member for Falkirk (Mr. J. Ramsay)—namely, at Clause 5, page 2, line 37, after England, to insert “or Scotch Education Department.” He did not understand why the important matter of education should be excluded from the province of the proposed Board. He could only suppose that the opposition of the Education Department to Scotland being taken out of their hands had been so strong that the Government had been compelled to yield to it. It had been suggested, on the first reading of the Bill, that education should be kept out, because it had

been well administered by the Department. He had no wish to depreciate the work done by the Department; but he thought that what success it had had in administering education in Scotland was chiefly owing to there being on the Department permanent Scottish Officials, such as Sir Francis Sandford and the able coadjutors connected with him, men who understood Scotch ideas and feelings and traditions on education. A good deal, too, was no doubt due to his right hon. Friend the Vice President of the Council (Mr. Mundella), whose enthusiasm in the work of his Office was so honourable to him. But, apart from the consideration that there was no security that the right hon. Gentleman would very long fill his present Office, or that he would be succeeded by Gentlemen having his enthusiasm and breadth of sympathy, or that there would always be in the Department gentlemen having so much knowledge of Scotland as the present permanent Officials, he could not recognize that the goodness of the work done was a sufficient reason for excluding it from the scope of the Bill. There were other branches of public work proposed to be embraced in the duties of the new Board which had been equally well performed; and he might point out that if education were left out, on the ground that it was well administered, there would be an implication that the branches of public work which were excluded had not been well done. He supposed that, in determining the duties to be entrusted to the proposed Board, the Government had not proceeded arbitrarily, but on some principle, and the only intelligible principle which suggested itself to him, as that which had guided the Government, was that those things in which Scotch laws, institutions, traditions, and feelings differed from those of England should be committed to the Scotch Board. Whatever matters in Scotland required to be dealt with by legislation, distinct from that applied to England, should be committed to the new Board or Minister. Now, there was nothing, as his hon. Friend the Member for the Tower Hamlets (Mr. Bryce) had shown, in which Scotch traditions and feelings differed more from those of England than in the matter of education. It had been found necessary to deal with education in separate legis-

The Lord Advocate

lation from Scotland. Much evil to Scotch education had already, as his hon. Friend had shown, been caused by its being handed over to Englishmen. He (Mr. Dick-Peddie) believed, with his hon. Friend, that the cause of education would have been far more advanced than it was now had Scotland been allowed to develop it on its own lines. But he did not concur with his hon. Friend in believing that the injury done was irretrievable. He believed that, even yet, were education in Scotland handed over to Scotchmen, much might be done to give it the development which, had it never been taken out of their hands, it would have had. The evil of putting Scotch affairs into the hands of Departments administered in London, was that they seemed of much less importance in the eyes of the Department than English matters; and, being less understood by them, they were either neglected or postponed for English matters, or were bungled by being forced into English moulds. An English Minister always supposed that what was good for England must be good for Scotland. He believed that not only did Scotland suffer from the present state of matters, but that England also lost much, and that if Scotland had been allowed to develop the educational system, according to the ideas of the country, and on its own lines, it would have furnished, in many respects, an excellent example to England, while Scotland, on its part, would have benefited from what was good in the English system. A healthy competition and rivalry between the two countries would do more for the advancement of education generally than a system which sought to force England and Scotland into the same hard lines. If the Government really wished to make their Bill useful, they should include education in the scope of the Bill; and he thought that the only circumstance which gave the slightest apparent justification to the suggestion of hon. Members on the Conservative Benches, that the Bill was a sham, was that this, the most important branch of public affairs, was excluded from the supervision of the proposed Board. He believed that if the Bill passed, the experience of its working, and of the disadvantage which education must suffer by being left to be controlled in England, and by the want of opportunity of free and ready access

on the part of those interested in education to those in charge of Scottish affairs, which the Bill would afford in every other Department, would lead to education soon being added to the matters the new Board would have to deal with; but he desired that when the Government were legislating, they should do so completely and logically at once.

Amendment proposed, in page 2, line 27, after "England," insert "or Scotch Education Department." — (*Mr. Dick-Peddie.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (Mr. CHILDERS) said, there had been an interesting debate upon the Motion of the hon. Member for the London University (Sir John Lubbock) on the question of appointing a Minister of Education, and the result was that it was decided to refer the matter to a Committee to consider who should be the Minister who should deal with English and Scotch education. That question having been referred to a Select Committee, it ought not to be decided now that this new Minister in Scotland should be the Minister for Scotch education. The House would stultify itself and its own Resolution if, without that inquiry which the Select Committee was to make next Session, it dealt with the subject now. He, therefore, hoped the Amendment would not be pressed.

Mr. J. A. CAMPBELL said, he thought the Committee must feel the force of the right hon. Gentleman's observations. The question raised by this Amendment was a very large question. A good deal might be said in favour of the views of the hon. Member (Mr. Dick-Peddie), and a good deal against them; but the question was so large that there was no time to discuss it at length, and he was surprised that any Members who were in favour of this Bill should give any countenance to the introduction of so wide a subject as this. An attempt to discuss it would imperil the passing of this measure.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, the reason put forward by the right hon. Gentleman the Chancellor of the Exchequer was a reason for not going on discussing this Bill until it had been made perfect. One by one every attribute which the Board ought to possess seemed

to be cut away, and apparently it was merely to be a roving commission by this Gentleman to find out what he had to do. There was no chance of getting through the Bill to-day, and he hoped the Government would consent to Progress being reported.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said, he could not assent to reporting Progress.

MR. DICK-PEDDIE said, he would not press the Amendment; but the decision to appoint a Select Committee on the subject did not give him any confidence in the matter. The hon. Member for the University of Glasgow (Mr. J. A. Campbell) and the right hon. Member for the University of Edinburgh (Sir Lyon Playfair) were the only Scotch Members on the Board, and they were notoriously opposed to having a Minister of Education.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

MR. WARTON moved to omit "the enactment specified in the Schedule," and to substitute "Act of Parliament." He said it seemed to him clear that the Schedule must be sufficiently comprehensive, and if the Lord Advocate would assent to this Amendment there would simply be the words "Act of Parliament," and then they could provide in a large and a handsome way for all the powers required. This new Official, who was to be an eminent person, was to have a great deal to do; therefore, they should magnify his Office and make it honourable. Why tie him down to the Schedule? All the powers of a Secretary of State should be exercised in this way to prevent those blunders which must occur under the wording of the Schedule, and they should avoid dangers arising from limiting this Office.

Amendment proposed,

In page 2, line 27, leave out "the enactment specified in the Schedule," and insert "Act of Parliament."—(Mr. Warton.)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause."

THE LORD ADVOCATE (MR. J. B. BALFOUR) said, the proposal came rather as a surprise from the quarter from which it had emanated, because on many occasions questions had been put as to what were to be the duties of the new

Board. There was a distinct way of defining those duties by reference to them in the different Acts of Parliament, which anyone might read for himself; but now it was proposed to strike out that reference and leave the reference to the whole Statute Book. To that he could not assent. It had been explained that it was not intended to hand over everything to the new Board; and it was quite plain that it would be totally against that scheme, which had been accepted by the House, to adopt this Amendment and transfer everything in the mass to the new Board.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

MR. J. A. CAMPBELL said, he proposed to leave out "President of the," and insert "said." The effect of that Amendment would be that the powers and duties referred to would be transferred not to the President of the Board, but to the Board itself. He expected that the Lord Advocate would accept this Amendment, and would thank him for proposing it, because it would make the Bill consistent. This Board had to-day been spoken of as fictitious. He would not use that expression; but, at any rate, it appeared that the Board was to be only a nominal one, and, if so, he thought it should be consistently referred to throughout the Bill. It would be observed that the marginal note to this clause was in these words—"Powers and duties of the Local Government Board;" but when they looked at the clause they found nothing about the powers and duties of the Board, but simply of the President. It appeared to him that they had one of two courses to take; either to let this clause stand as it was, and to alter the title of the Bill to "Local President (Scotland) Bill," or to retain the title and alter the clause as he now proposed. The analogy of the English Local Government Board Act supported his case, for there was a similar provision in that Act, the powers and duties being described as those of the Board, and not of the President.

Amendment proposed, in page 2, line 31, to leave out "President of the," and insert "said."—(Mr. J. A. Campbell.)

Question proposed, "That the words 'President of the' stand part of the Clause."

Sir H. Drummond Wolff

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, he would consider this point on Report.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL said, he was glad to hear what the Lord Advocate said, because he thought something of this kind necessary.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, he had promised to consider the matter, thinking it quite right to do so, because, as the hon. Member had said, this form was adopted in the English Act. All he had said was that he would consider the matter against Report.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

MR. WARTON proposed to omit "Acts of Parliament," in line 33, and insert "by the Acts of Parliament in the Schedule hereto." This proposal was almost the converse of what was supported by the Lord Advocate. The present words were rather wide.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) suggested that the words should be altered to "said enactments or any of them."

MR. WARTON agreed that that would be better.

Amendment proposed, in page 2, line 33, omit "Acts of Parliament," and insert "said enactments or any of them."

Question, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause," put, and *negatived*.

Question, "That the words 'said enactments or any of them' be there inserted," put, and *agreed to*.

Amendment proposed,

In page 2, line 39, after "Board," insert,—
"Provided that where, by any Act now in force, the exercise of the powers of the Privy Council requires the authority of two or more of the Lords of the Privy Council, the authority of two or more of the members of the Local Government Board shall be necessary."—
(*Sir Alexander Gordon.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, he would consider this matter against Report, though he doubted whether the Amendment was necessary.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*, and *ordered* to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 6 (Reservation of rights of Lord Advocate).

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, there were several Amendments to this clause which were very wide, and he would appeal to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to report Progress, and allow this clause to be considered another time.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (Mr. CHILDERS) said, that, after the explanations which had been given, he thought there was no doubt about this clause. The powers and privileges of the Lord Advocate were retained, and to make that clear this clause was inserted.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF thought there was a good deal of surplusage in this clause, and there was no good in going on with it now. He should move that Progress be now reported.

Motion made, and Question, "That the Chairman do now report Progress, and ask leave to sit again,"—(*Sir H. Drummond Wolff*),—put, and *agreed to*.

Committee report Progress; to sit again *To-morrow*.

PUBLIC WORKS LOANS [ADVANCES, &c.].
Considered in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

1. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to authorise advances out of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom, or out of moneys in the hands of the National Debt Commissioners held on account of Savings Banks, of any sum of money not exceeding £3,000,000 in the whole, to enable the Public Works Loans Commissioners, and not exceeding £1,200,000 in the whole, to enable the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland, to make advances in promotion of Public Works.

2. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to authorise further advances out of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom of any sum or sums of money, not exceeding £400,000 in the whole, to enable the Land Commission in Ireland to make advances, or for the purchase of estates in pursuance of "The Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881," or in pursuance of any Act of the present Session authorising advances by the Land Commission to Companies for the purchase of Estates in Ireland.

3. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to authorise the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt to advance, with the consent of the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, to the Irish Land Commissioners the sum of £100,000 for the purpose of any Act of the present Session promoting the removal and settlement of poor persons in Ireland, and making provision for emigration from Ireland,

and that it is expedient to authorise the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to guarantee the repayment to the said Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt of any moneys so advanced.

4. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to empower the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to postpone for a period not exceeding five years, on such conditions as may be agreed upon, the payment of principal and interest of a loan due by the Aberbrothick Harbour Commissioners to the Public Works Loan Commissioners.

5. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to empower the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to compound upon certain conditions and for the sum of £6,000 with interest at the rate of 3½ per centum per annum the debt due to the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland in respect of Athlunkard Bridge, Limerick.

6. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to empower the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to remit a sum of £323 3s. 7d., an irrecoverable balance of debt which is due to the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland in respect of certain lands and mills on the River Corrib, in the county Galway.

7. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to amend the Public Works Loans Acts, and the Arrears of Rent (Ireland) Act, 1882.

Resolutions to be reported *To-morrow*.

COPYRIGHT OF PHOTOGRAPHS BILL.

On Motion of Mr. M'LAREN, Bill to amend the Law relating to the Copyright of Photographs, *ordered* to be brought in by Mr. M'LAREN and Mr. LEWIS.

Bill *presented*, and read the first time. [Bill 294.]

House adjourned at five minutes before Six o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS,

Thursday, 16th August, 1883.

MINUTES.]—PUBLIC BILLS—*First Reading*—Bankruptcy * (195); National Debt * (196); Expiring Laws Continuance * (197); Corrupt Practices (Suspension of Elections) * (198); Education (Scotland) * (199).

Second Reading—Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) (189); Cholera Hospitals (Ireland) * (193).

Committee—Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 1) * (167); Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 6) * (159); Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 7) * (160); Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 5) * (173); Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 8) * (174); Patents for Inventions (*re-comm.*) * (188-201).

Report—Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) (190-200); Friendly, &c. Societies (Nominations) * (166), *now* Provident Nominations and Small Intestacies.

Third Reading—Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 2) * (151); Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 3) * (152); Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 4) * (158); Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 9) * (161); Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 10) * (162); Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 11) * (163); Public Health Act, 1875 (Support of Sewers) Amendment * (172); Agricultural Holdings (England) (192); Diseases Prevention (Metropolis) * (181), and *passed*.

MILFORD DOCKS BILL.

THE EARL OF MILLTOWN, in moving that the Bill be re-committed to the same Committee, said, that some four or five days ago he presented a Petition against the third reading of the Bill upon representations of so strong a nature against the Company that it seemed to him every one of them ought to be investigated. Some allegations had certainly been borne out; and, although all the statements were made *ex parte*, they were made with the positive assurance that every one could be substantiated.

Moved, "That the Bill be re-committed to the same Committee."—(*The Earl of Milltown.*)

THE EARL OF REDESDALE (CHAIRMAN of COMMITTEES) said, that ample inquiry had been made into the truth of the allegations, and the only person who could have raised any objection in the matter was the contractor, who had since become a bankrupt. He did not think it was proper at this period of the Session that the Bill should be re-committed.

Motion (by leave of the House) *withdrawn*.

AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS (SCOTLAND) BILL.—(No. 190.)

(*The Lord President.*)

REPORT.

Amendments *reported* (according to order).

Clause 2 (Restrictions as to improvements before Act).

Amendment *moved*,

In page 2, line 10, after ("improvement") at end of clause, add ("but under deduction of the value of any manure stipulated for under the lease.")—(*The Duke of Buccleuch.*)

LORD CARLINGFORD (Lord President of the COUNCIL) said, he thought the words in the clause were amply suffi-

cient, and that nothing would be gained by the change.

THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH remarked, that those who would suffer would not be the landlords.

Amendment (by leave of the House) *withdrawn*.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 4 (Notice to landlord as to improvements in second part of Schedule).

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL suggested that, instead of fixing the rate of interest at 4 per cent to be paid by a tenant for improvement executed by his landlord, they should substitute the words—

"At the rate per cent at which the money could be borrowed from a land improvement company in the same period."

The object of this proposal was that the landlord might not lose by the transaction, as in many cases the improvements on which interest at the rate of 4 per cent would be paid might yield to the tenant from 14 to 30 per cent. Under those circumstances, it would be very hard that the landlord should be losing on the transaction all the time the tenant was gaining upon it. He threw the suggestion out for consideration on the third reading.

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON had no objection to the proposal, as his sole desire was that the landlord should not have to pay more for the loan of money than he would be allowed by the tenant.

THE MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN said, he agreed with the justice of the proposal, but under it a tenant might have to pay occasionally as much as 6½ and even 8 per cent.

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL) moved the following Proviso from the English Bill:—

"The landlord and tenant may, if they think fit, dispense with any notice under this section, and come to an agreement between themselves, in the same manner and of the same validity as if such notice had been given."

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL suggested that the words "the landlord and tenant may, in terms of the lease, or otherwise," should be added; but he would not press that at the present stage.

Amendment agreed to.

THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH rose to move an Amendment of which he had given Notice.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said, the time had gone past for moving that Amendment.

THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH said, he must protest against the irregular manner in which Business was carried on in the House. The sort of conversation which went on in conducting a Bill of this kind made it impossible for anyone to know what was taking place. There were great complaints about the bad acoustics of the building; but it was more the fault of the Members themselves than the construction of the building that no one could hear.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 5 (Reservation as to existing and future leases).

THE EARL OF CAMPERDOWN said, he rose to call attention to the last subsection of Clause 5—

THE EARL OF GALLOWAY rose to a point of Order, and remarked that it had been stated by the Lord Chancellor that they had got to Clause 6 of the Bill. ["No, no!"] Noble Lords might not have heard it, but he certainly was led to understand that they had reached Clause 6. The noble Duke (the Duke of Buccleuch) had been prevented from putting his Amendment upon Clause 4, because the conversation going on in the House had prevented his hearing that Clause 5 had been announced by the Lord Chancellor as being discussed. For his (the Earl of Galloway's) part, he had no objection to either clause being discussed; but if the noble Duke was ruled out of Order in discussing Clause 4, because Clause 5 was under discussion, similarly, the noble Earl (the Earl of Camperdown) was out of Order in discussing Clause 5 when Clause 6 was under discussion.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR explained that Clause 6 was mentioned by himself in consequence of seeing a Notice upon the Paper in reference to it, but nothing had been moved upon it; therefore, the noble Lord was perfectly in Order in referring to Clause 5.

THE EARL OF CAMPERDOWN said, he wished to ask what was the meaning of the following sub-section of Clause 5:—

"The last preceding provision of this section relating to a particular agreement shall apply in the case of a tenancy under a contract of tenancy current at the commencement of this

Act, in respect of an improvement specified in the third part of the Schedule hereto, specific compensation for which is not provided by any agreement in writing or custom."

He had appealed to persons accustomed to drafting Bills for an explanation, but they seemed as ignorant as himself?

LORD CARLINGFORD (Lord President of the Council) said, the case stood in this way. The second paragraph of the clause provided for agreements for fair and reasonable compensation, but it only gave that power in the case of tenancies beginning after the commencement of this Act. Therefore, if the clause ended there, there would have been no means for landlords and tenants to enter into fair and reasonable agreements during the currency of an existing lease. The new paragraph had nothing to do with existing agreements and customs, such as were referred to in the first paragraph of the clause; it related entirely to the future. It was to enable agreements to be made during the currency of a lease existing at the commencement of the Act that the paragraph was inserted, and if the noble Lord studied the matter he would find that it was quite necessary, for the reason he had stated.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he did not believe that the clause as it originally stood precluded landlords and tenants from entering into these agreements.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 6 (Set off of benefit to tenant).

Amendment moved,

In page 4, line 31, at end of clause, add—"Nothing in this section or in any other section of this Act shall enable a tenant to obtain compensation under this Act in respect of any boning, claying, liming, or marling of land executed more than seven years before the determination of the tenancy, or in respect of any purchased artificial or other purchased manure applied, or any cake or other feeding stuff consumed on the holding more than three years before the determination of the tenancy."—(*The Earl of Wemyss*.)

After a pause,

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON asked whether the Lord President of the Council had not a word to say on that Amendment?

LORD CARLINGFORD (Lord President of the Council) replied, that the noble Lord on the Cross Bench had not

said a word in support of his own Amendment, and therefore he had not felt himself called upon to answer him. To all their Lordships except the noble Lord himself he thought it must seem impossible for anyone who had accepted the second reading of the Bill to accept his words, which would substitute for the provisions of the Bill a system of artificial periods of compensation and of exhaustion of the improvements. The Amendment proposed that the periods should be seven years in certain cases, and three years in others. That was, of course, absolutely opposed to the principle upon which the Bill was drawn; and, with respect to the three years, it was, he thought, even opposed to the Act of 1875.

Amendment negatived.

Clause 17 (Reference to and award by oversman).

On the Motion of The Lord President an Amendment made by inserting page in 7, at end of Clause, the following new paragraph:—

"In any case provided for by sections three, four, or five, if compensation is claimed under this Act, such compensation, as under any of those sections is to be deemed to be substituted for compensation under this Act, if and so far as the same can under the terms of the agreement, if any, be ascertained by the referees or the oversman, shall be awarded in respect of any improvements thereby provided for, and the award shall, when necessary, distinguish such improvements, and the amount awarded in respect thereof, and an award given under this Clause shall be subject to the appeal provided by this Act."

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 29 (What notice to be given of termination of tenancy).

THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH said, he proposed to amend the clause, by providing that the section should not apply to leases current at the commencement of this Act which had less than five, instead of two, years to run.

Amendment moved, in page 11, line 27, leave out ("two") and insert ("five.")—(*The Duke of Buccleuch*.)

LORD CARLINGFORD (Lord President of the Council) said, the Government could not agree to that Amendment.

Amendment (by leave of the House) withdrawn.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 34 (Commencement of Act).

LORD LOVAT said, that, on behalf of his noble Friend (the Earl of Stair), he would propose that the Act should come into operation at the term of Whitsuntide instead of on the 1st of January.

Amendment moved, in page 13, line 24, after ("on") leave out ("the first day of January") and insert ("the term of Whitsuntide.")—(*The Lord Lovat.*)

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he thought it would not be well to defer the operation of the Act until Whitsuntide without some very good reason for it. For his part, he could not see what advantage there would be in the change, and what the risks were that were supposed to attend the earlier operation of the Bill. With respect to the improvements in Part I., they could not be affected by it in any way; and, with respect to drainage works, the noble Lord would see that no tenant, as the Bill stood, could do that which he seemed to be so much afraid of—that no drainage could be begun until the 1st of next March, as two months' notice, beginning after the 1st of January, of an intention to drain a field had to be given to the landlord. By an alteration that had been made in the Bill no tenant could begin to manure, or lime, or do anything of that kind without first giving six months' notice; therefore, he could not see that anything would be gained by deferring the commencement of the Act.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY thought there was a serious difficulty in the way in consequence of the earlier period in Clause 5. In the 2nd subsection they would observe that the Act enacted that in all cases in reference to tenancies at will, which were called tenancies under lease in Scotland, when a new tenancy commenced at the first period at which notice could be given to terminate the tenancy at will—that was to say, the first period after the commencement of the Act—in order to get their agreement into operation, so that they should be capable of substituting it for the Act, they must have made with every one of their tenants a new agreement, and they would have to do that by Ladyday or Candlemas, or whatever was the day at which the tenancy ceased.

That was rather a severe requirement, and the end of it would be that in order to save himself the landlord would give notice to quit, in order to prevent being left altogether without the substitution of his own agreement for the compensation he was called upon to pay.

Amendment (by leave of the House) withdrawn.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 35 (Application of Act).

LORD LOVAT said, he would propose that the Act should apply to a holding of less than two acres in extent if it was of the value of £2. In the Highlands small holdings were often given by way of charity, and it was not proposed that such holdings should come under the operation of the Act. If the clause remained as at present, small holdings in the Highlands might mean nothing, because the holding might consist of bare rock; but if it was made £2, that would mean something.

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, that as he had not agreed to the limit of two acres, he could not agree to the present proposal; but if the noble Lord considered it absolutely necessary, he hoped he would raise the point on the third reading.

Amendment (by leave of the House) withdrawn.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 36 (Avoidance of agreement inconsistent with Act).

Amendment moved,

In page 13, line 39, at end of clause, add —"Provided that nothing in this Act shall make it illegal for a landlord and tenant to agree in writing that the purchased artificial or other purchased manures, in respect of which a claim for compensation may be made under this Act, shall be limited to the manures specified in such writing; and if the landlord and tenant so agree, no claim shall be competent to the tenant under this Act in respect of the application to the holding of any such manure not specified in such writing."—(*The Earl of Wemyss.*)

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, as the noble Earl had given no reasons for the Amendment, his own reasons why he could not accept it would be very brief. This was one of those precautions against an infinitesimal and unlikely

Doncaster, E. (*D. Bue-*
cleuch and Queens-
berry.)
Dundonald, E.
Faversham, E.
Fortescue, E.
Milltown, E.
Redesdale, E.
Melville, V.
Ardilaun, L.
Bagot, L.
Bateman, L. [*Teller.*]
Denman, L.
Douglas, L. (*E. Home.*)
Dunmore, L. (*E. Dun-*
more.)
Ellenborough, L.
Forbes, L.
Haldon, L.
Harlech, L.
Hopetoun, L. (*E. Hope-*
toun.) [*Teller.*]
Ker, L. (*M. Lothian.*)
Lamington, L.
Lovat, L.
Norton, L.
O'Neill, L.
Stratheden and Camp-
bell, L.
Ventry, L.
Wemyss, L. (*E.*
Wemyss.)
Wynford, L.

Resolved in the negative.

Words substituted accordingly.

Bill passed, and sent to the Commons.

PROTEST AGAINST THE PASSING OF THE AGRI- CULTURAL HOLDINGS (ENGLAND) BILL.

"DISSENTIENT":

"1. Because no man in this country occupies and cultivates the land of another, except by his own free will and upon terms which he has voluntarily accepted.

"2. Because it is a sound principle in Legislation that men should be permitted to contract freely with one another in the management of their affairs.

"3. Because no exceptional reason exists in the case of landlords and tenants for departing from the above sound principle; inasmuch as tenants are for the most part grown up men, as well or better capable than most other classes of securing their own interest by bargain; and, moreover, under existing circumstances, able almost to dictate their own terms. Their case is thus distinguished from those in which the Legislature has hitherto interfered with free contract for the protection of women, children, and lunatics, or of life, limb, or health.

"4. Because there is no distinction in principle between the business of cultivating land and that of any other great industry—the community in all instances alike is interested in a successful result; but experience has shown that success is most surely brought about by the unfettered enterprise of individuals under the steady stimulus of private gain.

"5. Because between two persons who have entered into a contract as landlord and tenant for the occupation of land, there is no natural, or other, right whatever in respect of such occupation, except that which is expressed or implied by the contract itself; and if a tenant who has made improvements beyond those provided for therein is entitled to compensation, the landlord who has done the same thing is equally entitled to an increase of rent, in defiance, in both instances, of the bargain they have mutually made.

"6. Because the Bill will give direct legislative encouragement to dishonesty, even when

premeditated, since it will enable a man to obtain advantages by signing an agreement, and after having enjoyed them to repudiate it to the detriment of the other party.

"7. Because, while the relations of landlord and tenant have hitherto been generally maintained on a friendly footing, those between capital and labour are with difficulty adjusted, and are the cause of ceaseless disputes; and if the principle of free contract is recklessly abandoned in the one case, it will be found difficult to maintain it in the other, when a claim is urged that the rate of wages should be settled by law.

"8. Because the wanton abandonment of the above sound principle to favour one class cannot fail to induce other classes to demand similar Legislative interference in their behalf, and will tend to generate Political combinations for the attainment of private ends, in place of the common weal.

"9. Because legislation of this kind lies outside the proper province of Parliament, which cannot by any expenditure of time and trouble satisfactorily adjust the varied and constantly varying detailed requirements of special industries.

"10. Because, finally, legislation of this description is not new, but was freely tried in the days of the Plantagenet Kings, and failed; while in modern times it has been, until quite recently, condemned alike by Political economists and statesmen of all Parties.

"PENANCE.
"BRAMWELL.
"REDESDALE.
"FORTESCUE.
"WEMYSS."

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS (COR- RUPT AND ILLEGAL PRACTICES)

BILL.—(No. 189.)

(*The Earl of Northbrook.*)

SECOND READING.

Order of the Day for the Second Reading read.

THE EARL OF NORTHBROOK, in rising to move that the Bill be now read a second time, said, that the General Election of 1880 had shown that, notwithstanding the introduction of the Ballot, and the legislation which had taken place to prevent them, corrupt practices had increased. This had been proved by the Reports of the Election Courts, and of the Commissioners who had been appointed to inquire into the elections for certain boroughs in which it was reported that corrupt practices extensively prevailed. Though the actual sums given by way of bribery had been smaller than formerly, it appeared, from the evidence, that a larger number of people were bribed, and that bribery was carried on by persons of higher

position than formerly—as, for instance, town councillors, solicitors, and others, who ought not to have been mixed up in such practices; and the noble and learned Earl on the Woolsack had, on more than one occasion, to perform the painful duty of removing from the Bench magistrates who had been reported to be guilty of those practices. Not only could it be said that corrupt practices had increased, but the expenditure incurred at the last Election was excessive. The expenditure was not only detrimental to the public interest by deterring persons who would have been excellent representatives of constituencies in the House of Commons from standing for election, but also had the effect of accustoming those engaged in elections to consider that an election was simply an affair of money, and of thus leading to corrupt practices. He might say, without the expectation of being contradicted, that such a state of things was a scandal to the nation, required to be grappled with, and that it was necessary some stronger remedy should be applied. It was, then, for that purpose that the present Bill had been introduced in and passed by the other House. He would shortly state the principal provisions of the Bill. The term “corrupt practice” was well known and defined by the existing law—important changes in respect to the definition and punishment of corrupt practices were proposed in the Bill. There was, in the 1st clause, a provision making treating an offence when committed by other persons than the candidates; and in Clause 2 there was a new definition of “undue influence.” The Bill increased considerably the penalties for corrupt practices; the disabilities to which candidates were now subject when reported to the House as guilty of corrupt practices were increased. If a candidate was reported by the Election Court to have been guilty of bribery by or with his knowledge or consent, he was, by the existing law, excluded from sitting in Parliament for seven years; and if reported by the Court to have been guilty through his agent of corrupt practices, he was excluded from sitting for the particular constituency to the end of the Parliament. By the Bill, a candidate for a constituency reported to be personally guilty of treating, or undue influence, or of any cor-

rupt practice by and with his knowledge and consent would not only be excluded from sitting in Parliament for seven years, but for the same constituency for ever; and if found guilty of treating through his agents he was to be excluded from sitting for the same constituency for seven years. The penalties were also increased. Under the Bill corrupt practices would be punishable by imprisonment with hard labour, or by a fine not exceeding £200. The disqualifications had also been extended. The Bill proceeded to deal with a class of offences termed “illegal practices,” which included illegal payments, illegal employment, and other illegal acts specified. Thus the conveyance of voters to the poll, except in one or two exceptional constituencies, was made an illegal practice. The effect of this provision would be appreciated when it was remembered that during the last General Election no less a sum than £750,000 was expended in conveying voters to the poll, the expenditure in one county being between £6,000 and £7,000. The Bill also regulated the number of election agents and paid canvassers to be appointed, and the number of committee rooms to be hired in each constituency. It prohibited the hiring of any houses for the display of placards, or anything of the kind. It also fixed the maximum sum to be expended during an election by each candidate. The personal expenses of a candidate were limited to £100, and the following were the maximum amounts hereafter to be spent by Returning Officers:—For a borough of under 2,000 electors, £350; over 2,000 electors, £380; and £30 more for every additional 1,000 of electors; for counties with under 2,000 electors, £650 in England and Scotland, £500 in Ireland; over 2,000 electors, £710 in England and Scotland, £540 in Ireland, with £60 more in England and Scotland and £40 more in Ireland for every additional 1,000 of electors. The expenses of the General Election in 1880 were officially returned as £1,800,000; but he believed that the amount was really not less than £2,500,000. This Bill, if it had been in force, would have reduced the sum to between £600,000 and £800,000. That the amounts specified in the Schedule were sufficient was already proved by experi-

ence at King's Lynn, Peterborough, North Northumberland, Bedfordshire, and Hackney, where the expenses were less than would be legal under the Bill. It was trusted that under the new system to be established by this Bill the real opinion of the constituencies would be more certainly expressed than it was under the existing system. Certain disqualifications and penalties were attached to "illegal practices" and "illegal payments." There were also provisions which enabled a Judge to try a person accused of corrupt practices on the spot; barristers and solicitors were to be dealt with by their governing bodies, and licensed victuallers by the licensing authority. The Bill contained ample Equity Clauses. The case of a candidate who was only technically guilty of corrupt practices by his agent was provided for, and the Election Court was given power to declare that the election of a person so guilty should not be void; the Election Court had also power to except trifling acts which were illegal under the letter of the law, but not under the spirit. Any trifling default which a candidate or his agent might make with respect to returns and declarations was not to be subject to the penalties laid down in the Bill for acts of default. No doubt, it would be difficult to alter customs which had long prevailed in some places; but there was great hope that the offences mentioned in the Bill would be diminished. One good result of the measure would be the increased employment of voluntary instead of paid workers at Parliamentary elections. In conclusion, he thought their Lordships were all aware of the great and patient consideration which had been bestowed on this important subject. It was mentioned in Her Majesty's Gracious Speech from the Throne in 1881, and a Bill was introduced in 1882 but could not be then proceeded with. This year a most patient and attentive consideration had been given to it in "another place" under the very able and conciliatory direction of his hon. and learned Friend the Attorney General. So far as the general principle of the Bill went, it had been received in the other House of Parliament with general concurrence, and had been frankly and fairly discussed without the intervention of the ordinary

divisions which separated the two great Parties in Parliament. He, therefore, trusted their Lordships would give the Bill a second reading, and apply a real remedy to the great evils which all admitted, and so render more free and complete the representation of the people in the other House of Parliament. He begged to move that the Bill be now read a second time.

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^d."
—(*The Earl of Northbrook*.)

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, the title of the Bill as commonly quoted—namely, the *Corrupt Practices Bill*—in reality gave a very inadequate idea of its real scope and intention; but, undoubtedly, it did deal to some extent with corrupt practices, and so far as it did so it would carry with it the sympathies of their Lordships and all persons who desired to see such great evils remedied. But in reference to that part of the Bill, they could only say that in the past history of the country it had not been found that the increasing of penalties had usually been accompanied by any great diminution of offences. At all events, it was a plan which had been frequently tried without success. He did not quarrel with the motives which had induced the Government to this further effort; but the record of similar efforts was not encouraging as to the probability of success. It was not, however, with respect to corrupt practices, in regard to which there would hardly be any difference of opinion, that the Bill was principally important. A very remarkable characteristic of the Bill was the very wide extension it had given to illegal practices which were in no sense corrupt illegal practices, which of themselves were not morally wrong or repugnant to the most sensitive morality, and which were only made wrong by being forbidden by Act of Parliament, and in regard to which the Government could not expect any extensive assistance from public opinion. The motive of the Government was very obvious, and the noble Earl had stated it with fairness and candour; the object was not so much to prevent corrupt practices as to diminish the vast expenses attending elections. He did not quarrel with that attempt, as he thought it was desirable that elections should be made cheaper,

The Earl of Northbrook

if only for the purpose of enabling persons of limited means, who had the capacity, to aspire to a seat in Parliament. Like Mr. Forster, speaking in Devonshire, he thought the surprise in the constituencies would be very great when they saw what a measure was provided for them. He had heard it said that the persons who would be successful at the next General Election would be the second candidates, as all the first candidates would be disqualified for corrupt practices. Certainly, the provisions of the Bill were so minute, and the penalties so wide, and the chance of tripping so enormous, that a man would need to be very courageous and resolute, and very indifferent to penalties, to run the risk of a General Election. As it was said that all railway evils would be cured when a Railway Director was killed, so he only hoped that the first persons to suffer under the Bill would be Cabinet Ministers, and then he had no doubt an amending Bill would be speedily introduced. He had no anxiety to arrest or hinder the Bill in Parliament. It was only to last till December of next year. It was very reasonable that in view of the great evils with which we had to contend the Government should make this experiment, especially as it was an experiment made at the expense of the House of Commons, which had been so good as to pass the Bill in order to inflict the penalties on themselves. But there were one or two provisions to which he would like to draw the attention of Her Majesty's Government, as they seemed to him open to question, and the first was the very serious proposal to deprive an elector of the means of conveyance to the poll. The policy of Parliament hitherto had been in the opposite direction—namely, to afford facilities to the voter of getting to the poll; but now Parliament was retracing its steps, and said that in the case of a man living at a distance from a polling station he should have no artificial means of getting to the poll. He did not know how that would work. It was, however, permitted to people to lend carriages, and they were told that those who had carriages to lend would be at an advantage compared with those who had not. But apart from such artificial assistance, he thought there could be no doubt that people living in wild and desolate districts, where the prescribed

number of 100 electors could not usually be made up, would run great risk of being practically disfranchised. He was not sure whether he preferred the opinions of people living in outlying districts or of those living in towns; but he thought that whenever the Bill came forward to be put into a more permanent shape they must not allow it, under a pretext to diminish expenses, to be in reality an Act for disfranchising those persons whose votes were disagreeable to the Government of the day. That was, however, difficult to ascertain until they had actually had experience of the working of it, and it was a matter to which the attention of those interested in Parliamentary elections would be carefully directed, and they would, no doubt, then have full statistics as to how far people living in far distant districts were prevented from voting. There was another clause in the Bill which belonged to a class of legislation which, he confessed, he viewed with great repugnance, and that was the practice of ascertaining the facts by squeezing them out of a witness to his own incrimination in the witness-box. Their Lordships were aware that it was an old maxim of English law that no man was bound to criminate himself; but it had been again and again in recent Acts the policy to overthrow that law, and to use the power of cross-examination in the witness-box in the way in which a President of a French Court would use it—for the purpose of torturing the witness into criminating himself. No doubt, provision was made that the man should not be liable to punishment for what came out; but if he was a solicitor he might be struck off the Rolls, or if a barrister he might be disbarred in consequence of evidence which had been wrung from him under this French method. The facts obtained at criminal trials were obtained from independent witnesses and not from avowals extorted from the criminal. There was another peculiarity in this Bill, and that was that the great engine by which the Government proposed to obtain their ends was making people answerable for the acts of others over whom they had no control. It was a rough and barbarous mode of procedure well known to schoolmasters. It used to be not an unfrequent practice for a whole remove to be punished in order to find

out one boy, and that was the way of this Bill. The man whom the Bill punished was not the man who bribed, but the unfortunate candidate who had had nothing whatever to do with the illegal act, and the Government hoped to effect their object in that way. That was the agency established by that Bill. In the contemplation of law an agent could not acquire that character without the authority of his principal; but in the strange legislation before them anyone could constitute himself agent of the candidate without the consent or even the knowledge of his principal; he had merely to take part in the election without the candidate even knowing his name, and he could fasten upon the candidate the guilt which was aimed at by the Bill. That seemed to him a very objectionable state of things; and when Governments and Legislatures, in order to gain their ends, had recourse to these proceedings, which conflicted with the common sense and morality of mankind, it was not difficult to predict that such legislation would fail. But they would not only fail, but would do worse. They would bring the action of the law into disrepute, and would cease to have public opinion on their side. It would cease to be disgraceful to fall under the penalties of the law, and the law would be driven to attain its ends simply by the terror it excited, and not by the sympathy of the community. He regarded this peculiarity in the Law of Agency as a disgrace to the law, and one which had produced, and would produce, great evils. Those who thought it their business to find fault with the softer sex, said that if you wish to know the important part of a lady's letter you must look at the postscript. If they wanted to know the important part of this Bill they must look in the middle of it. The 44th clause was the strangest clause he ever saw put into an Act of Parliament. It said, in fact, that they might punish all future culprits as hard as they liked, but that it did not apply to those who were culprits now. It was a clause enacting that in all future investigations into electoral corruption they should be forbidden to ask any impertinent questions as to anything that had taken place before the passing of the Act. He presumed that it was passed in the interest of those Members who did not intend to

stand again, and who might desire to be whitewashed. He knew nothing of the genesis of this Bill; but if, at some future time, any antiquarian should try, from internal evidence, to construct its history, he would say that someone had been concerned in the preparation of it who did not wish his transactions with some constituency to be known. Whether their Lordships would care to alter the Bill he did not know. He should be sorry if it failed to pass, and there was, no doubt, danger at this late season that altering a Bill might prevent its passing; but if any alteration was to be made, he would prefer to see the clause to which he had referred struck out, which, while providing the most savage penalties with regard to corruption in the future, extended an unrestricted amnesty to corruption in the past.

THE EARL OF NORTHBROOK said, he was sorry that the noble Marquess could find nothing good in any of the measures which came under discussion. Two most simple and innocent clauses of this Bill had been attacked by the noble Marquess as likely to be productive of evil. He could answer the noble Marquess that under the first clause objected to no considerable number of electors would be prevented from coming to the poll. As to the 44th clause, the noble Marquess appeared to think that that proposal was intended to prevent the delinquencies of some unknown individual being brought to light before an Election Commission. If he thought that person was some Member of Her Majesty's Government, he should like to say that the provision was not in the Bill as originally drawn, but was introduced at the suggestion of a Member of the Conservative Party, and the insinuations of the noble Marquess must fall upon his own Friends.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY: I had no intention of making any insinuation against Her Majesty's Government.

THE EARL OF NORTHBROOK said, he was glad the suspicions of the noble Marquess were only of a general character. He thought the noble Marquess should not throw the regis of his protection over those individuals who had been guilty of corrupt practices, and whose acts showed them to be unworthy of exercising the franchise of which they were deprived by the Bill. Nor did he think his reference to the

subject of the Law of Agency in point. There was no alteration whatever made in that Bill in the Law of Agency.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY : Hear, hear !

THE EARL OF NORTHBROOK said, he did not, therefore, see that the observations of the noble Marquess, however applicable they might be to some other Act, had any reference to the Bill which he now asked their Lordships to read a second time.

LORD LAMINGTON said, he believed that the severity of the penalty inflicted by the Bill was so great that the object of the Legislature would be defeated, and that in future the expenditure would be almost wholly on Election Petitions.

THE EARL OF FEVERSHAM said, he must protest against the Government bringing a Bill of pains and penalties of that character before their Lordships' House at so late a period of the Session, when it was impossible that it could be adequately considered. Such a measure, if presented to the House at all, ought to have been submitted at a time when they could have had a larger attendance of Peers to discuss it. He protested also against the excessive severity and the degrading nature of some of the penalties which the Bill would inflict on certain offences connected with elections, believing, as he did, that such rigorous punishments would not meet with the general sanction and support of public opinion.

Motion agreed to ; Bill read 2^a accordingly, and committed to a Committee of the Whole House on Monday next.

SUEZ CANAL—THE PAPERS.

QUESTION. OBSERVATIONS.

LORD STRATHEDEN AND CAMPBELL, in rising to ask Her Majesty's Government, On what ground the original concessions to M. de Lesseps have, in the present Session, been presented to one House and not to both Houses of Parliament ? said : My Lords, some days ago I moved for the original concessions to M. de Lesseps which have been lately given in a separate Return to the other House of Parliament. The noble Earl the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs endeavoured to persuade your Lordships that the Motion was uncalled for ; and,

as I understood him, told us that these documents were in the Egyptian Correspondence of this Session. I was thus led to withdraw the Motion. Having inquired more assiduously than before, I now assert with confidence that they are not in any number of the Egyptian Correspondence lately brought before the House. It is quite possible that if you go back for years in a former series of despatches upon Egypt, these concessions might be found ; and this, perhaps, is what the noble Earl intended to convey to us. But it is well known to be within the limit of our usages to reprint documents which bear on urgent questions of the day, although they may be found in some remote or obsolete collection. As I before explained, Her Majesty's Government have acted on this principle with reference to these concessions in the present year, and in the other House of Parliament. In this House, equally, I ask them to supply a want, even if they do not recognize an error.

EARL GRANVILLE said, it was the rule of the Foreign Office, when Papers were presented to the one House of Parliament, they should also, at the same time, be presented to the other. They had always observed that rule. The answer to the noble Lord's Question was that those Papers were presented in the year 1876 to both Houses of Parliament, and that they had not been presented to either House this Session. The noble Lord was under a misapprehension as to that. What had happened was this—as their Lordships were aware, the individuals composing that House did not change at a General Election, whereas the result of a General Election often produced a great change in the persons composing the other House of Parliament. That was the case after the last General Election ; and he understood that, for the convenience of new Members of the other House, a few copies of those Papers from the stock at the Foreign Office were sent to the Library of the House of Commons, and that House gave orders that they should be printed. If the noble Lord now desired to have an individual copy of the Papers which were produced in 1876, he should be very ready to furnish it to him ; but, as far as regarded the House collectively, those Papers had been already presented, and he was not aware

that there was any occasion to print them again.

LORD STRATHEDEN AND CAMPBELL: The noble Earl has said nothing to contravene my observation—namely, that there has been an undue disparity of proceeding on this subject in the two Houses of Parliament.

House adjourned at a quarter before
Eight o'clock, till To-morrow, a
quarter past Four o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Thursday, 16th August, 1883.

MINUTES.]—New Writ Issued—*For Essex County (Eastern Division), v. Colonel Samuel Ruggles-Brise, Chiltern Hundreds.*

SUPPLY—*considered in Committee*—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—CLASS III.—LAW AND JUSTICE, Votes 16, 30, 33, & 34; CLASS IV.—EDUCATION, SCIENCE, AND ART, Votes 3, 3A, 4, & 5.

PUBLIC BILLS—*Ordered—First Reading*—Public Works Loans * [295]; Municipal Corporations (Borough Constables) [296]; Soldiers Pensions and Yeomanry Pay * [297].

First Reading—Contempts of Court * [300].
Second Reading—Statute Law Revision and Civil Procedure [290]; Statute Law Revision * [291]; Trial of Lunatics [292].

Committee—Report—Local Government Board (Scotland) [251]; Post Office (Protection) [266-298]; Medals [188].

Withdrawn—Licensing Justices Disabilities Removal * [110].

PRIVATE BUSINESS.

—o—o—o—

HARRISON'S ESTATE BILL [*Lords*].

THIRD READING.

Order for Third Reading read.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Bill be now read the third time."

Mr. ARTHUR ARNOLD said, he did not propose to ask the House to take any further action against this Bill. He had protested, and he now renewed his protest, against the scandal—for it was a scandal—that in these days power should be given by the House of Commons to place free land in settlement for a term of 1,000 years. He had, however, been encouraged by the Prime Minister to hope that this would be the last Bill presented to the House of Commons for extending the

area of settled land which would be pressed in this way, without information or report, upon the House. He was glad to have reason to believe that not only would the Lord Chancellor be prepared to co-operate in order to relieve the House from these questionable transactions, but also that Lord Cairns would not be indisposed to lend his high influence and authority in the same direction and for the same object. For these reasons, although he could not but regard the Bill as a measure opposed to public policy, which, if it were duly informed, the House would refuse to pass, he also regarded it as a small hinge on which the great gates of reform had been made to move with a sound of opening. He would take an early opportunity of inquiring by what means these great authorities proposed to attain this object, and what recommendations they were prepared to make in reference to Bills of this nature being presented to this House. He thought he gathered from the Prime Minister that he was of opinion the case might be met by the passing of a new Standing Order directing the Chairman of Ways and Means, with the assistance of the Counsel to the Speaker, to report to the House in future Sessions in the case of Private Estate Bills containing such provisions whether they included any proposal of which the House ought to be informed, and in regard to which there ought to be an inquiry. Under existing circumstances, when any Private Estate Bills of this character contained any provisions relative to the inclosure of land, the Chairman of Ways and Means was required to make a Report to the House. He thought there would be no difficulty, but, on the contrary, great advantage, if the Chairman of Ways and Means were required to make a Report to the House upon any provisions relating to the settlement of land. At all events, until some such change was made, he should feel it his duty to oppose the reading of any Private Estate Bill containing provisions for extending the area of settled land; and he would leave to those who supported it the responsibility of accepting a measure contrary to public policy.

Motion agreed to.

Bill read the third time, and *passed*, with Amendments.

Earl Granville

QUESTIONS.

POOR LAW (IRELAND)—DEATH OF AN EVICTED TENANT.

MR. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether his attention has been called to the death, through hardship, of an evicted tenant named John Bourke at Loughrea; if it is the fact that on the 8th July Mr. Jennings, Poor Law Guardian, waited on the relieving officer, ordered him to visit Bourke, and give him the necessary relief; whether the relieving officer did not attend to the case until July 16th leaving Bourke eight days on the roadside in the rain without food; whether, on the 14th July, Mr. Jennings sent the relieving officer a "red ticket;" but, nevertheless, the Union medical officer did not visit Bourke until the 16th July; whether the doctor only called three times within four weeks; whether the relieving officer only made one visit and never came near the man until after his death on the 5th August; whether, on the 3rd August the Loughrea Board of Guardians voted £2 to make Bourke's hut habitable; whether the relieving officer never carried out the Board's orders; whether the Board also sent a nurse to attend Bourke, and on that evening the doctor ordered her to call at his house next day for the purpose of taking medicine to the dying man; whether, on complying, she could not find the doctor; whether his assistant ordered her to get linseed meal from the relieving officer for Bourke's wants; whether the officer refused to supply meal, meat, or any nourishment for him; whether he will ascertain if the opinion prevails in the locality that Bourke's death was accelerated by the neglect of the local officials; and, what steps he intends to take in the matter?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, the allegations with regard to the conduct of the doctor and the relieving officer in this case are of so serious a character that the Local Government Board have felt it necessary to order an inquiry on oath to be held by their Inspector. Pending the result of that inquiry, I cannot answer these Questions. I may say at once, however, that John Bourke was not an evicted tenant, but a stone-cutter,

who was unable to work owing to an accident to his wrist.

NATIONAL EDUCATION (IRELAND)—AUTHORIZED SCHOOL BOOKS.

MR. BIGGAR asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether there is on the list of books sold by the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland to the teachers and pupils of their schools a work entitled "Easy Lessons in English Grammar, by Lionel Edwardes;" whether Lionel Edwardes is a real or an assumed name; and, whether the junior secretary to the Board, John E. Sheridan, Esq., has had any share in the preparation or publication of the book in question?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, the work referred to is on the list of books sanctioned, but not published, by the Commissioners of National Education. The author is Mr. Sheridan, one of the Secretaries to the Board, who published the book under an assumed name, lest there should be any appearance of his superiors having been influenced in favour of the book by the fact of his official connection with the Department. So closely was the *incognito* preserved during the last six years that the authorship of the book was not known by those in authority in the Department until the notice of this Question appeared on the Paper.

ARREARS OF RENT (IRELAND) ACT, 1882—RESERVED RENTS.

MR. MOLLOY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether it is the fact that Jasper Robert Joly, of 38, Rathmines Road, Dublin, in the leases granted to his tenants has reserved rents sixty per cent. and over in excess of the rents actually paid, this excess being in the nature of a penalty; whether the said J. R. Joly, when joining with Noon and several others of his tenants in making applications under the Arrears Act, applied for and was paid the penalties in addition to the ordinary rent; and, if so, what is the amount paid to him in respect thereof; and, whether the Act contains any provision for the payment of penalties to landlords; and, if not, what steps will be taken for their recovery?

MR. TREVELYAN, in reply, said, he had received a telegram from the

Land Commissioners, stating that they had disposed of the case on the evidence adduced before them, and that they had no knowledge of the circumstances mentioned in the Question?

Mr. MOLLOY said, he was ready to place the documents on the matter in the hands of the right hon. Gentleman.

POOR LAW (IRELAND)—DEATH FROM WANT.

Mr. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether the police at Kilmoree, county Mayo, recently received information that a girl named Bridget Raffrey had been dead for two days previous at a place called Arbour; whether they found her lying naked on the floor of a hut, having apparently perished of want; whether the relieving officer of the district was previously made aware of the girl's condition, and, although passing the house, never called until after her death; and, if he will inquire into the conduct of the relieving officer, and obtain a report on the case?

Mr. TREVELYAN: Sir, the girl referred to was a servant, who, while living alone in the house of her employer—he being in England and his wife ill of fever in hospital—was attacked with fever. The police found her lying on the floor as stated. They at first believed her to be dead, and so informed the relieving officer. The people of the village would not go near her, fearing infection; but the police acted with great humanity, and did what they could for her. As soon as they discovered that she was not dead, but in a state of coma, they sent word to the relieving officer, who lived seven miles off. Whether, after this, there was any culpable delay on the part of the relieving officer, or in the provision of a nurse, is, I think, a matter calling for further inquiry, which I have directed to be at once made.

ROYAL IRISH CONSTABULARY — APPOINTMENT OF POLICE SURGEON AT WATERFORD.

Mr. LEAMY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether the recent appointment of the police surgeon at Waterford was made on the recommendation of the county inspector for Waterford; whether that

officer, when recommending the gentleman who at present holds the appointment, was aware of the rule that such appointments are given to dispensary medical officers, unless there is good reason to the contrary; whether he was also aware that one of the medical officers of Waterford Dispensary is assistant surgeon to the Leper Hospital, in which all constabulary cases, other than fever cases, are treated; whether he informed the Inspector General of the reasons on account of which he was unable to recommend either of the Waterford Dispensary medical officers; and, if so, whether there is any objection to state those reasons to the House; and, how long the county inspector for Waterford has been stationed there?

Mr. TREVELYAN: Sir, as I have already stated in reply to a former Question, the rule under which these appointments are given to dispensary doctors is not an invariable one; and it has not heretofore been observed in Waterford and some other large towns. Dr. Connolly's appointment was made on the recommendation of the county inspector, who has been stationed at Waterford for 11 months. He was quite aware of the connection of one of the dispensary doctors with the Leper Hospital. It is not a fact, however, that all constabulary cases, other than fever cases, are treated in that institution. Very few are, as most cases are treated in barracks, if slight, or sent to St. Stephen's Hospital, Dublin, if serious. It does not appear to have been a question of being unable to recommend the dispensary doctors; but of what appointment would be for the greatest advantage to the constabulary. The county inspector thought it best to have the men all under the care of one surgeon, especially as he held the appointment of physician to the fever hospital, where so many of the men are from time to time treated.

EVICTIIONS (IRELAND)—CASE OF P. FALLON.

Mr. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether it is the fact that P. Fallon, tenant of Captain Pierce, of Roxborough, county Galway, who was evicted in October 1881, has been sent to prison ten times for trespassing since that date; whether, some three months ago, the landlord and the bailiffs tore

Mr. Trevelyan

down Fallon's house; whether, on a shed being erected on the site of the tumbled house, the landlord came and set fire to it, burning the clothing of the children, and destroying a considerable amount of potatoes; whether, on the shed being re-erected, the landlord served Fallon with no less than eight summonses, and had him again imprisoned; whether Fallon is at present undergoing punishment; whether, about a fortnight ago, the Police arrested Fallon's wife, and brought her before a magistrate, who was playing lawn tennis with the landlord at the time, and had her sent to prison, where she since remains; whether he can say for what offence Mrs. Fallon was conveyed to gaol; whether the magistrate could legally hold a Court under the circumstances described; whether Mrs. Fallon's five children, all of whom are of tender years, are now living in the shed, separated from their father and mother, and wanting clothes and food; whether Fallon offered the landlord the rent in Court without effect; and, whether, as the evicted people decline to go into the workhouse, and have no other home but the shed in question, he can give instructions to the Police to abstain from further prosecuting them; if not, can he suggest any refuge for such evicted families?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, the facts appear to be stated with substantial accuracy. Fallon was evicted in September, 1880—not 1881, as stated—the period of redemption expired, and he did not redeem; but he, and subsequently his wife, appears since to have acted with persistent illegality in asserting a right which he does not possess. I have nothing before me to show that either the landlord or the magistrate acted illegally. If any wrong has been done, the Courts are open. Fallon appears to have money, as he offered the rent to the landlord. The attention of the relieving officer has been drawn to the children.

MR. HEALY: The right hon. Gentleman has not stated that the magistrate was playing lawn tennis with the landlord who took possession at the time he sent this woman to gaol. I would like to know whether he thinks that is a proper way to hold a Court?

MR. TREVELYAN: I stated that the woman was sent to prison for having

acted with persistent illegality, and I am informed that the decision of the magistrate was not illegal.

MR. HEALY: I would like to ask the Attorney General for Ireland, whether it is usual for persons in Ireland to be brought before magistrates who are engaged in amusing themselves in playing lawn tennis with the prosecutors in the case?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER): Of course, I cannot state whether it is usual or not. All I can say is, that it is lawful for a magistrate to commit outside Petty Sessions Court.

MR. HEALY: I beg to give Notice that I will ask the Chief Secretary, on Monday, whether he will call the attention of the Lord Chancellor to this method of holding a Court; and, whether the Lord Chancellor considers it decent for the committing magistrate to be engaged at the time in playing lawn tennis with the prosecuting landlord?

MR. HARRINGTON asked, whether it was not necessary that two magistrates should have been present when this woman was committed?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) was understood to say that it was not.

THE IRISH LAND COMMISSION — SITTINGS OF THE COURT (FERMANAGH) (SUB-COMMISSIONERS).

MR. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether he is aware that great inconvenience is caused by the refusal of the Sub-Commissioners to hold a Land Court in Derrygonnelly, county Fermanagh, as the tenant farmers have to travel ten to sixteen miles on foot with their witnesses to Eaniskillen; whether, on the 23rd April, when a court was about to be held there, the landlord's solicitors objected, alleging that fever prevailed; whether a subsequent application was made on the 16th July, and refused; whether as the area of the Derrygonnelly Petty Sessions District is over 43,000 acres, with a population of about 6,000, and the town possesses a courthouse and hotel accommodation, a Commission can in future sit in that place; and, whether it is the fact that, in places of no larger size in Fermanagh, such as Irvinestown, Beleek, and Lisnaskea, Commission Courts are held?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, the Chairman of the Sub-Commission writes as follows:—

"The Assistant Commissioners did not refuse to hold a Land Court at Derrygonnelly. On the contrary, I stated that we were anxious to comply with the application of the tenants, and willing to attend there on any day convenient to the parties. It was then urged by several solicitors, acting, as I understood, on behalf of landlords and tenants, that fever prevailed. A letter from the district medical officer to the same effect was produced in Court, and the professional gentlemen engaged in the cases declined to incur the risk of attending at Derrygonnelly with their clients and witnesses. Under these circumstances, and in order to save the tenants inconvenience and expense, we fixed a day for the hearing of cases from the Derrygonnelly district, and they were disposed of on the day appointed. No subsequent application was made on the 16th of July, or on any other day."

Sittings of the Sub-Commission had been held, as stated in the Question, at Irvinestown, Beleek, and Lisnaskea.

INDIA--LAND ASSESSMENT.

MR. WOODALL asked the Under Secretary of State for India, Whether he can state approximately the extent of land in British India which has been re-assessed since the expiry of the last thirty years' settlement; whether the general result of the re-assessment has been greatly to increase the Government demand as compared with the demand under the former settlement; and, if so, what is the average percentage of increase; whether there was enacted in the Bombay Presidency in 1879 a new Land Revenue Code, with much more stringent provisions against tenants than the Code of 1827 formerly in force; whether it is the case that a tenant can now be taxed in excess of the amount of his fixed assessment on any improvements he may make which are of the nature of availing of any natural advantage, and whether this proviso subjects him to a largely increased land tax on any fields which he may irrigate by water from a well dug entirely at his own cost; whether the Code of 1879 contains a provision enabling the British Revenue Authorities not only to sell up a defaulting cultivator in order to obtain payment of arrears, but to confiscate the holding, with all its produce, for a similar purpose, irrespective of how much its value may exceed the amount of the said arrears; and, if such provision

exists, can he state the number of instances in which it has been enforced; and, whether he will lay upon the Table copies of the Code of 1879, and of the former one which it superseded?

MR. J. K. CROSS: Sir, the extent of land in British India which has been re-assessed since the expiration of the last 30 years' settlement is approximately 135,000 square miles. The average percentage increase of assessment effected by the revisions is about—in the North-West Provinces, 14 per cent; in the Punjab, 7 per cent; and in Bombay, 32 per cent. Some explanation of these enhancements may be necessary. In Upper India—that is, the North-West Provinces and the Punjab—the assessment is a proportion of the rental value of the estate. Under the expired settlements this proportion was two-thirds. Under the revised settlements it is half of the rental value. But the rental has increased so much that the lower proportion now yields more revenue than the higher proportion yielded formerly. There are three reasons for this increase—extension of cultivation, rise of prices, and improvements, such as canals made by Government. In the Bombay Decan, where the landowners hold direct from Government, the original settlement, made about 1840, reduced the old Native assessments nearly 50 per cent, or from about 1 rupee to about 8 annas an acre. The latter assessment was then equal to about 15 per cent of the value of the produce. The revised assessment is equal to about 12 per cent, so that the real incidence of the new settlement is lighter than that of the original settlement when introduced. Bombay Act 5 of 1879 consolidated and amended the Land Revenue Law in force at that time. The greater part of the Code of 1827 relating to land had already been repealed. Act 5 did not enact more stringent provisions against tenants; the cultivators of Bombay are not tenants, but proprietors under Government, and their legal position has been greatly improved since 1827. A Bombay landholder cannot be taxed on his own improvements, nor, if he digs a well, can his assessment be increased on that account, either during the currency, or on the expiration of the settlement. The case is contained in Sections 106-107 of Act 5. By Section 153 of Act 5, land, the revenue of which is in arrear, is

liable to forfeiture and sale to realize the amount of arrear. Should the proceeds exceed the arrear the balance is credited to the defaulter. There is no objection to present a copy of the Bombay Revenue Code, 1879; but I cannot lay on the Table the law which is superseded, as it is contained in, I think, 19 separate enactments.

PUBLIC HEALTH (METROPOLIS)— SEWER VENTILATION.

MR. J. G. TALBOT asked the President of the Local Government Board, Whether his attention has been called to the exhalations which often proceed from the ventilators of the sewers in the roadway of the streets of London, some being in the immediate neighbourhood of the Houses of Parliament; whether he will call upon the local authority to mitigate this evil, especially during the summer and autumn months; and, whether he will cause inquiry to be made as to the possibility of carrying such ventilation above the street level by means of shafts, so as to avoid poisoning the air to the danger of foot passengers and the inhabitants generally?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE, in reply, said, that it was the duty of the local authority, generally speaking, to attend to the ventilation of sewers, and in London that authority was the Vestries and District Boards; but the sewers themselves were under the control of the Metropolitan Board of Works. With regard to the other inquiry as to the formation of ventilating shafts, the matter had been repeatedly considered by the authorities; but scientific opinions were rather opposed to the scheme. There was a great danger lest, in altering the system of ordinary traps, sewer gas should escape into dwelling-houses, and so cause a more serious danger than that which now existed. Under these circumstances, no system of shaft ventilation had yet been devised.

MR. J. G. TALBOT: Has the attention of the Local Government Board been directed to the experiments with ventilating shafts at Ryde, Isle of Wight? I understand the authorities there are much in favour of it.

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: I will make inquiries into the subject.

MR. LABOUCHERE: Does the right hon. Gentleman say that scientists are opposed to the system of pipes running

above the heights of the houses that is adopted in a great many houses?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: No; but I am not aware that the system of shafts is recommended for the ventilation of sewers.

THE CHANNEL TUNNEL SCHEME.

SIR HENRY HOLLAND asked the President of the Board of Trade, What steps, if any, Her Majesty's Government have taken, or propose to take, to prevent any further progress being made during the Recess in the construction of the proposed Channel Tunnel by the promoters of that scheme?

MR. CHAMBERLAIN: Sir, in the course of the legal proceedings instituted against the Company in August, 1882, they undertook not to work the boring machine, except with the written permission of the Board of Trade. That undertaking still exists, and I propose to satisfy myself from time to time it is strictly observed.

EGYPT (MILITARY EXPEDITION) — MURDER OF PROFESSOR PALMER AND OTHERS.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether the attention of Her Majesty's Government has been called to a paragraph in the "Standard" of 13th August, in the following words:—

"Cairo, Sunday Night.

"Another instance of official incompetence is supplied by the fact that five men and women are still detained in prison at Suez in connection with the murder of Professor Palmer, although the whole matter was reported to have been officially disposed of at the recent trial, and in spite of the repeated representations that have been made as to the futility of retaining them;"

and, whether such statement is correct; and, if so, whether Her Majesty's Government will take steps to obtain the liberation of these persons?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: Sir, the persons in prison at Suez are the family of Hassan Abu Mershid, who, as stated in the Correspondence laid before Parliament, was one of the principals in the murder of Professor Palmer and his party. They are detained as hostages. Her Majesty's Government are in communication with Sir Edward Malet on the subject.

MR. O'KEEFE: Would the noble Lord state whether, in this case of so-

called murder Professor Palmer was not acting the part of a spy?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: That Question has no reference at all to the Question on the Paper.

MR. O'KELLY: I give Notice that I shall ask the Question on Monday.

ARTIZANS AND LABOURERS' DWELLINGS IMPROVEMENT ACTS—CIRCULAR OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.

MR. FRANCIS BUXTON asked the President of the Local Government Board, Whether any circular has recently been issued to town councils or other local authorities, calling attention to the provisions of the Artizans' and Labourers' Dwellings Improvement Acts, and urging the destruction, when necessary, of unsanitary dwellings; whether he can inform the House generally of the replies received to this circular; and, whether he will lay the circular itself upon the Table of the House?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE, in reply, said, that the Local Government Board, on the 21st of July last, addressed a letter to the urban sanitary authorities calling attention to the Acts mentioned, but had not received any communication from local authorities showing that it was their intention to destroy unsanitary dwellings. He was quite willing to lay a copy of the Circular upon the Table.

PUBLIC HEALTH—VACCINATION.

MR. HOPWOOD asked the President of the Local Government Board, Whether his attention has been called to the cases of five children now suffering severely at Deptford from syphilis communicated by vaccination from one other child; and, whether a public inquiry into these and any other cases in the neighbourhood will be directed?

MR. GEORGE RUSSELL: The Local Government Board have already caused inquiry to be made in this matter. The Board are informed that there is not the smallest reason for saying that these children had syphilis. The facts are that four, not five, children vaccinated with 17 others, from one vaccinator, got more or less of a common skin disease, known as eczema, afterwards. Each of the four children lived in the state of squalor that most favours the production of eczema. The other 17 children remained well. There appears to the

Board to be no ground for any further inquiry.

MR. HOPWOOD: Do I understand that a public inquiry into these cases is refused?

MR. GEORGE RUSSELL: They have been inquired into by an Inspector. I am not aware that there is any reason to doubt the professional opinion.

MR. HOPWOOD: There is the fact that the public officer of the Board of Guardians certifies that it is syphilis?

MR. GEORGE RUSSELL: It would be better that Notice should be given of any further Question.

MR. HOPWOOD asked the President of the Local Government Board, Whether he is aware of the deaths of two children in Shoreditch, as their parents allege, from vaccination, viz. Charles James Kerridge, aged five months, vaccinated June 27th, became ill with eruptions over his body, and died July 13th; and Florence Edith Howden, vaccinated on 15th April, became ill in a few days with sores and abscesses, from which she never recovered, but died on July 13th; and, whether he will direct a thorough inquiry into these cases?

MR. GEORGE RUSSELL: Sir, the Board have caused inquiry to be made as to the cases of the two children referred to. Both children died of diarrhoea, and the one case had nothing whatever to do with the other. The mother of the child Kerridge, the Board are informed, has no idea of attributing the death to vaccination. The child had no eruption. The child Howden was weakly at the customary time of vaccination, and the vaccination was deferred until the child was eight months old. It had some eruption afterwards; but there were no abscesses. Its death was caused by diarrhoea three months later. The medical practitioner who attended it is reported to have said that the lymph had to do with the child's subsequent illness; but he denies that he said anything of the kind. He had a great deal of diarrhoea in his practice at the time. Inquiry was made as to others vaccinated from the same vaccinator, and no irregularities could be heard of.

MR. HOPWOOD asked the President of the Local Government Board, Whether, in view of the sad casualties alleged to have attended vaccination, he has considered the appeal to him of

Mr. O'Kelly

J. A. Petvin, of the Axbridge Union, again summoned in respect of the non-vaccination of a child born in 1879, in respect of which he was three times summoned in 1882, twice convicted in full penalties and paid three sets of costs; and, whether he will advise the guardians that such repeated persecutions are opposed [to the views of the Board expressed in its letter to the Evesham Guardians?

MR. GEORGE RUSSELL: A copy of the Evesham letter has been sent to the Guardians of the Axbridge Union.

FISHERY PIERS AND HARBOURS (IRELAND)—BUNNATROOHAN PIER.

MR. LEA asked the Secretary to the Treasury, How much, out of the last money granted for Bunnatroohan Pier and Harbour (£980 for deepening the harbour and providing a boat slip) has been expended—1st. On actual labour; 2nd. On superintendence by clerk of works and overseer; 3rd. On materials; when this work was commenced, and when it is expected to be completed; if, before it is transferred to the county, it will be ascertained by the Board of Works that the paving is not likely to be torn up again by the first heavy sea, as on a former occasion; if the county surveyor's report on the stability of the work will be obtained before the county is saddled with it; and, if it be a fact that the boat slip is perfectly useless, and that the fishermen are worse off than ever for a convenient place to haul up their boats, it being nearly practically impossible for boats to be hauled by the slip recently made; and, if any steps will be taken to have it improved?

MR. COURTNEY: Sir, this work will have cost £1,074, of which £680 goes in labour, £219 in superintendence, and £213 in materials. It was commenced in July, 1881, and will be finished this autumn, the slowness of the progress being due to the fact that the work to be done lies below high water mark. The decision to construct this boat-slip was made and the design for it settled by the Joint Fishery Piers Committee, and the work has been carried out in a most substantial manner. There appears to be no reason for doubting the correctness of the Committee's judgment, or for having a further and unprecedented survey made before it is dealt

with, as directed by the Fishery Piers Act.

ARMY (INDIA)—ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE.

MR. GIBSON asked the Under Secretary of State for India, Whether the Secretary of State for India intends to direct an inquiry into the grievances of the India Medical Service with a view to meet some of the expectations with which candidates were induced to enter it, and to restore some contentment to its ranks?

MR. J. K. CROSS: Sir, I have several times explained the cause of there being a temporary excess of medical officers who do not hold the substantive appointments which command the higher rates of pay—the grievance to which I understand the right hon. and learned Member refers—and I have, at the same time, explained how the difficulty is being met. It is not probable that any inquiry could add to the Secretary of State's information on the subject; and it is not proposed to make any change in the existing system by which officers succeed to substantive medical charges in India.

MR. GIBSON: I give Notice that early next Session I shall call attention to the subject unless a remedy be applied in the meantime.

TURKEY (ASIATIC PROVINCES)—GOVERNORSHIP OF THE LEBANON—RUSTEM PASHA.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether he can lay upon the Table copies of any Correspondence between Her Majesty's Government and Foreign Governments relative to the removal of Rustem Pasha from the Governorship of the Lebanon and the appointment of his successor?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: Sir, there will be no objection to lay the Correspondence before Parliament.

LAW AND JUSTICE (IRELAND)—CONVICTION AT LIMERICK.

MR. KENNY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If his attention has been called to the decision of the County Court Judge at Limerick on July 3rd last, in the case of the man Sheehan, sentenced on April 13th 1883 to two months' imprisonment

at the instance of a person named M'Grath, in which he reversed the sentence passed by the two special resident magistrates, Messrs. Evanson and Irwan; if the original conviction was obtained on the evidence of M'Grath and his employer, a Mr. Millane, and, after a careful sifting of their evidence, has been reversed by the County Court Judge; whether any prosecution for perjury is to be instituted against M'Grath and his accomplices; and, whether any money has been given to them by the Crown for their original testimony in the case, and if he would name the parties to whom such payments were made?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, I do not think this is a matter calling for notice on the part of the Executive. The case was decided by the magistrates on the evidence before them. At the hearing of the appeal some additional witnesses were produced for the defence. The evidence was conflicting, and the County Court Judge gave the accused the benefit of the doubt; but he did not impute perjury to any witness for the Crown. No money was given to the witnesses for their evidence.

AFGHANISTAN—THE SUBSIDY TO THE AMEER.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT asked the Under Secretary of State for India, Whether he will inquire if the Indian Government have any information regarding the presence of a Russian agent in Afghanistan, his friendly reception by the Governor of Kabul, and his alleged interview with the Amir; whether he still adheres to his statement that an annual subsidy of £120,000 has been granted to the Amir without any of the conditions to secure British influence and control upon which previous Amirs have been subsidised; and, what supplies of arms and ammunition have been given to the Amir Abdurrahman since 1880?

MR. J. K. CROSS: Sir, the Indian Government have received information regarding the presence of a Russian merchant, a Mahomedan by religion, in Afghanistan, who had an interview with the Ameer. No importance is attached to the incident by the Government. The hon. Member for Eye is mistaken in thinking that I stated that the subsidy of 12 lakhs had been granted—

Mr. Kenny

"Without any of the conditions to secure British influence and control upon which previous Ameer had been subsidized."

When Abdurrahman was recognized by us as Ameer of Afghanistan in 1880 an understanding was entered into that he should follow the advice of the British Government in regard to his external relations. The Ameer has so far acted in conformity with that understanding; and, in order to strengthen his position, the Government of India have decided to give him one lakh of rupees a-month. The gifts of arms to the Ameer up to 1882 are described in Return No. 18 of 1882. Since then the Ameer has received 1,500 muzzle-loading rifles, 1,000 carbines, 8,274 cartridges for ordnance, 1,778 shells, 3,604 shot, and 996,189 small-arm cartridges.

MR. JOSEPH COWEN said, there was a strange contradiction between the answer which the hon. Gentleman had given to him on Monday on the same subject and that he had now given to the hon. Member for Eye. The House was now given to understand that the Ameer had agreed to render some service in consideration of his subsidy; but what he wished to know was, whether the engagement to that effect had been reduced to writing, and embodied in a Treaty, or whether it was merely a verbal understanding?

MR. J. K. CROSS: Sir, the answer I have given to-day is altogether consistent with the answer I gave the other day. There is no reiteration of the understanding which has been entered into with the Ameer; it was entered into in 1880, and it covers all subsequent transactions.

MR. O'KELLY: Was the understanding evidenced by any written document?

MR. J. K. CROSS: No, Sir; it was entered into between our Agent and the Ameer himself.

MR. STUART-WORTLEY: Is it a verbal understanding, or one of a more solemn nature?

AN HON. MEMBER: Is it in writing?

MR. J. K. CROSS: Will the hon. Member kindly give Notice of the Question?

MR. ONSLOW: Was the Secretary of State for India consulted in this matter before the Viceroy agreed to give this allowance; and will Papers be produced?

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT: Are we to understand that there is no written Treaty or document in existence which binds the Ameer to the conditions the hon. Gentleman has just referred to?

MR. J. K. CROSS: Notice had better be given of a Question.

MR. O'KELLY: Is the allowance a permanent one, or is it given for a length of time?

MR. J. K. CROSS: I have already stated it is given from month to month.

MR. ONSLOW: Can the hon. Gentleman answer my Question now, whether Papers will be produced?

MR. J. K. CROSS: No, Sir.

LAND COMMISSION COURT, DUBLIN—DECISIONS—MR. JUSTICE O'HAGAN.

MR. KENNY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If his attention has been called to a decision made by Mr. Justice O'Hagan, at the Land Commission Court, Dublin, on January 19th, 1883, as follows:—

"Mr. Hugh O'Doherty said he appeared on behalf of a number of poor tenants in Donegal and Leitrim, whose rents had been judicially fixed, but who had appealed from the decision of the Sub-Commissioners. The appeals were very far down on the list, and the tenants had absolutely refused to pay the judicial rents, and wanted to know from the Court what rent they should pay;

"Mr. Justice O'Hagan.—They must pay the old rent;

"Mr. O'Doherty.—The cases are very far down on the list;

"Mr. Justice O'Hagan.—They must take their turn;"

if any subsequent decision has been given nullifying that of Mr. Justice O'Hagan; and, if he is aware that the landlords throughout Ireland continue to demand the old rents?

COLONEL KING-HARMAN asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If he can explain the apparent discrepancy between the ruling of Mr. Justice O'Hagan, on the 19th of January last—

"Land Commission Court,

"Dublin, Friday, January 19, 1883.

"Mr. Hugh O'Doherty said he appeared on behalf of a number of poor tenants in Donegal and Leitrim whose rents had been judicially fixed, but who had appealed from the decision of the Sub-Commissioners. The appeals were very far down on the list, and the tenants had absolutely refused to pay the judicial rents, and wanted to know from the Court what rent they should pay;

"Mr. Justice O'Hagan.—They must pay the old rent;

"Mr. O'Doherty.—The cases are very far down on the list;

"Mr. Justice O'Hagan.—They must take their turn;"

and the statement made by himself that the judicial rent only could be recovered?

MR. TREVELYAN: Mr. Justice O'Hagan states distinctly that he never made such a statement as is attributed to him in the report quoted from. The Land Commissioners have in very numerous cases stated, in reply to inquiries, both to landlords and tenants, that, in their opinion, the rent fixed by a Sub-Commission is in force until varied on rehearing.

MR. HEALY said, he thought the right hon. Gentleman had not caught the point of the Questions. Supposing the old rent to be £12, and that the Sub-Commissioners reduced it to £7, but that it was raised, on appeal, to £10, what rent was the tenant entitled to pay, the judicial rent or the old rent, in the interval of appeal?

[No answer was given.]

MR. KENNY asked the Chief Secretary, in connection with this subject, whether he was aware that landlords continue to demand the old rents, that this judgment of Mr. Justice O'Hagan had been passing current through the country as good, and that the old rents were extracted, though illegal?

MR. TREVELYAN: Mr. Justice O'Hagan is not responsible for the blunders in newspapers; but I am glad to have had this public opportunity of putting the public mind at rest on this question.

MR. HEALY: Will the right hon. Gentleman state to Mr. Justice O'Hagan that it would greatly convenience the public if some definite statement were made by the Land Commissioners as to whether it is the old rents or the new rents that are to be paid pending the hearing of appeals?

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS — THE SLIGO ELECTION—ALLEGED INTIMIDATION.

MR. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether it is the fact that Constable O'Rourke, Ballintogher, Sligo, attempted to intimidate the supporters of the National candidate for the existing vacancy in the Parliamentary representation of the county, by having

at the public meeting in Sligo town, on Sunday last, called aside a young man named James Cawley, Ballymote, seizing him by the shoulder, and asking his name and business, and "what brought him there;" whether the constable noted Mr. Cawley's replies in writing, and also took the names of all bandmen at the meeting; whether O'Rourke has been censured before for his officiousness; and, if the Government approve O'Rourke's conduct? He would also ask the right hon. Gentleman, whether he has seen the report in the newspapers, that the proposer and seconder of the National candidate at Sligo, with their assenters, were hustled out of the Grand Jury room by the police; and, if he has seen the report, whether he has put any question to the police on the subject?

Mr. TREVELYAN, in reply, said, that he regretted to say he had not seen the report. With regard to the first Question, according to the Report he had received, Constable O'Rourke was not in Sligo at all on the day named. While on duty at Ballintogher, he saw a post car with several passengers stop at a public-house. It being Sunday, he went to them to ascertain if they were *bond fide* travellers. He did not seize anyone by the shoulders; he did not ask anyone his name. He (Mr. Trevelyan) was informed that O'Rourke was an excellent policeman, and it was not the case that he had been censured for officiousness.

THE IRISH LAND COMMISSION (SUB-COMMISSIONERS)—JUDICIAL RENTS (MOHILL).

Mr. O'KELLY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether two of the Sub-Commissioners appointed for the counties Roscommon, Sligo, and Leitrim, namely, Messrs. Morrison and Henston, did on the 11th July last in proceeding to visit the farm of Mr. John Watters, who had an application for the fixing of a fair rent heard at the sitting of their Sub-Commission in Carrick-on-Shannon, drive to the farm in the trap of the landlord, Mr. C. C. B. Whyte, D.L., Hatly Manor, in company with Mr. Whyte and his bailiff; whether in the decisions delivered at Mohill subsequently the Sub-Commissioners fixed the judicial rent in this case at the old rent; and, whether

a competent valuer swore that the old rent was a rack rent?

Mr. TREVELYAN: I am informed, Sir, that it is the case that Messrs. Morrison and Henston drove to the farm of Mr. John Watters, as stated, in Mr. Whyte's trap, and that they did so to save time, their own car having been sent to a point nearly a mile off. The Sub-Commission deemed it just, on the evidence adduced, to leave the rent unchanged. It had been paid for 27 years before. With regard to this, the Chairman of the Sub-Commission—who is not one of the gentlemen named in the Question—telegraphs to me as follows:—

"I took a prominent part in fixing the rent, and share responsibility with my colleagues. I consider any other judgment would have been grossly unjust."

Mr. O'KELLY: Will the right hon. Gentleman inform me whether the tenant had any means of avoiding paying this rent for 27 years; and also whether he approves of the conduct of the Sub-Commissioners in using the cars of landlords when going to fix rents; and whether it is not possible, in case their own car breaks down, for them to supply themselves with the car of some third party?

Mr. TREVELYAN said, there were about 100 Sub-Commissioners employed, and he was afraid he could not answer such a Question off-hand.

PENSIONS TO STATE SERVANTS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Mr. CAINE asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, If the Foreign Office has among its records any information relative to the systems for providing pensions for State servants existing in various Foreign Countries; if not, will it be convenient to collect such information, and lay it upon the Table of the House?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: Sir, the Foreign Office does not possess the information for which my hon. Friend asks; but I shall be glad to communicate with him privately on the subject, and, if possible, the particulars which he requires shall be obtained.

LAW AND POLICE—REPORTED DOG FIGHT AT BLACKBURN.

Mr. T. D. SULLIVAN asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, Whether any steps are being taken

Mr. Healy

for the prosecution of the persons who arranged and carried out the dog fight which took place near Blackburn on Sunday week, the details of which have appeared in most of the public journals?

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: Sir, the hon. Member will observe that in order to a prosecution it is necessary that there should be an offence and an offender; and, with reference to this particular Question, in order to proceedings being taken, it is necessary that there should be a dog fight. It is true, as the hon. Member says, that details have appeared in the public journals; but, as I have before observed to this House, these heartrending incidents are of a romantic character. They are really works of fiction, and a dog fight is a favourite subject. I have inquired into the case, and here is the telegraphic answer I received—

"Referring to your letter of the 15th, a dog fight near Blackburn was reported in the local newspapers on the 8th instant; but a careful police inquiry, in conjunction with the officer of the Royal Humane Society, does not confirm the report. I believe no such fight occurred."

Several Questions in this House would be saved, and a waste of good sympathy avoided, if people would assume, when they read these stories, that they were not true.

MR. T. D. SULLIVAN: Will the right hon. and learned Gentleman apply the same rule to information about Ireland published in the English newspapers?

MR. HEALY: Especially with regard to Irish outrages?

MR. HARRINGTON: I beg to ask the right hon. and learned Gentleman, whether, in reference to the Irish Members, he does not act on information coming from American newspapers, which may be also fiction?

MR. O'BRIEN: I also wish to ask him, whether he assumes that every story of Irish crime in the English newspapers is not true?

[No replies.]

THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE—SIR HARRY PARKES.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether, when the offer was made to Sir H. Parkes to be promoted to the office of Her Majesty's Minister

in China, he was informed before accepting it that the salary of the office was to be reduced, or whether he was so informed only after he had accepted it?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: Sir Harry Parkes was so informed before he accepted the appointment.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF: Was a similar notification given to Sir John Lumley?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: That does not arise out of the Question on the Paper, I think.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF: Then I give Notice of the Question for Monday.

THE CHANNEL TUNNEL SCHEME—OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS.

SIR EDWARD WATKIN asked the Secretary of State for War, If the "Memorandum with reference to the proposed Tunnel between England and France," stated to be under date of 3rd March 1875, now printed and circulated, was the foundation of the Letter from the War Office to the Treasury (published in the Blue Book on the Channel Tunnel), dated 13th March 1875; whether there are no other Documents, Letters, or Minutes relating to the Memorandum dated 3rd March 1875; and, if he will deposit in the Library, for the inspection of Members, the original Draft (with the official corrections) of the Letter from the War Office to the Treasury (signed by Colonel Stanley) of the 13th March 1875?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON: Sir, the Memorandum of March 3 and the draft of the letter of March 13, 1875, were written at the same time; but one can scarcely be said to have been the foundation of the other. There are Minutes having reference to the Memorandum and Letter; but they, with the draft, are confidential documents, which cannot be laid before Parliament.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT — SUTTON SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.

MR. ONSLOW (for Sir Trevor Lawrence) asked the Vice President of the Council, Whether he is aware that great dissatisfaction was felt and expressed at the hours of polling, ten till five, fixed at the election of a School Board at Sutton on 9th March; and, whether,

since these are the only hours which the returning officer could have fixed under the Order in Council of 3rd October 1873, and the fixing of these hours practically resulted in disfranchising a large portion of the ratepayers, who, being engaged in business in London, have to leave Sutton before ten and do not return until after five, any steps can be taken to obviate the recurrence of this state of things?

MR. MUNDELLA: The school board election at Sutton was regulated by the same Order, which has been in operation for more than 10 years, and to which no substantial objection has been made. The hours of polling are fixed at the discretion of the Returning Officer, the only restriction being that the poll must be open for seven hours between 8 A.M. and 8 P.M. It is not, therefore, correct to say that the poll must be between 10 and 5, or that the Order in Council was the cause of the inconvenience complained of.

ARMY—OFFICERS OF THE INDIAN STAFF CORPS AND REGIMENTS OF THE LINE—CONDITIONS OF SERVICE.

MR. ONSLOW (for Sir TREVOR LAWRENCE) asked the Secretary of State for War, Whether it is the case that Officers of British Line Regiments get their captaincies and majorities in about nine and sixteen years respectively, while Officers of the Indian Staff Corps do not attain to those ranks until twelve and twenty years; and, whether, as Indian Officers have to serve under very trying conditions as to climate and other circumstances, he is prepared to recommend that they shall be placed on terms of equality, in regard to promotion, with British Officers?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON, in reply, said the conditions of the service of officers of the Indian Staff Corps, and of officers of British Line Regiments, differed in so many important particulars that it was impossible to apply the same rule to both classes. It was true that the Indian officers had to serve a long time in order to attain their captaincies and majorities than the British Line officers; but, on the other hand, the former were, in respect to compulsory retirement and other matters, placed at a distinct advantage over the latter.

Mr. Onslow

ARMY—THE EGYPTIAN WAR MEDAL.

MR. ONSLOW (for Sir TREVOR LAWRENCE) asked the Secretary of State for War, Whether the Egyptian War Medal has been already distributed to all the British troops entitled to it, and when it will be distributed to the Indian troops who served with them; whether it is the case that the authorities in India concerned in this matter are still engaged in settling differences as to the pattern of the paper on which the Medal Rolls are to be submitted; and, whether, inasmuch as the Afghan Medal for the campaign of 1879-80 was only distributed to Indian troops this year, he will take steps to see that the Egyptian Medal is distributed to them without unnecessary delay?

MR. J. K. CROSS: Sir, the preparation of medal rolls requires great care, and is necessarily a work of time. Those for Egypt have been nearly all received, and the medals have either been already despatched, or are under immediate despatch. There is no reason to suppose that there will be any delay in their distribution.

ROYAL IRISH CONSTABULARY—THE QUEEN'S COUNTY.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If the establishment of Constabulary credited to the Queen's County has been below the proper establishment by 4 in January 1882; 7 in February; 8 in March, April, May, and June; 12 in July; 10 in August; 8 in September, October, and November; and 9 in December; and a sum of £1,055 17s. 6d. has been charged to that county at large for extra Constabulary, besides a sum of £20 3s. 7d. on account of additional Constabulary in districts proclaimed under the 18th section of "The Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Act, 1882;" and, whether he will take steps to see that the amount which represents the vacancies shall be re-credited to the county?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, the number of men of the Parliamentary quota of Constabulary for Queen's County actually serving at the time stated was less by the numbers mentioned than the full number authorized to be employed as the ordinary force of the county. It is obvious that the effective strength of

any trained and disciplined force must always be less than the full authorized number of such force by the number in training at the depôt to supply the waste to which every force is subject. It is, therefore, not correct to describe the force of a county as below the proper establishment when the full number authorized to be enrolled for such county is not effective. Recognizing these facts, provision has been made by Section 14 of 29 & 30 *Vict.*, c. 103, that when, as in the case of Queen's County, an extra force is employed, the vacancies shall be apportioned rateably between the Parliamentary quota and the extra force, and the proportion of vacancies proper to the latter deducted when making the charge against the county. This provision has been fully acted on in preparing the charge of £10,055 payable by the Queen's County; and the necessary information showing that this has been done was duly forwarded to the Secretary of the Grand Jury for the information of the ratepayers at Presentment Sessions. Any further allowance in respect of the vacancies proper to that portion of the force for which no charge is made would be illegal.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR asked, whether it was not a fact that by reason of these vacancies there would be a saving in the Constabulary to the Imperial Exchequer, while there would be an extra charge for police to the Queen's County?

COLONEL KING-HARMAN asked, if the force of men in training at the depôt was divided *pro rata* amongst all the counties?

MR. TREVELYAN: The story is an old one—familiar, I think, to a good many Members of the House—that the force divided rateably between the ordinary and the extraordinary force, and the part allotted to the extraordinary force, is deducted from the sum which the county has to pay.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR: Will the right hon. Gentleman answer my Question?

MR. TREVELYAN: If the men were not at depôt, but were always permanently in the county, the number of extra police employed would be so much less; but that is not a system authorized by law.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR: I will ask the right hon. Gentleman whether

it is the fact, honestly and straightforwardly speaking, that these vacancies are caused by men being in the depôt, and are not absolute vacancies in the force?

MR. O'KELLY was understood to ask whether it did not happen that under the system as explained by the right hon. Gentleman two or three counties had to pay for the same numbers?

MR. TREVELYAN said, he would answer the Question if Notice were given. He should be unwilling to answer it without Notice, because the number at the depôt was sometimes larger and sometimes smaller than the regulation.

COLONEL NOLAN asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If the establishment of Constabulary credited to the county of Galway has been below the actual establishment of the county by 46 men in January 1882; 47 men in February; 47 men in March; 42 men in April; 42 men in May; 51 men in June; 55 men in July; 48 men in August; and 34 men in September; if £14,783 has been charged to that county for extra Constabulary in 1882; and, would he take steps to see that the two or three thousand pounds which have been charged to the county by a system of accounts in which credit has not been given for the full Constabulary establishment, would be re-credited to the treasurer of the county?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, I have fully explained this matter in answer to the hon. Member for the Queen's County (Mr. Arthur O'Connor). The charge upon the county of Galway for extra police has been made strictly in accordance with the Acts of Parliament; and the necessary details in support of the charge have been forwarded to the local authorities for the information of the ratepayers.

LAW AND POLICE (IRELAND)—ALLEGED PERSONATION OF THE POLICE.

MR. HARRINGTON asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether it is true that, in the month of June, information was conveyed to police of Augha West, in the county of Leitrim, that the son of a bailiff in that district, who was under police protection, had, on two successive days,

visited several of the townlands in the district, dressed in policeman's uniform, and made inquiries at various houses as to the payment of their dog tax; whether he arrested, or pretended to arrest, an old man named Quinn for being an offender against the Crimes Act; whether it is true that he visited on the occasion the house of a man named Keernan and made inquiries there as to their opinion of the bailiff, M'Goochan (his own father); and, what action have the police taken with regard thereto? He would also ask, whether it is a fact that this man has received £150 compensation under the Crimes Act; and, whether the people of the townland where he resides will have to pay that money?

MR. TREVELYAN asked for Notice of the last two Questions. With regard to the preceding Questions, the alleged circumstances were said to have occurred on June 11; but no information was given to the police till the 31st July, and then the information was anonymous. The police had since made inquiries, with the result that a case would be brought before the magistrates at Petty Sessions.

THE PARKS (METROPOLIS)—ACCESS TO THE ORNAMENTAL WATER IN THE REGENT'S PARK.

MR. D. GRANT asked the First Commissioner of Works, Whether it has been decided to construct a bridge across the ornamental water at Clarence Gate, Regent's Park, so as to obtain direct access into the centre of the Park from that point; and, if so, whether he will allow an elevation of the bridge to be placed in the Library of the House, so that Members may form a judgment before the contract is signed?

MR. SHAW LEFEVRE: Sir, no provision has been made in this year's Estimates for the construction of a bridge as indicated by the hon. Member; and, consequently, the work cannot be undertaken during the present year. The subject, however, will be considered when the Estimates for next year are in preparation.

THE MAGISTRACY (IRELAND)—THE EXTRA POLICE TAX—CASE OF HALLISSEY.

MR. O'BRIEN asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether Mr. Plunkett, special resident

magistrate, has addressed the following letter, dated 30th July, to the Reverend Father Ahern, P.P., Killavullen:—

"Dear Sir,—I have received your letter. I hope that the necessary amount may be raised in order that Hallissey may be in a position to emigrate, as I understand he is anxious to do so. If this is done I shall recommend His Excellency to remove the proclamation and thus relieve the parish of the Police Tax. But, as long as the authorities consider that protection is necessary for him, the police will remain at the expense of the parish. Should you be able to get the necessary amount in a few days, I will use my influence to have as much as possible arrears, for which warrants will shortly issue, struck off, but this will not be able to be done after warrants issue;"

whether the letter refers to a proposal that the ratepayers should raise a sum of £50 to induce Hallissey, for whose protection the extra police are maintained, to leave the country; whether the following paragraph, in a letter addressed to Mr. George C. Foott, J.P., dated "Chief Secretary's Office, Dublin Castle, 7th August," and signed "Samuel Lee Anderson," refers to the same proposal:—

"I am to add that His Excellency understands that arrangements are now in progress by which the necessity for the protection of Hallissey will cease, and on learning that such arrangements have been brought to a satisfactory conclusion, His Excellency will direct the withdrawal of the additional police;"

whether Samuel Lee Anderson is an official of the Chief Secretary's office; and, if not, in what capacity does he sign the communication; under what statute a resident magistrate is empowered to make an offer of the nature referred to; and, whether this proceeding has the approval of the Government?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, as Captain Plunkett has been on leave for the past few days and moving about, I have been unable to communicate directly with him, or ascertain whether his letter is correctly quoted from in the Question; but, assuming it to be so, I think it must be quite clear to anyone reading the letter that it referred to a matter which was already before the Rev. Mr. Ahern, and did not contain any original proposal or offer. Captain Plunkett thinks that Hallissey is still in danger, and that the police are required for his protection; and I see nothing in the nature of a threat or intimidation in his letting the people know that he will use his influence to have the police removed in

Mr. Harrington

the event of their carrying out the idea which has been started in the parish of securing the emigration of Hallissey. The hon. Member must bear in mind that I do not pledge myself that the original communication was made by Captain Plunkett. With regard to Mr. Anderson, he is temporarily employed in the Chief Secretary's Office assisting Mr. Jenkinson, for whom, and in whose absence, he signed the letter quoted from by his Excellency's desire. The procedure has the approval of the Government.

MR. O'BRIEN said, the right hon. Gentleman had not told them under what Statute a Resident Magistrate was empowered to make an offer of the nature referred to in the Question.

MR. TREVELYAN: It is not a question of Statute. Here is a man who is receiving police protection under the idea that his life is in danger; and the Resident Magistrate, in communication with the parish priest who is interested in the matter, states that if the man is got out of the country it is probable the police will be removed.

MR. O'BRIEN: That is a threat to the people if the money is not raised. I want to know on what principle of law or justice the right hon. Gentleman allows young men in Loughrea to be threatened with arrest if they raise a subscription to defend a man whom the law presumes to be innocent—

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Gentleman is entering into debatable matter.

MR. HEALY: Not at all.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member is entering into debatable matter, and he cannot do so in the form of a Question.

SIR WALTER B. BARTELOT: I rise to Order. I distinctly heard the hon. Gentleman the Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) say to his hon. Friend on the other side of him—"Go on, Sir."

MR. HEALY: No; I did not.

SIR WALTER B. BARTELOT: Yes; you did.

MR. HEALY: If I said anything of the kind, I will stick to it; but I beg to say that if that remark was used on these Benches, I did not hear it, and I did not make it.

MR. O'BRIEN: I beg to give Notice that I will take the first opportunity of asking why pains and penalties are

being inflicted on men in Ireland for doing a certain thing, while Resident Magistrates are at perfect liberty to do it?

MR. O'KELLY: I would ask the right hon. Gentleman whether it is not evident that a species of blackmail is being permitted by the Government in this matter? ["Order, order!"]

MR. SPEAKER: After the notice taken of the previous Question, the Question now put is highly irregular.

MR. O'KELLY: Then I beg to give Notice that I will raise the question on the Estimates.

UNION OFFICERS' SUPERANNUATION (IRELAND) BILL—PENSIONS.

MR. O'KELLY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether he will give a Return showing the number of persons who, under the Union Officers' Superannuation Bill, will become entitled to pensions, and showing the amount which will become chargeable on the rates immediately; the rate of annual increase and the estimated maximum of the charge on the rates after a lapse of ten years?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, I have just received the following telegram:—

"There are more than 5,000 Union and medical officers employed in Ireland at present, and it would be impossible, without making inquiries respecting their ages, service, state of health, and the wishes of the senior officers on the subject of retirement to prepare even an approximate Return of those who will be entitled to receive pensions within the next 10 years. For the same reason it would be impossible to form an estimate which could be presented as a Return of the amount which will become chargeable on the rates to meet the payment for superannuation allowances."

The existing Act authorizing Union officers to be granted pensions has been in force since 1865, and the Act authorizing medical officers to be granted pensions since 1869, and during that time the charge for pensions has grown to £14,999, which is about $\frac{1}{4}$ d. in the pound on the valuation of the rateable property in Ireland. It is not thought probable that the expense under the new Bill will much, if at all, exceed the present expenditure under the existing Acts.

MR. O'KELLY: In view of the fact that the Government cannot lay on the Table of the House correct information

on this matter, would the right hon. Gentleman consider the advisability of postponing the Superannuation Bill until they can give precise information?

[No answer was given.]

POST OFFICE—THE PARCEL POST— REGISTRATION.

MR. JACOB BRIGHT asked the Postmaster General, Whether the Government contemplates associating with the Parcels Post any system of registration or insurance of parcels?

MR. FAWCETT: In reply to my hon. Friend, I may state that the Government have had under their consideration the question of whether or not it would be desirable for the Post Office to undertake the registration or insurance of parcels; but it has been thought better to postpone coming to a decision on the subject until we have had more experience of the working of the Parcel Post.

MR. THOROLD ROGERS asked the Postmaster General, Whether he can now see his way towards carrying out the reform in the inland postage of samples, in accordance with the practice prevailing in other countries which are comprised in the Postal Union? The hon. Gentleman also inquired, whether the right hon. Gentleman's attention had been called to the fact, as alleged in the newspapers, that under the present system, if a person bought 1,000 Belgian postage stamps, and then sent his parcels over to Belgium to be sent from there to this country, he gained 40s. per 1,000 by the operation?

MR. FAWCETT: Sir, I am fully sensible of the anomaly to which I believe my hon. Friend refers, that a sample can be sent from a foreign country, such as France or Belgium, to England at a lower postage than that at which a packet of the same weight can be sent from one part of England to another. The question of a sample post cannot, however, be considered apart from an international parcel post. The arrangements for this are now being carefully considered, and I can assure my hon. Friend that the question to which he refers shall not be lost sight of.

PUBLIC HEALTH (METROPOLIS)—THE REGENT'S CANAL.

MR. D. GRANT asked the President of the Local Government Board, Whe-

Mr. O'Kelly

ther his attention has been directed to the fact that the Zoological Gardens drain into the Regent's Canal, that the present state of the Canal is a danger to the public health; and, whether he proposes to take any steps to remedy the evil?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE said, the Question stated as a fact that the present condition of the Regent's Canal was dangerous to the public health. If the Canal was in such a condition, he was not aware of any reason why the local authority should not proceed against the Company under the ordinary Act for the removal of nuisances.

NAVY—PROMOTION—WARRANT OFFICERS.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked the Secretary to the Admiralty, Whether there is any reason why the per-centage of promotion to the rank of chief gunners should not be the same as that of other warrant officers, viz. four per cent. in lieu of two per cent.; and, whether the Admiralty will consider the expediency of increasing the number of chief gunners, chief boatswains, and chief carpenters, considering that the rank of "chief" is virtually the highest which seamen and petty officers of the Navy can attain?

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN: Sir, I cannot find that the figures quoted by the hon. Member as representing the proportion of the higher to the lower rank of warrant officers are at all accurate. But without going into that question, I may say that the Admiralty have had for some time under their consideration the expediency of some re-adjustment of the numbers in the higher rank in certain classes, without any increase of chief warrant officers as a whole. No decision has yet been arrived at.

INDIA—CRIMINAL CODE (PROCEDURE) AMENDMENT (MR. ILBERT'S) BILL— REPORTS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF (for Mr. E. STANHOPE) asked the Under Secretary of State for India, When he proposes to make his promised statement giving, in a summary form, the views of the Local Governments in India upon the Criminal Jurisdiction Bill?

MR. J. K. CROSS: Sir, I am unable to make any statement on the subject

to-day; but I hope to be able to do so on Monday, if the hon. Member will repeat the Question then.

INDIAN MILITARY EXPENDITURE— THE SIMLA ARMY COMMISSION.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF (for Mr. E. STANHOPE) asked the Under Secretary of State for India, Whether it is true that all the remaining proposals of the Government of India and of the Simla Army Commission on the subject of the reduction of Military expenditure in India have been rejected by the Secretary of State; and, if he will now lay upon the Table Papers giving a complete explanation of these proposals?

MR. J. K. CROSS: Sir, I do not quite understand what the hon. Member for Mid Lincolnshire means by "all the remaining proposals;" but the recommendations of the Government of India for the re-organization of the Indian Army in four Army Corps, which has not been adopted, in the opinion of the Secretary of State, would involve additional, rather than decreased cost. The ultimate saving from the remaining proposals was estimated by the Government of India to amount to 43 lakhs of rupees. Of these, the Secretary of State has already sanctioned reductions amounting to 21½ lakhs. Reductions amounting to nine lakhs were disallowed by the Secretary of State, as they would have required very important changes in the organization of the British Army. With regard to the remaining charges in the staff and other establishments, the Government of India have been invited to make any further recommendations they may consider practicable, consistent with the continuance of the Presidential Armies, it being considered that the desired reductions may be effected under the present organization. The Correspondence is not complete; but Papers will be presented when it is concluded.

ARMY—WORMWOOD SCRUBBS RANGES.

MR. GUY DAWNAY (for Mr. TATTON EGERTON) asked the Secretary of State for War, Whether his attention has been called to a paragraph in the "Globe" of 14th August, stating it was the intention of the Military authorities to close the ranges at Wormwood Scrubbs; and, whether there is any truth in the statement?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON: Sir, firing at the butts at Wormwood Scrubbs, as now arranged, has been found to involve danger to inhabitants of the district. Therefore, pending a full inquiry, the firing of the Household Cavalry has been discontinued, and that of the Volunteers strictly limited to first-class shots.

ARMY—VACCINATION.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR asked the Secretary of State for War, Under what authority, prerogative or statutory, the following Regulations were framed and issued:—

"Regulations for the Medical Department.

"623. Every recruit, without exception, will be vaccinated on joining the head quarters or depot of the corps to which he belongs, unless the operation is certified to have been already successfully performed subsequently to his enlistment.

"624. The Medical History Sheet of every soldier will furnish information whether he has been re-vaccinated, and Medical Officers will re-vaccinate those cases where no such record exists;"

and, if under statutory authority, under what statute; if of prerogative as conferred by the Crown on his appointment to office, under what words in his patent of appointment, or in any other instrument, he exercises the power?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON: Sir, the Secretary of State for War is responsible to the Crown and to Parliament for the efficiency of the Army, and has always been held to have authority to issue such Regulations as are necessary for securing that object, including, of course, its maintenance in health. The 14th paragraph of the 14th section of the Queen's Regulations and Orders for the Army, issued under the sanction of Her Majesty, lays down that—

"Medical officers doing duty with troops will in all medical and sanitary duties be guided by the Army Medical Regulations,"

which contain the paragraphs quoted, and thus I conceive gives to the Medical Regulations the same authority as the Queen's Regulations themselves.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR asked whether he was to understand from the noble Lord that he claimed for himself to exercise the power, which the Crown did not possess, to submit individuals to a surgical operation against their will?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON: I know there is no statutable authority for vaccination.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR: As I believe the Secretary of State for War has acted *ultra vires*, I beg to give Notice that I shall oppose on the Estimates any charge in connection with vaccination in the Army.

**MADAGASCAR—ACTION OF THE
FRENCH AT TAMATAVE.**

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether the report in Wednesday's "Standard" is correct that an English merchant and his three servants have been arrested by the French at Tamatave, and are now imprisoned on board a French Man-of-War; how many British subjects are now imprisoned at Madagascar; and, what steps are being taken by Her Majesty's Government for their immediate release?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: Sir, no information has reached Her Majesty's Government respecting the arrest mentioned in the *Standard*; but inquiry is being made. So far as Her Majesty's Government are aware, Mr. Shaw is the only British subject now detained by the French naval authorities. The late Consul Pakenham's Secretary, who was arrested, has been released. The arrest of Mr. Shaw is the subject of Correspondence with the French Government; but I cannot, at present, make any further statement.

MR. ASHMEAD - BARTLETT: Is the offence stated for which Mr. Shaw is confined?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: A Question was asked on that subject the other day, and the answer was in the negative.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT asked the Secretary to the Admiralty, Whether he will lay the Despatches received from Madagascar, on Tuesday the 7th August, without delay upon the Table of the House; and, whether he will inform the House what British ships of war are now at Madagascar and the Mauritius?

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN: Sir, the despatches in question refer to matters which are rather for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government than of the Admiralty; and I believe the hon. Member has already been informed, on the part of the Government,

that these despatches cannot be made public. With regard to the second Question, I can only say, as on previous occasions, that it is not for the public interest that the information asked for should be given.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT wanted to know how long this humiliating silence was to be maintained? [*Cries of "Order!"*] He would like to ask why it was not for the public service that the names of the ships at Madagascar should be given? [*"Order!"*]

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member is now asking for an opinion, which is not regular.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT asked whether he should be in Order if he asked whether the hon. Gentleman could give his reasons why the information could not be given?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Gentleman the Secretary to the Admiralty has already stated on his responsibility that the information could not be given.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE asked whether the hon. Gentleman meant that the Despatches could not be produced at all, or could not be produced at the present time?

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN said, that what he meant to state was that at present no assurance could be given as to the time or extent of their production.

**POST OFFICE—THE PARCEL POST—
RURAL LETTER CARRIERS.**

MR. J. G. TALBOT asked the Postmaster General, Whether he could see his way to relaxing the new Regulations, under which rural letter carriers are prohibited from carrying small parcels (not sent by post), the easy transmission of which has been a great convenience to the poorer classes; and, whether his attention has been called to the heavy loads of Post parcels which have to be carried by foot messengers from Railway Stations to Post Offices, in consequence of the promised hand trucks not having been received?

MR. FAWCETT: I think, Sir, it will be admitted that it would not be expedient to allow rural letter carriers to carry small parcels, which would directly compete with those they are employed to carry for the Post Office. I am aware that there are many complaints that the poor in rural districts

may be subjected to inconvenience if the letter carriers are not allowed to carry for them, as they were allowed to do before the introduction of the Parcel Post, small packets of medicine. The question is now being carefully considered, and I shall be very glad if I can see my way to make an exception in the case of small packets of medicine.

With regard to the second part of the hon. Member's Question, I can assure him that if he will inform me of any case in which foot messengers have been overburdened in consequence of the absence of hand trucks the matter shall be immediately attended to.

POST OFFICE (TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT)—SIXPENNY TELEGRAMS.

MR. JOSEPH COWEN asked the Postmaster General, When he expects the sixpenny telegram system will be started?

MR. FAWCETT: Sir, I can assure my hon. Friend that we are very anxious to bring the reduced charge for telegrams into operation as soon as practicable. If, however, adequate preparations were not made to meet the increase of business which it is anticipated will result from the minimum charge being reduced to 6d. the wires would get blocked; and, consequently, there would be great delay and serious inconvenience to the public. I may mention, as showing the preparations required, that it is estimated that about 15,000 miles of new wire will be needed. In the Treasury Minute recently laid on the Table, the 1st of October next year was fixed as the date for the introduction of the reduced tariff. [Several hon. MEMBERS: Next year!] There are 15,000 miles of telegraph wire to lay.

ARMY (INDIA)—THE AFGHAN FRONTIER POSTS.

MR. JOSEPH COWEN asked the Under Secretary of State for India, Whether all the British troops have been withdrawn from the Pisheen Valley, and what is the distance of the farthest British outpost from Candabar?

MR. THOROLD ROGERS asked the Under Secretary of State for India, Whether the station of Tull-Chotiali, in South-Eastern Afghanistan, has not been found very unhealthy; whether sickness and other privations endured by the Native Regiments stationed there, as

also in the outposts in the Pisheen Valley, has caused much dissatisfaction amongst the Native troops; can any prospect be held out of these Afghan stations being abandoned; and, can the Medical Returns from all the transpentine stations, including Quetta, up to some very recent date, be laid upon the Table?

MR. J. K. CROSS: Sir, there are no English troops in the Pisheen Valley; but there are two detachments of Native troops at the outposts of Gulistan and Khush-dil-Khan-ka-Killa. The former post is about 105 miles from Candabar; the latter about 110. In answer to the hon. Member for Southwark (Mr. Thorold Rogers), I have to say that no Report has been received of any special sickness at Tull-Chotiali. The latest Returns, of the 1st of June last, show that of the garrison of 520 men present, 22 were sick. There is no reason to suppose there is any dissatisfaction among the small detachments in the Pisheen Valley, or any cause for dissatisfaction. There is no intention of withdrawing those troops from these outposts. The latest complete Sanitary Returns of the Army in India are for 1881. The latest monthly Return for June, 1883, shows that of the 3,429 European troops in the trans-Indus stations, there were 221 sick, and of the 15,329 Native troops, there were 491 sick on the 1st of that month.

DOMINION OF CANADA—SALE OF INTOXICATING LIQUORS.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, If he will lay upon the Table an Act, recently passed in the Canadian Parliament, respecting the sale of intoxicating liquors and the issue of licences therefor?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY said, that as soon as the Act was received from Canada it would be given to the House.

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT—COLLECTORS OF CUSTOMS.

MR. BARRY asked the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, Whether a Memorial, signed by 100 Collectors of Customs, sent into the Treasury so long ago as November 1880, is still unanswered; and, if so, what is the cause of the delay?

MR. COURTNEY: Sir, the Memorial was acknowledged at the time; but since then there have been such alterations in the organization of the Service as to make it inapplicable to the present situation. The case of each collectorate has been, and is being considered separately.

THE MAHARAJAH DHULEEP SINGH—
PROPOSED VISIT TO INDIA.

MR. ONSLOW, who had the following Question on the Paper:—

“To ask the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether it has been definitely decided that the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh is to visit India this autumn, and for what object; and, if so, whether he is to be allowed to visit the Punjab, Scinde, or any portion of the north-west provinces; and, whether there is any truth in the report that treasonable letters have been seized in the Punjab, or elsewhere, regarding the contemplated visit of the Maharajah?”

said: I have to thank the Prime Minister for his courtesy in sending me a letter with reference to this Question. I hope the right hon. Gentleman will allow me a short time to consider whether I should not put this Question in some shape, and whether it might not be for the best interests of India that it should be answered.

EGYPT—THE CHOLERA.

MR. D. GRANT asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether an arrangement can be made to utilise our present medical organisation in Egypt to obtain the fullest knowledge of the disease itself, its originating centres, modes of distribution, and general controlling causes, attention being specially directed to detecting the minute organisms in which cholera, equally with other zymotic diseases, are believed to originate, that the information thus obtained be condensed into one Report, printed, if need be, illustrated, and distributed to the Members of the House?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: Dr. Hunter has instructions to report on the whole subject of the cholera outbreak, and his Reports will be presented to Parliament.

PARLIAMENT—BUSINESS OF THE
HOUSE—COURT OF CRIMINAL
APPEAL BILL.

SIR EARDLEY WILMOT asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether,

considering the great labour bestowed by the Grand Committee on Law upon the Criminal Appeal Bill, he will give Saturday next for the Consideration of the Report?

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS asked whether the right hon. Gentleman seriously thought that the Bill referred to could be properly discussed at that period of the Session in the absence of the Lord Chief Justice and other Law Officers?

MR. GLADSTONE: The Question of the right hon. Gentleman (Sir R. Assheton Cross) really amounts to an inquiry whether the Government intend to submit the Criminal Appeal Bill to the judgment of the House. We consider it our duty to do so. In answer to the hon. Baronet, I have to state that I cannot absolutely foresee the time when we shall be able to bring it on. With reference to the remaining Business, what we propose to do is this. There remains very little to be done with the Scotch Local Government Bill; and I presume we may, therefore, finish it to-night after Supply. To-morrow, at 2 o'clock, we propose to take Committee on the Tramways (Ireland) Bill, and afterwards the Report of the Scotch Local Government Bill and the Report of the Parliamentary Registration (Ireland) Bill. If Supply is not finished to-night we propose to proceed with it to-morrow at the Evening Sitting; and I hope we may anticipate, from the kindness shown by hon. Members last week, that those who have Motions anterior to Supply will allow us to go at once into Committee. On Saturday we will take Supply, and afterwards the final stages of other Bills not likely to lead to debate; and I hope afterwards to ask the judgment of the House on the Court of Criminal Appeal Bill. On Monday, if we have the opportunity, my hon. Friend the Secretary of State will bring in the Indian Budget, and on Tuesday it is proposed to consider the Lords' Amendments on the Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill, as I presume it will be returned from the other House by that time, and we shall likewise take the Medical Act Amendment Bill.

MR. GIBSON said, he hoped it was not intended to sit on Saturday to a late hour.

MR. GLADSTONE said, it was not. He assumed that the Business to be

proceeded with on Saturday at the beginning would not take much time.

MR. DILLWYN asked whether, considering the strong opposition to the Crown Lands Bill, it would be proceeded with?

MR. GLADSTONE said, he was not cognizant of any great opposition to this Bill.

MR. EDWARD CLARKE begged to repeat his Question, whether it was intended to proceed with the Contempts of Court Bill.

MR. GLADSTONE said, he was under the impression that there was a disposition on the part of the House to accept that Bill. If so, it would certainly be proceeded with.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR said, if it was intended to proceed with Government Business at 9 o'clock to-morrow, he should be wanting in frankness if he did not state that it was his intention, unless he saw good reason to the contrary, to bring forward the case of the Barrow drainage on that occasion.

SIR WALTER B. BARTTELOT said, he would remind the Prime Minister that both he and the noble Lord the Secretary of State for War had promised that the Army Estimates would be brought on at a reasonable hour. It would be impossible to discuss those Estimates adequately at 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning. He trusted, therefore, that as there were some Votes on which he wished to make a few remarks, the right hon. Gentleman would remember the pledge that had been given on behalf of the Government.

COLONEL ALEXANDER said, the Medical Vote of the Army had been postponed on more than one occasion on the distinct ground that it contained contentious matter, and in order that it might be discussed fully.

MR. GLADSTONE said, the only undertaking he could give at this stage of the Session was that such Votes as had been mentioned would not be taken at the extremely late hour alluded to by the hon. and gallant Baronet opposite (Sir Walter B. Barttelot).

SIR JOHN HAY said, that Vote 12 in the Navy Estimates involved the consideration of a very contentious subject, and he hoped it would be brought on at an hour when it could be fully debated.

MR. GLADSTONE said, he could only repeat what he had said respecting the

Army Votes. He could not give any information at present as to the time at which the Navy Estimates would be taken.

MR. O'KELLY asked, whether any Business would be taken on Saturday after the Criminal Appeal Bill?

MR. GLADSTONE said, that would be the last of the subjects brought forward by the Government.

MR. CALLAN asked, whether it was proposed to proceed any further with the Stolen Goods Bill and the Medical Act Amendment Bill?

MR. GLADSTONE: Yes.

MR. CALLAN: When?

[No answer was given.]

SIR LYON PLAYFAIR asked, whether it would be possible to take the Medical Act Amendment Bill at an early date, as there were numerous deputations awaiting it in London from all parts of the Kingdom?

MR. GLADSTONE said, that he had made the best arrangement according to the time at his disposal, and could not possibly name an earlier day for its consideration.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE: Of course, the right hon. Gentleman, as usual, after the disposal of the Government Business on Saturday, will move the adjournment.

MR. GLADSTONE: Yes, Sir.

MR. WARTON inquired, whether it was proposed to proceed any further with the Summary Jurisdiction Bill this Session? It involved the consideration of 155 different subjects.

MR. HIBBERT replied, that despite its length the Bill was very formal in character, had been considered for the last two or three years; there was no opposition to it, and he saw no reason why it should not be proceeded with.

REVENUE AND FRIENDLY SOCIETIES BILL—CLAUSE 17.

MR. BROADHURST asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether, seeing the lateness of the Session, and the shortness of the notice of reduced interest on Friendly Society deposits proposed in Clause 17 of the Revenue and Friendly Societies Bill, he will advise the withdrawal of that Clause from the Bill?

MR. GLADSTONE, in reply, said, that, under Parliamentary compulsion,

he very much regretted that the Government must desist from pressing that clause of the Bill.

CRIME AND OUTRAGE (IRELAND)—
COUNTY CORK.

COLONEL KING-HARMAN asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether it is true that a man named Connor, a caretaker on the estate of Mr. Roland Wynne, at Glengheigh, county Kerry, was shot on Monday night; whether the authorities have received information that his life is in danger; and, whether he has been refused police protection?

MR. TREVELYAN said, it was true that on the 13th instant Michael Connor, an agent, was shot in the head and arms when in his own dwelling at 10 P.M. Fortunately, he was not dangerously wounded. Captain Plunkett, Resident Magistrate at Cork, had been telegraphed to for the particulars; but as he was away on leave the answer could not be immediately expected. It would, doubtless, arrive in a day or two.

LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART—
SCOTCH AND IRISH NATIONAL
GALLERIES—REPORTS OF THE
DIRECTORS.

In reply to Mr. CAVENDISH BENTINCK,

MR. COURTNEY said, he would inquire why no Reports had been laid on the Table from the Directors of the Scotch and Irish National Galleries.

THE ECCLESIASTICAL COURTS COM-
MISSION—THE REPORT.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS asked the reason of the delay in publishing the Ecclesiastical Commissioners' Report?

MR. HIBBERT said, that the Report would be issued as soon as possible. Delay had been caused by the length of the Report, and in consequence of the presentation of an additional Report by Lord Penzance.

SOUTH AFRICA—ZULULAND.

MR. R. N. FOWLER asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, Whether he had any further information respecting Zululand?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: No, Sir; I have not.

Mr. Gladstone

TRADE AND COMMERCE—VEXATIOUS
PROCEEDINGS OF THE FRENCH AT
SMYRNA.

MR. M'COAN: I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether his attention has been drawn to the last Report of Her Majesty's Consul at Smyrna, in which it is stated that the French Company administering the Quay are throwing vexatious obstacles in the way of British commerce?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: Sir, it has been under the consideration of the Foreign Office.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

SUPPLY—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES.

SUPPLY—considered in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

CLASS III.—LAW AND JUSTICE.

(1.) Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That a sum, not exceeding £261,103, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the Expenses of the Directors of Convict Establishments in England and the Colonies, and of the Convict Establishments under their control."

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR asked the Financial Secretary if it was proposed to go on with the Civil Service Estimates in strict order until they reached the end of Class VII.?

MR. COURTNEY replied in the affirmative.

MR. HEALY said, he wished to call attention to the extraordinary high salaries which the English prison officials received as compared with the salaries of their brethren in Ireland. He had made a comparison which he wished to lay before the Committee.

SIR JOHN HAY rose to Order. He thought it was understood that the Vote for Dover Harbour would be taken first.

MR. COURTNEY said, the sum required for Dover Harbour was included in the present Vote.

MR. HEALY said, that the Governors of male prisons in England had an income of £650 a-year, whereas those in Ireland had only £300 a-year, or more than 50 per cent less. Then in England, after

five years the salary was raised to £700 a-year; whereas in Ireland it could only be increased by £50 after five years' service, the maximum salary in Ireland being £350. Then, again, another class of Governors in England received £500 a-year, rising to £650; whilst in Ireland the same class only received £200 a-year, rising to £250. There was a third class in England receiving £400 a-year, with an increment until it amounted to £500; whereas in Ireland the same class received only £150 a-year, with no increment at all. A further class in England received £300 a-year, rising to £400; but there was no similar class in Ireland. In Scotland the salaries paid were less than in England, but higher than those paid in Ireland. He did not mean to say that the salaries paid in England and Scotland were too high; but what he contended was that in the Irish prisons the salaries paid were much too small for the labours entailed upon the officers. He knew he should be met by the argument that in Ireland there were fewer convicts than in England. Of course, that was a happy state of things; but the Governors had to give the same consistent attention in the Irish prisons as the Governors in the English prisons, and there was the same mental and physical strain to contend with. If it was the fact that there were fewer convicts in the Irish prisons than in the English prisons, it was not the case that the warders in the Irish prisons had less convicts under their charge than in England. But how were the warders dealt with? He found that a chief warder of an English prison began with £125 a-year, and that his salary rose until it reached £150; whereas the salary of a chief warder in an Irish prison began and ended at £100 a-year. Another class of chief warders in England commenced at £100 a-year, and rose to £125; whereas in Ireland the same class received £85 a-year, without any increment whatever. Assistant warders in England began at £60 a-year, and gradually rose to £65; whereas the unfortunate assistant warders in Ireland began at £45 a-year, and rose to £55 only after a service of some years.

Mr. COURTNEY asked what Estimates the hon. Member was quoting from?

Mr. HEALY replied, that he was quoting from a compilation which he

had himself made with some care, and the accuracy of which he could vouch for. He had heard constant complaints, and, owing to the kindness of Her Majesty's Government, he had recently had ample facilities for ascertaining what the salaries of the Irish officials really were. He could assure the hon. Gentleman (Mr. Courtney) that the salaries of the Irish assistant warders began at £45 a-year, and rose to £55. He had no doubt the Committee would feel somewhat astonished to find that a warder could support himself and a wife and family respectably on £45 a-year, or about 18s. a-week; and he had no doubt they would remember that extraordinary burdens were thrown upon the Irish warders. In many instances the prisoners entrusted to their charge were men whom the Government would not like to slip easily through their fingers. On that account the warders in Ireland were men who had a good deal more responsibility thrown upon them than the same class of men in England. During recent times these unfortunate warders in Ireland had more than 1,000 political convicts under their care; and as the loyalty of a man meant pretty much what he got out of it, he could not see how the Government could expect men to be very loyal on £45 a-year. It was an invidious thing to say, but it was a fact, that an English assistant warder could begin at £60 a-year, and rise to £65; whereas in Ireland, an assistant warder, who had much more responsible duties to perform, could only begin at £45 a-year, and rise to £55, the number of prisoners under his control being invariably the same. He would not trouble the Committee by going through the various other offices; but the inequality in regard to salaries ran through the whole of them; and if the Secretary to the Treasury desired it, he would supply him with the Return he held in his hand in the course of the evening, and which related to chaplains, medical officers, storekeepers, warders, clerks, female warders, lady superintendents, matrons, and, in short, all the officials in Ireland. The whole of them received less pay than the same officers in England. Then, again, owing to the extraordinary burdens cast upon these officials recently there was much greater necessity for confidence being reposed in them than in the case of England; and

he intended to raise the question of the non-fulfilment of certain promises made to them during the existence of the Coercion Act. All he wanted to know now was, how it was that Irish officials were so much less paid than English officials? He did not at all contend that English Governors or warders were over-paid; but he thought that Irish officials should be placed upon an equality with them.

MR. COURTNEY said, regard must be had to the ordinary rates of pay in the neighbourhoods where the people were employed, and to the cost of living. He thought it would be found that the same difference in regard to salaries went through the entire Service, not merely in regard to Ireland, but to Scotland also. He would take, for example, the highest officials of all. The pay and salary of a Judge in the High Court of Ireland was only £3,500 a-year; whereas in the High Court of England it was £5,000. The Judges of the Court of Session in Scotland only received £3,000. In each case, however, they had the same high standing, the same qualifications, and the same duties to perform. It was the same in regard to the pay of the servants of the Post Office. The pay of the Post Office *employés* in England varied very much from the pay of the same officers both in Scotland and Ireland. The hon. Gentleman complained that certain *employés* in the present Establishments of Ireland did not receive the same rate of pay as similar *employés* in England. He (Mr. Courtney) had taken a rapid glance at some of the Votes; and, at page 230, he found that the rates of pay in one of the Convict Establishments for assistant warders began at £70 a-year, and reached as high a figure as the *employés* in the English Convict Establishments; but those rates of pay included ration allowances. If the hon. Member would look at the Estimate for officers in the Mountjoy Prison, he would find that the second-class warders began at £45 a-year, and received an increment up to £54; the first class began at £55 a-year and went up to £70; a principal warder began at £70 a-year and went up to £80; and a chief warder began at £100 a-year and went up to £120. The hon. Member said they had no increment at all; but if he would look at the bottom of the page he would see that they had

an allowance of £15 a-year in lieu of rations. If those allowances were added, it would be found that the rates of pay in Mountjoy Prison were very nearly equal to the rates of pay of the warders in the Convict Establishments in England.

MR. O'KELLY said, the hon. Gentleman must be perfectly aware that there was no very considerable difference between the cost of living in London and in Dublin. On the contrary, it was quite as expensive for a man in the position of a warder to live in Dublin as it was in London; and, if anything, the advantage was on the side of the man who lived in London. He thought the question raised by his hon. Friend was a very fair one, and it had not at all been satisfactorily answered by the Secretary to the Treasury.

MR. HARRINGTON said, the hon. Gentleman (Mr. Courtney) had referred only to Mountjoy Prison. He (Mr. Harrington) did not think that the allowance for warders in that prison was the allowance generally received by warders throughout Ireland. In other cases not only was there no allowance made to the warders for rations, but out of the very small and miserable salaries they received they were called upon to pay for extra service, and, among other things, for washing. A prison warder was called upon to pay for every collar and every shirt he wore during the time he was in prison, the Prison Boards requiring the warders to pay for everything that was washed for them. The statement which his hon. Friend (Mr. Healy) had made with regard to the prison salaries was quite accurate. Like his hon. Friend, he had been afforded a good opportunity by Her Majesty's Government of considering the question, having been imprisoned in Ireland no less than four times. His hon. Friend had quoted accurately the salaries given to the warders; but he had omitted to say that those salaries were still further reduced by the fines imposed upon them by the Governors of the prisons. It was in the power of the Governor of a gaol to fine his warders without consulting the Prison Board; and he knew various instances in which it had been done. Some of these unfortunate men got 18s. per week for their services. They had to enter upon their labours at half-past 5 o'clock in the morning, and they were

Mr. Healy

inside the prison during the whole of the day; and, disagreeable as it was to be there as a prisoner, he was of opinion that the lot of a prisoner was a much more fortunate one than that of the wretched warder, who was engaged the whole day long contemplating the misery and sufferings of his fellow-beings. And the warder, when on duty, had to take his turn every week at the night watch. He had all the affairs of the prison to keep going, and he was required to peg the clock every quarter of an hour in order to show that he had been discharging his duty. If he missed doing so the clock told the tale, and the warder was fined.

THE CHAIRMAN: The hon. Gentleman, in comparing the pay of warders in the English Convict Establishments with those in Ireland, would be in Order; but it is not in Order to enter into every detail connected with the Irish Convict Establishments now.

MR. HARRINGTON said, he did not propose to enter into details of that kind; but only desired to compare the salaries received by the Irish prison officials with those received by their brethren in England. He wanted to show that instead of any allowances being made generally for rations it was quite the other way, and that the salaries of the Irish prison officials were even less than the amount mentioned by his hon. Friend. As, however, the question would be raised when the Irish Estimates came on, he would not trouble the Committee with any further observations.

MR. HEALY said, the Secretary to the Treasury had given the Irish Members some startling information, to the effect that living in London was dearer than in Dublin. If that were so, how was it that the Secretary to the Treasury had sanctioned an increased grant to Mr. Hamilton, the Under Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant, under cover of the increased cost of living in Dublin? That was an important point. The Treasury had given Mr. Hamilton £500 a-year extra on account of the increased cost of living in Dublin; but they wanted to cut down the salaries of these unfortunate warders from £65 a-year in England to £45 in Ireland, because it was so much cheaper to live in Ireland than it was in England. Now, he thought that was extremely unfair. If

the remarks of the hon. Gentleman were true in regard to Mountjoy Prison, what had he to say about the Governors who only received £300 a-year, with a maximum of £400; whereas in England the minimum was £350 a-year, and the maximum £650? That was a clear inequality of £250; and if the hon. Gentleman wished to establish his position that living in Dublin was cheaper than in London, why should he give Mr. Hamilton an extra £500 a-year?

MR. HIBBERT remarked, that there were three classes of Governors in England, and that the whole of them did not receive £300 a-year.

MR. HEALY said, there were also three classes of Governors in Ireland, and the salary of £400 was the maximum.

MR. COURTNEY said, the hon. Gentleman was comparing the Governors and warders of ordinary prisons in Ireland with the Governors and warders of convict prisons in England.

MR. HEALY said, that Mountjoy Prison was a Convict Establishment.

MR. COURTNEY observed, that when they came to the convict prisons, on page 234, it would be found that the pay was much higher.

MR. HEALY said, he thought the items on the page referred to by the hon. Gentleman only made the case still worse. The Governors were there classified, and the highest male officer received £650 a-year.

MR. COURTNEY pointed out that there were four classes.

MR. HEALY said, the first class received £650 a-year; the next, £500 a-year; the third, £400 a-year; and the last class, £300 a-year, rising to £400; so that the lowest class in England received as much as the highest class in Ireland, notwithstanding the extra duties imposed on the Governors of Irish prisons as compared with the Governors of English prisons. He was glad to see the right hon. Member for South-West Lancashire (Sir R. Assheton Cross) in his place, because the right hon. Gentleman was upon the Prisons' Committee now engaged in inquiring into these subjects. He thought that Committee could not have a better Chairman than the right hon. Gentleman; and he hoped when the question of pay came before the Committee that it would be carefully considered.

SIR HENRY HOLLAND said, the Royal Commission on the Penal Servitude Acts had recommended the inspection of convict prisons by independent gentlemen, magistrates, and others, to be appointed by the Home Secretary. That system had been commenced, and, as far as he knew, it had been found to work very well. He should like to know if it was still continued? He presumed that the Reports were of a confidential character, and that they could not be made public. He should like to know whether the prisons were regularly visited by independent Inspectors; and whether the Home Office was satisfied with the results of the system?

MR. HIBBERT said, the plan was in operation still, and it had been attended by the most satisfactory results. The Home Secretary had received several Reports from the Visitors, which were of a very satisfactory character. The Government, from what they had heard, were of opinion that it was desirable to continue the system.

MR. O'KELLY asked if the hon. Gentleman was in a position to say that all the prisons had been visited; and, if so, how often?

MR. HIBBERT said, he was unable to say whether every prison had been visited, or how often.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE BALFOUR said, he had placed an Amendment on the Paper for the reduction of this Vote by the sum of £16,150, which was the amount included in the Vote for the purpose of erecting a prison and providing workshops in connection with the formation of a proposed harbour of refuge at Dover. It would be in the recollection of the Committee that a Committee had been appointed in 1875 to inquire into this subject. He was a Member of that Committee, and he thought that there had been a distinct violation of the promise which had been made to the House by the late Government after the Report of the Committee was presented. In 1873 a similar Vote to the present, but only £10,000 in amount, was brought forward by the Liberal Government in connection with Dover Harbour. It was on the 30th of July that the Vote on Report was brought before the House; and upon that occasion his hon. Friend the Member for Burnley (Mr. Rylands) rose in his place and objected to any Vote for

these important works being taken at so late a period of the Session. They had now reached the 16th of August, and again they were asked by a Liberal Government, advocates of economy, to vote a sum of more than £16,000 for the like works; and if the Committee passed that Vote they would virtually pledge themselves to go on with works which would ultimately entail an expenditure of more than £1,000,000, as stated, and, in his opinion, of a sum several times larger than £1,000,000. When the hon. Member for Burnley proposed his Resolution in 1873, 61 Members voted in support of the Government, and 60 against. It happened to be his (Sir George Balfour's) first Session in the House, and he was induced by the friends of the Government to support the Vote, under the promise that a full inquiry would subsequently be made. An hon. Friend, who was then Member for Aberdeen, was also induced to support the Government under similar circumstances; and by that means the Government obtained a majority of 1, instead of being left in a minority of 2. The Government on that occasion distinctly promised that they would not proceed with the expenditure involved in the construction of these works until there had been a full inquiry. But that inquiry never was instituted by this Government. Happily for the country, as far as the expenditure of this money was concerned, the Government went out in the January following, and a Conservative Government came in. The Conservative Government were more wise than the Liberal Government, and they took a different course. [Sir R. Assheton Cross: Hear, hear!] The right hon. Gentleman the late Home Secretary said "Hear, hear!" but he (Sir George Balfour) was only stating that which he believed to be perfectly correct. A Select Committee was appointed in 1875 for the purpose of investigating the progress of the works at Dover Harbour, and since then the question had comparatively slumbered, so far as related to discussion in that House. In the House of Lords, the present Foreign Minister brought on a discussion in favour of a harbour at Dover, but was answered in a most convincing manner by Lord Beaconsfield, who prominently urged the bare outlay which would have to be incurred in forming an efficient

refuge in Dover Bay. He regretted very much that the subject had been postponed until so late in the Session, because many hon. Members were now absent from the House who had intended to oppose the present Vote. For instance, the late First Lord of the Admiralty (Mr. W. H. Smith) had assured him that he was not only prepared to vote against it, but to speak against it. His hon. Friend the Member for Burnley would have taken a similar course; but they and other hon. Members had been worn out by the long Sittings of the House, and had been obliged to leave London, so that it now devolved upon him (Sir George Balfour) alone to make this proposal of rejecting the proposed grant, and virtually thereby of stopping the proposed harbour. He might mention, also, that a promise had been given by the Government to lay all the Papers on the Table of the House in ample time to allow hon. Members to study the subject; but he regretted to say that it was only yesterday the latest Papers were issued, and it was only that morning that he had been able to see them. He had, therefore, been deprived of the opportunity of asking Questions in connection with the subject. It now appeared that the cost of the works at Dover Harbour were to amount to upwards of £1,000,000, and that the charges were increasing so rapidly as to lead to the certainty that, like all estimates of engineers, the amount would gradually swell up to several times the amount of the first estimate, already, by this last Paper, more than 50 per cent in excess of the first amount. He thought that this last estimate alone ought to be sufficient to alarm the country, as it was contrary to all the expectations at first held out. No doubt they would be reminded that great progress was being made with French harbours, and that they ought to make equal progress with the harbour at Dover as the French were with that at Boulogne. He believed the works at Boulogne had already been estimated to cost nearly £1,000,000 more than the first estimate, being now estimated to cost altogether 32,000,000 francs, as against 17,000,000 francs, which was the first Estimate. Indeed, it was said that even that sum would not be sufficient for the complete construction of that harbour. Were Her Majesty's Go-

vernment, then, to emulate the expenditure of France at Boulogne in connection with Dover Harbour? If so, then the conditions laid down as to the object to be attained at Dover in respect to its fitness to receive the largest vessels of the Navy entailed the necessity of having such extensive works as to far outdo Boulogne, and necessarily to entail an expenditure several times greater. There had been many plans submitted to the House in connection with Dover Harbour; and though the plan of 1873 contemplated works smaller than those now submitted, yet the then estimate was more than the proposed amount. Nevertheless, the then area and depth of water would have been insufficient for ships of the largest class, as it was only intended to cover an area of 300 acres. He submitted that only two or three ships of war of that large size could possibly visit that harbour with such a small area; and he knew that some of the former plans applied to a much larger area than that which was now contemplated. He held in his hand the nine plans of the harbour of refuge formerly proposed by eminent engineers, as shown in the Return 476, of July 10, 1848; and if hon. Members would refer to that important document they would find that several of the plans provided for a harbour to cover 900 acres, and the works were to cost £4,600,000. All the nine engineers qualified to speak in regard to works of this character proposed a harbour of a very much larger area than that comprised in the present plan. All the former plans included breakwaters, for the safety of the harbour, of a far more extensive profile than the one now planned. The extent of the breakwaters were given, and also the average cost per yard of constructing them, and that outlay exceeded by £4,000,000 the cost now proposed. Under the details so clearly stated in the plan the Committee were able to calculate for themselves what the present cost would be if works of a like character were now carried out. Since then vessels had increased in size and in draught of water. Consequently, the area and depth of water ought to be greater than formerly. Further, the Government of the former period devoted great attention to the character of the works, and to the outlay; but the Government, in this instance, had alto-

gether abstained from giving that opinion; and if it had been intentionally planned, the Committee could not have been left more destitute of information than it was. The name of the Duke of Wellington had been more than once introduced in all discussions about a refuge harbour at Dover, in order to influence the Committee; but there was no proof whatever that the Duke of Wellington ever did attach importance to the formation of this harbour at Dover. On the contrary, there was the evidence of the Duke himself that he preferred various other places to Dover. He considered Dungeness far more suitable for the purpose of forming a harbour, and also the Downs; and, so far from giving any preference to Dover, the Duke of Wellington always opposed the scheme in connection with the harbour there, believing, from a strategical point of view, Dover was not the most suitable place. He would conclude by moving the Amendment he had placed on the Paper for the reduction of the Vote; and he should certainly take a Division upon it, if it were only for the purpose of showing that a few Members still remained in the House who were determined to oppose the commencement of an expenditure which must ultimately involve the outlay of millions of money.

Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That a sum, not exceeding £244,953, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the Expenses of the Directors of Convict Establishments in England and the Colonies, and of the Convict Establishments under their control."—*(General Sir George Balfour.)*

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, he was not surprised that his hon. and gallant Friend should have called attention to the subject. No doubt it was a very important subject, and one which had constantly engaged the attention of the House. No doubt there had been various opinions adverse to the proposal; but the engineering objections which had been taken some years ago had not been supported. All the eminent engineers who had experience of the harbour works at Dover were of opinion that there was no practical difficulty in making a harbour there; and the evidence given on the other side was compa-

ratively trifling. He wished to point out why it was that the proposal was now before the Committee. The truth was that it was absolutely necessary, from all points of view, that employment should be found for convicts. Everybody knew that discipline depended upon affording occupation. If they locked up the convicts without occupation, or only gave them shot drill, and things of that kind, it would be extremely injurious to prison discipline; while the employment of convicts upon public works would be found highly beneficial; and the effects of recent changes in this particular seemed to be evidenced by the diminution of the number of convicts in proportion to the population, and, notwithstanding the increase of the population, everybody would regard that as a satisfactory result. The works at Portsmouth, Chatham, and elsewhere, on which the convicts had been employed, were now coming to an end; and the Government found themselves in this position—that within three years of the present time they would have 1,000 convicts on their hands, for whom they would have no works in the course of construction upon which to afford occupation for them. It was, therefore, essential to do something; and it was his duty to ask the Committee to consider what the works were upon which they could be most usefully employed. The character of work upon which convict labour could be usefully engaged was very limited. It was impossible to find work of a small character here and there. It was absolutely essential to have a large convict establishment under adequate control and supervision; and to justify the expenditure that would be necessary for making a large establishment, it must be a large work that would take a long time to complete, and it must also be a work calling for skilled labour. That was why the works at Chatham and Portsmouth, and works of that character, had been undertaken. But as those works were approaching completion, the problem was one confined in narrow limits. Hon Members might not be aware of the fact; but he had no hesitation in saying that the attempt to work a model farm at Dartmoor had not been successful. Consequently, harbour works, and harbour works not of a small, but on a large scale, were the only works, in the judg-

General Sir George Balfour

ment of the Government and the judgment of everyone who had any experience in the matter, upon which convict labour could be usefully employed. That being so, Commissioners were now engaged in inquiring where convict labour could be best utilized. The matter must not be argued as a question of the merits of Dover Harbour; but it must be discussed from this point of view—that they must find work for the convicts, and could they find better work for them? The claims of two harbours had been put forward as deserving of first consideration—namely, the one at Dover, and the other at Filey. Filey, however, was considered to be second in importance to Dover, and he might state why it was that the Government had selected Dover first. In regard to Filey, nothing had yet been begun. Filey was upon the Yorkshire Coast, at a place where there were no fortifications; and there were many reasons for the determination to give preference to Dover, where a harbour had long been wanted into which the largest description of ships could find its way. Everything ready for going on with the works was to be found at Dover. The matter had been considered by a Committee of the Cabinet, consisting of the Secretary of State for War, the First Lord of the Admiralty, the President of the Board of Trade, the Secretary of State for the Home Department, and the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; and they had come to the conclusion that the first works that ought to be undertaken were those at Dover. The estimated cost of one plan was £790,000; but that would only be sufficient for the construction of a harbour which would afford comparatively little accommodation for the iron-clads. The recommendation of the Committee of 1875, of which his hon. and gallant Friend was a Member, examined some of the highest authorities who could be found, including the Hydrographer of the Navy, Sir A. Clark, the eminent engineer, and Mr. Druce, the engineer at Dover, who was well acquainted with the whole history of Dover Harbour. All those eminent men were in favour of the present proposal; and therefore they had as high authority in support of it as could be desired. It was estimated, however, that the cost would be, at least, £1,000,000, instead of £790,000, for the larger

harbour it was proposed to construct, in order to satisfy the requirements of the Admiralty. In point of fact, the present plan would double the area of the harbour at an increase of only one-third in the cost. He thought that if they were going to make a harbour at all, it would be much better to make a satisfactory one at a cost of £1,000,000 than to make an inferior one at a cost of £790,000. It would have this additional advantage from his own point of view—that it would take a long time to complete, and would, therefore, be more remunerative to the country for the outlay. This was really the harbour recommended in 1844 and 1846—a harbour quite as extensive as that which had been all along proposed. Therefore, they had not only in support of the present proposal the authority of great engineers who recommended the harbour of 1844, but, what was even more important, it was supported by the most eminent engineers of the present day, who based their estimates upon the experience gained of the cost of making the Admiralty Pier at Dover. Estimates were not generally founded on actual experience of similar work upon the same ground; but the estimate given here was an estimate, founded on practical experience, of the cost of doing similar work on the spot by means of convict labour. It was quite evident that they must find work for the convicts, and this was the kind of work on which they could be most conveniently employed. What they were now asked to pay for was only the first instalment of the expense of building a convict prison. Nothing was asked for the harbour itself. The harbour itself would not be commenced for three years, because it would take three years to build the convict prison. It was estimated that the prison would cost £65,000 or £68,000, and it would be built mainly by the convicts themselves. The foundation would be built by contract, and then the convicts would be left to build the rest of the prison themselves. The convicts would be usefully employed during the next three years in erecting the prison. After that the harbour would be commenced, and the work was expected to occupy about 16 years. His object was not to have the work rapidly done, but rather to have it done slowly; because during the whole of the time the convicts would be usefully em-

ployed, and his hon. and gallant Friend would have ample opportunity for bringing his great knowledge to bear upon the subject. At all events, during the next three years the Government would not be committed to any definite plan. There would be three years for the purpose of considering, reviewing, and examining the best plan. The Government asked now for £16,150 only for commencing the prison; but he must urge upon the Committee the necessity of commencing the work, or otherwise they would be really driven into a corner. His right hon. Friend and Predecessor (Sir R. Assheton Cross) had more than once pressed upon him the question as to what the Government were going to do with the convicts. The matter was becoming a very serious one; and, under these circumstances, he hoped the Committee would feel that the matter was in their own hands—at any rate, so far as the employment for the next three years was concerned. He, therefore, hoped that the Committee would reject the Amendment and pass the Vote.

SIR JOHN HAY said, he thought the hon. and gallant Gentleman the Member for Kincardineshire (Sir George Balfour) had some cause for complaint, considering that the Papers relating to the works at Dover had only been so recently placed in the hands of Members. He (Sir John Hay) confessed that until that afternoon he had had no opportunity whatever of looking at them, or of ascertaining what the proposal of the Government really was; but, having seen the plans, and heard the speech of the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Home Secretary, he should certainly feel inclined to support the proposal of the Government. He had opposed the former proposal when it was intended to apply a smaller area; but the Papers now produced showed a largely-increased area, which would accommodate iron-clads of a much larger draught, and afford a far larger amount of protection for any Fleet which might be stationed there. The importance of the works at Dover was so great that, though he should have been very glad to see the harbour at Filey commenced, he was bound to give the preference to Dover. The works at Dover were of the utmost value for the purpose of communicating with the Continent and for the protection of the Fleet; and that being so, having heard what the

right hon. and learned Gentleman had stated, and believing that in the course of the next three years the area now contemplated, if found to be insufficient, could be increased, he could not support the proposal of the hon. and gallant Gentleman opposite. If it were found necessary hereafter to increase the area, he thought there would be very little difficulty in extending it. He hoped the Commission which had been sent down to the North Coast to investigate Peterhead and other places would very soon present their Report; and when the works at Portsmouth and Chatham were completed, he would suggest that it might be possible to consider whether the works at Filey and at Dover might not be proceeded with simultaneously—for instance, the convicts from Portsmouth might be sent to Filey, and those from Chatham to Dover. He should certainly like to see both works in progress; but he could not support his hon. and gallant Friend in the Motion he had made for the reduction of the Vote.

SIR EARDLEY WILMOT said, he was glad to give a cordial support to the proposal of the Government; and he rejoiced to find that they had now begun to take active steps for carrying out those harbour works which had so long been necessary in this country. He should have desired that the works at Filey should not have been postponed for so long a period as that which would be occupied in the construction of the harbour at Dover, because 16 years was a very long time for the fishermen and Mercantile Marine on the North-East Coast of England to wait for works which were absolutely necessary for the preservation of their lives and the security of their property. At the same time, he fully admitted the necessity of the works at Dover. He could not forget the construction by the French of their magnificent harbour at Boulogne, and that they were also entering upon a large expenditure in harbour works at other parts of the Coast—Calais, Dunkirk, Brest, Dieppe, and other places. It was quite time, therefore, that they on this side of the Channel should have regard to that which was certainly necessary for the security of their Mercantile Marine, especially in these days of torpedoes—namely, the construction of harbours of refuge. With regard to Dover, he thought the Government had selected an admirable

Sir William Harcourt

place for the formation of a convict establishment. He knew the locality well; and he was satisfied that for many reasons it would be extremely advantageous to have the convicts where it was proposed to place them. They would be remote from the town at a point where an ample supply of water could be provided for them from the Castle above them; and they would have easy access from the Castle Hill by means of a small tunnel, which already existed, to the place where the works were to be commenced. He had had an opportunity of examining the Report of the Committee upon these harbour works in 1844; and he was glad the Government did not propose to confine their operations to the plan proposed at a later date, but that they had gone back to the noble scheme which so many eminent engineers and naval men approved of in 1844. Under that plan ample accommodation would be afforded to the Fleet, and there would be 40 feet of water in a considerable portion of the harbour at the lowest tide. Then, again, in regard to the means of construction, there was an ample supply of shingle at Rye, at no great distance from Dover, which could be utilized in forming the concrete for the foundation of the harbour works. With regard to the convict question, he should have been much more satisfied if he could have received a more assuring answer to the Question he had put to the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant some time ago. He was then informed that the employment of the Irish convicts had been thought of, but that no practical scheme for their employment had yet been adopted. If there was such great advantage to be derived from the employment of convicts as the Home Secretary had set forth, he did not see why they should not utilize convict labour in Ireland at the earliest possible moment. He hoped that this was only the beginning of the extension of convict employment; and he trusted that it would be carried further than it now was, not only in England, but in Ireland and also in Scotland, where a Commission had lately been sitting to inquire into the best site for a harbour of refuge so much wanted on the North-East Coast of Scotland. In that case, when the site

was selected, convict labour might also be usefully employed. In conclusion, he could only express his extreme gratification that the Government had determined at once to commence these works.

SIR EDWARD J. REED said, that, having sat on the Committee of 1875 which inquired into this subject, he felt bound to trouble the Committee with a few words. He was sorry that he had been obliged to separate himself from his hon. and gallant Friend (Sir George Balfour) on the present occasion; but he rejoiced that they had been successful in defeating the scheme then set before the Committee. The ground on which he had endeavoured to defeat that scheme was that he found the Government of that day had proposed to expend nearly £1,000,000 upon a too-contracted and a too-limited harbour. His objection had been not to the construction of a harbour, but to the expenditure of so large a sum of money upon a shallow harbour, instead of expending the money upon a larger and better scheme. The plan of 1875 had the extraordinary characteristic of including a great deal of shallow water, and very little deep water; and he had concluded that the reason for that was a desire to keep the Estimate within the nominal sum of £1,000,000. They were placed in this position—that all the evidence of the military authorities, from the Commander-in-Chief downwards, and the naval authorities, from the First Lord of the Admiralty downwards, went to show that a deep water harbour was necessary; and yet they were called on to approve of a scheme of which nearly four-fifths, if he remembered rightly, consisted of shallow water. The present scheme of the Government included all that he and his friends desired to get in 1875, and even a great deal more; and, therefore, he was at a loss to understand how it happened that his hon. and gallant Friend completely separated himself from anything like an approval of the present proposal. Although he was bound to say that there was some difficulty in considering a scheme in the absence of estimates, and in the present state of the Business of the House, he was not disposed to cavil at it. The right hon. and learned Gentleman the Home Secretary said that the present Estimate did not commit the House

to any particular plan for the harbour itself; and, that being so, he was at a loss to understand why they should withhold their support to the Vote. He asked his hon. and gallant Friend (Sir George Balfour) to remember that in giving approval to this Vote he (Sir Edward J. Reed), at any rate, was not departing from any part of the promises he had considered it his duty to hold out; and he must say that if the scheme submitted in 1875 had, like the present one, comprised more deep water and less shallow water, he should not have opposed it as he did at the time. But, even with regard to shallow water now, he did not forget the fact that dredging in chalk could be more economically conducted now than formerly. He should, therefore, support the Vote.

SIR WALTER B. BARTELOT said, he had always taken great interest in Dover Harbour; and he had always thought that if the harbour was to be made, it ought not to be made by a Company, but, as far as possible, by the Government, who ought to make a harbour worthy of the nation. Looking at the present scheme in all the circumstances under which it was proposed, he thought it was the best way in which the matter could be dealt with. Nobody would deny that a harbour for the protection of their ships was absolutely necessary; and this consideration would have great weight, not only for ships of war, but also for ships of all kinds, for the trade and commerce of the country. Believing that the scheme the Government had now put forward was one that, if properly and promptly carried out, was calculated to be of great benefit to the country, he should, therefore, cordially support the Vote.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR said, he was strongly in favour of such works as the present for the employment of convict labour; and he thought the observations of the Home Secretary were very just and well-considered in regard to the great question of the employment of convicts. It was a matter of great importance to employ convicts on works that were not of a brutalizing and degrading character, such as much of the work on which convicts had been employed in past years within the walls of the prisons. It was unquestionably the case, where they had men to deal with of the character of these convicts, that

they should, as far as possible, provide outdoor employment for them, and nothing could be better suited for their employment than public works in the nature of harbours. He, therefore, trusted that convicts would not only now, but for many years to come, be employed all around the Coast on works of this description. But when he came to the question of expense, he was inclined to think that the reason assigned for dissenting from the proposed reduction was one which told rather in the opposite direction. The hon. Member for Cardiff (Sir Edward J. Reed) said that this item in the present Vote really did not bind the Committee, or the House, to any definite scheme. That was quite true; but, at the same time, it did not bind the Committee to any definite maximum, and past experience convinced persons who had watched these matters that revised Estimates generally meant enlarged Estimates, and they had no assurance at all what would be the amount of money expended before the works were finished. The expenditure upon the works at Holyhead, Plymouth, and other places had all been largely in excess of the Estimate, and so they unquestionably would in the case of Dover. He, therefore, thought it would be well to ascertain from the Government what the outside expenditure was likely to be in connection with this Vote, because there were other places besides Dover which had a claim upon the Treasury for harbour works—not only Filey and Peterhead, but places elsewhere. The aspect in which the question presented itself to him was that of the unfortunate taxpayer—he did not mean the British taxpayer, but the Irish taxpayer, who was asked to assent to Votes like this year after year, and who saw millions spent on public works in Great Britain, but found the greatest difficulty not only in getting money from the Exchequer for expenditure in Ireland, but even in getting the assent of the Government to the expenditure of its own money. He wished to obtain an assurance from the Government that the same considerations which the Home Secretary said had actuated the Government in respect to Dover Harbour would be allowed to have equal weight on the other side of the Channel. The convict establishment at Spike Island

Sir Edward J. Reed

was to be done away with, or had practically been done away with, and convicts were no longer to be employed in that neighbourhood. He, therefore, hoped that similar works would be undertaken in Ireland to those which had been started, or were proposed, for Dover. He would not go into any details upon the question; but, of course, Galway Bay would at once suggest itself to every mind. He hoped that before the Irish Members were asked to vote away the public money they would have some assurance that what was sauce for the English "goose" should be sauce for the Irish "gander." Before he sat down he was anxious to submit one or two financial points for the consideration of the Secretary to the Treasury. In the first place, he noticed a departure from the recognized financial rule in regard to money raised for the service of the Vote. There was an item under the head of repayment of Western Australia for Colonial convicts which amounted to £3,360. That sum was taken in aid of the Vote, and was a complete departure from the system adopted in regard to the Civil Service Estimates ordinarily. No doubt, it was adopted in regard to the Army and Navy Estimates; but it had been adopted only tentatively, and it had been decided not to extend the practice to the Civil Service Estimates. Then, the produce of prison labour was set down at £15,000; but the Financial Secretary knew as well as he did that they would never get £15,000 out of that service, or anything like £10,000. He believed that £10,500 was the highest figure it had ever reached. With regard to this question of prison labour, it would be in the recollection of the Financial Secretary that the Committee of Public Accounts recommended that there should be some consultation between the different Departments as to the mode in which the figures given in connection with this matter should be checked; because the Comptroller and Auditor General expressed great dissatisfaction at the materials furnished to him in support of the credits given to different prisons under this head. There were two or three things which called for criticism and remark; but he would simply ask the Financial Secretary how it was, if the Surveyor General of Prisons was to have a maximum of

£1,400 a-year, that there was charged for him only £1,000 last year, and only £1,000 this? Perhaps the hon. Gentleman would be able to explain the matter.

SIR EDWARD WATKIN said, he was one of those who thought that more harbours were required, especially in the Channel, and who were in favour of the construction of harbours whenever they were really necessary. But the attention of Her Majesty's Government seemed to be concentrated upon the improvement of the harbour at Dover, to the exclusion of harbours needed elsewhere. He admitted the great necessity which existed for a harbour of sufficient capacity at Dover, for the reason, amongst others, mentioned by the right hon. and gallant Gentleman opposite (Sir John Hay)—namely, the creation of large harbours on the other side of the Channel; but the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Secretary of State for the Home Department had told them they might console themselves for voting this portion—£16,150—of the total Estimate of £68,650, because it would be 16 years before the whole sum would be expended. He ventured to think that the hon. Baronet opposite (Sir Eardley Wilmot) had given reasons for a very considerable re-casting of the policy of the Government. Holyhead Harbour took 19 years to construct, when it might have been made useful for shipping in a much shorter period. Why did the Government come down and say it was most essential to give a harbour at Dover, and that, practically, it was the only place they could take in hand, and then say they must take 16 years to complete the work of works, when every practical man knew that it could be done in four? He was not sure that it was desirable to employ convict labour on works at places where there was a large population. The establishment of a convict prison at Dover would probably have the effect of damaging its position as a watering place. However, the Government seemed to think otherwise; but if convicts were to be employed there at all, surely the work should be brought to an end in the shortest possible time, and not be dawdled over for a great number of years. He hoped they would be assured that it was the policy of the Government, whenever they entered upon works of

great public utility, to have them finished at the earliest possible time.

MR. FRESHFIELD said, he did not rise for the purpose of discussing the question whether a harbour should be constructed at Dover, because that had long ago been settled. The Admiralty Pier at Dover had been, and was still, a most effective portion of the works there; it had enabled them to conduct communications with foreign countries, on the whole, very fairly; but there were no means of using one side of that Pier when the wind blew from the East, nor the other side when it blew from the West; consequently, the embarkation of troops could never take place there, and the men had to be sent on board at Sheerness and other places. Vessels had been driven on shore there in an East wind and broken up; and it was, therefore, plain that there was a necessity for the work being taken in hand, and at once. He was sorry his hon. and gallant Friend (Sir George Balfour) was still opposed to these works, and he believed he was the sole objector to the scheme. He was obliged to correct his hon. and gallant Friend with regard to one statement he had made—namely, that the Duke of Wellington never gave an opinion in favour of a harbour at Dover. In reply to Questions put to him before the Royal Commission of 1843, the Duke said, with reference to the construction of a harbour between Portsmouth and the Downs—

“A harbour between Portsmouth and the Downs is absolutely necessary.”

In answer to the Question whether the Downs would not do, he said—

“Dover Roads are a secure place in northerly and easterly winds, but a dangerous place when the wind is from the South-West;”

and he went on to say that he thought a harbour at Dover not only desirable, but absolutely necessary. Since the time when the Duke of Wellington expressed that opinion, vessels of almost all classes had enormously increased in size, and steamships had correspondingly increased in number. The reasons which formerly existed had now much greater weight, because a harbour was required which would accommodate vessels of great draught of water, and which would serve also as a coaling station, for, as hon. Members would be aware, it was impossible for ships to coal in

the Downs. He thought it right to put the hon. and gallant Gentleman right in another respect. He said that the Committee which reported in favour of the scheme were not unanimous. That was quite true; but who was it that opposed it? It was the hon. and gallant Member for Kincardineshire (Sir George Balfour) himself. It was true that his hon. and gallant Friend had submitted that a greater depth of water should be given than that proposed; but that was now part of the Government plan. In 1875, owing to the financial considerations which always controlled the Treasury Bench, a smaller harbour was proposed, and the result was a harbour inadequate for the purpose for which it was intended. Since that time the matter had been under consideration again, and it had been resolved to increase the size of the harbour. The present Government, in his opinion, were very much to be congratulated upon having brought this question to a practical point, although he was bound to say that he wished the work could be completed in a shorter period than that mentioned by the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Secretary of State for the Home Department. He did not think the question was entirely one of the employment of convicts; but their employment might be a good thing so far as the reduction of cost was concerned. The original Estimate had been largely reduced by this plan, as also by the employment of concrete instead of stone. He believed that if the late Government had not been so tied down by financial considerations, the work of 1875 might have been nearly completed by this time. He trusted that the 16 years assumed now would prove to be a large over-estimate of the time required to finish the work; because it could not be denied that, with the harbours opposite on the coast of France, it was indispensable that, without unnecessary delay, there should be some place of ambush and refuge for our iron-clads, as well as shelter for the ships of commerce that were always passing through the Downs.

MR. LABOUCHERE said, if the hon. and gallant Member for Kincardineshire (Sir George Balfour) went to a Division he should certainly vote with him, notwithstanding the speech of the Secretary of State for the Home Department.

Sir Edward Watkin

The right hon. and learned Gentleman, in advocating this Vote, did so on the ground that there were a certain number of convicts for whom it was necessary that some outdoor occupation should be found. That was one of the most formidable declarations he had ever heard, because it was probable that they could have convicts for a considerable time for whom, upon the principle laid down by the right hon. and learned Gentleman, it would always be necessary to find employment—that was to say, whether the construction of harbours was desirable and useful or not, work would have to be found, and money would have to be spent in order to employ them. It was a most preposterous declaration for the right hon. and learned Gentleman to make. With regard to this particular work, he was surprised to hear the hon. Member for Dover (Mr. Freshfield) congratulating the right hon. and learned Gentleman on the scheme of the Government. He should have thought that the presence of a large number of convicts would have been regarded by the inhabitants of Dover with feelings of anything but satisfaction; however, they were the best judges of their own affairs. He thought they were bound to vote for the Motion of the hon. and gallant Gentleman, because either the harbour at Dover was desirable or it was not; if it was not, it was of no use to waste the public money upon it; and if it was desirable, then the harbour ought to be made at once, and the work not extended over this long period of 16 years. There was no doubt that the work could be done in two or three years; but the Home Secretary said—"No. We must go on slowly, because these convicts have to be employed." For these reasons, he said the Motion of the hon. and gallant Gentleman should receive the support of the Committee.

MR. MACFARLANE asked if the Government had really estimated the cost of convict labour as compared with that of free labour? His own impression was that some of the prisons built by convicts had cost much more than they would have done had they been built by free labour. He hoped that point had been taken into consideration; because, however desirable it might be to find employment for convicts, he was quite sure that the tax-

payers were not anxious to build at a higher cost than was necessary. He saw nothing to congratulate the right hon. and learned Gentleman upon in the fact that three years would be required to build barracks, and 16 in which to construct the harbour. It had been admitted ever since 1844 that a harbour was necessary at Dover; and yet the right hon. and learned Gentleman, upwards of 30 years afterwards, said it would not be finished for 19 years.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, the Government had been guided in this case by the opinion of men most experienced in such matters; and he begged to assure the hon. Gentleman that the Estimate which had been made showed that the work done by convicts would be much cheaper than by free labour. He did not like to pledge himself to a particular amount; but he had no doubt whatever that a considerable saving would be effected by the employment of convict labour. He pointed out that this proposal would never have been made unless the Government were able, first, to make use of convicts; and, secondly, to do so at a cheap rate, so that the question lay between doing the work in that way, and not doing it at all. He believed hon. Members would perceive a very considerable advantage in spreading the cost of the work over a number of years. There was one point of a financial character which was important in considering this matter. There was already a certain amount of revenue from Dover Harbour; and in the course of the time mentioned, he believed, without pledging himself, because Estimates were sometimes deceptive, that an amount would be received from the harbour not far short of the interest on one-half the cost of the work.

CAPTAIN AYLMER said, he was surprised that a work of such great importance as the construction of a harbour at Dover should be extended over a period of 19 years; and he believed, if the question were put to the House, that it would not consent to the work occupying any longer time than was absolutely necessary for finishing it. It was well known that, at the present moment, the ships of their Navy could not find a place where they could lie that was protected from torpedoes—that was

to say, a land-locked harbour. There was one point which he desired to raise, and which he trusted would be taken into account before the Estimates of next year were made. The general plan of the works had, he believed, been approved, and it was settled that convicts would be employed. He asked whether the Government would not put the convicts to work first at the east end of the harbour, so that they might not get mixed up with the free labourers on the other side? He believed that plan would be very convenient, inasmuch as the convicts would then be at work close to the barracks. With regard to the time occupied in completing the work, he felt satisfied that when once it had been begun, the country would not be contented to wait for 19 years to see it finished.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE BALFOUR pointed out to the hon. Member for Dover (Mr. Freshfield) that the Duke of Wellington had not expressed himself in favour of a harbour at Dover; his evidence was more in favour of a harbour near Dungeness. He contended that the works at Dover would cost nearer £5,000,000 than £1,000,000; and he would remind the Committee that Dover Pier cost £1,000,000, although the original Estimate was £276,000. The Home Secretary had brought forward a number of plans in support of his view; but he (Sir George Balfour) placed little reliance upon them, because it was well known that they could get plans in any number from engineers, so long as there was money to be spent. His view was, that it would be better to spend a large sum of money on the construction of several harbours, so as to provide many refuges along our Coasts, than to spend it all upon one harbour in a corner of the Kingdom. He repeated his opinion with regard to Dover, that it was by no means the most suitable place for the object they had in view; and he would oppose this project at present and in future, although he knew that, when once the Government took up a question and began to work it, it was useless to expect any alteration of the scheme they had set their minds upon. At that late period of the Session, and in that thin House, and as those to whom he had looked for support were not present, he would ask leave to withdraw his Amendment, although he should have felt it

his duty, under other circumstances, to divide the Committee as a protest against the Government involving the country in an expenditure of at least £5,000,000.

Motion, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Original Question put, and *agreed to*.

(2.) £89,381, to complete the sum for the Irish Land Commission.

MR. JOSEPH COWEN said, he had given Notice that he would move to reduce this Vote by £1,000. He did not mean, however, to go to a Division; but he wished to avail himself of the opportunity of making a few observations on the Land Question itself. There were some Gentlemen, altogether apart from the Irish Members, who were interested in the subject, and they had been in hopes a proper opportunity would have been given for discussion. It would be most inconvenient, at that time of the Session, to enter upon a protracted discussion; indeed, it would be almost cruel to attempt to keep the Committee long upon this subject. Hon. Members were aware that the House of Lords last Session appointed a Committee to inquire into the working of the Land Act. The House of Commons became quite hysterical, and passed a Resolution expressing disapproval of the appointment of the Committee. That Committee produced a Report, a most valuable, and interesting, and highly instructive Report to those interested in the question. There were three charges against the Land Commission which could be deduced from the Report of the Lord's Committee. The Committee charged the Irish Land Commission with, in the first place, a certain measure of corruption; in the second place, with incompetency; and, in the third place, with acting capriciously. He thought the first charge—namely, that of corruption, was not borne out by the evidence they had gathered; and he maintained that a Committee, such as that he was referring to, ought not to make wholesale charges against a body of public servants unless they were prepared to substantiate them. It was the easiest thing in the world to make a general denunciation; but it was a very difficult thing to prove it. If the critics of the Irish Land Commission had any distinct charges to make they should give the date, the time, and the circumstance; because if the accusations

were to be substantiated, it would be the duty of the Government to censure the Commissioners, and it might be to dismiss them. In the absence of any distinct charge of corruption, it was unfair to a body of public men, who had very onerous duties to discharge, that they should have these reckless accusations made against them. The next accusation against the Land Commissioners was that they were incompetent; and he thought there was better ground for that charge than there was for the first. Although they might not be incompetent men, he believed the Sub-Commissioners had scarcely been competent for the work entrusted to them. There had been too great a preponderance of the legal element; and he was not altogether sure that political considerations had not influenced some of the appointments. Still, they must remember that the Irish Executive were pressed to make the appointments with the greatest possible speed. Both in the interest of the landlord, of the tenant, and of the country generally, it was necessary the work should be done; and, he believed, in their desire to secure expedition, the Executive had, in some instances, failed to get the best men. He could find every reasonable excuse and explanation for some of the appointments not being altogether of a kind they could have wished. The third accusation was the most important, for it was that the Land Commissioners had been capricious in their decisions. He thought that charge was completely made out. Unquestionably, the decisions of the Commissioners had not been uniform. The Commissioners had not been guided by any principle. The want of uniformity was not visible only here and there, but cases could be cited from all parts of the country. He had had numerous letters, both from landlords and tenants, giving information of most contradictory cases. A piece of land of a certain value, and with certain facilities of situation, was valued by one set of Commissioners at a given price; while another piece of land of the same quality, and held under identically the same conditions, was valued at a very different price. In one instance, the reductions made in the rents were from 6 to 10 per cent, and in other instances 20, or above 20 per cent. It was impossible for such a want of uniformity to exist

and not create discontent. The landlord whose rents had been largely reduced felt aggrieved, and the tenant whose rent had been least reduced felt equally aggrieved. This dissatisfaction was widespread and deep, and would in time drive Parliament to fresh legislation. This capriciousness arose because the Commissioners had no definite principle on which to go in valuing land. The Government refused to define a fair rent when the Land Act was being passed. They said it could not be done. There was as much difficulty in settling what a fair rent was as in settling what was agency under the Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) Bill. Parliament relegated the work to the Chief Commissioners. The Chief Commissioners could not possibly do the work themselves, and they had been obliged to relegate it to Sub-Commissioners. The consequence was—to use the expressive language of Professor Baldwin—that some 90 men had been let loose on the property of the tenantry of Ireland without anything to guide them. He (Mr. Cowen) had no hesitation in saying that anyone who had studied the subject would admit that serious injustice had been done to both sides. He did not say that rents had been reduced too much or too little; but that on account of the want of a principle to guide the Commissioners great inequality existed, and, consequently, dissatisfaction. When Parliament refused to fix a fair rent, but relegated the task to a Commission, that desperate body—the Land League—hit upon a plan by which the omission might be supplied. When the Land Bill became law, his hon. Friend the Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) wrote a textbook for the Irish tenants, showing them the way in which they could best avail themselves of its privileges. Recognizing the difficulty of the situation, the promoters of the League called a Convention, and resolved to get up a series of test cases. They authorized their agents throughout the country to collect information. This information was sifted and arranged by land valuers and by lawyers, and cases illustrative of the varied condition of the country were to be submitted to the Chief Commissioners for their decision. The decision of the Commissioners was to be accepted as a guide, and the other tenants were to

make bargains with their landlords in accordance with these leading cases. That was a fair, wise, and reasonable proposal. The Government refused to allow it to be put in force. They discredited the motives of the members of the Land League, and overturned their organization in the effort they were making to apply the Act. In consequence, the Commissioners never had these chief cases submitted to them, and the recent confusion and discontent were the result. That was not his opinion; but it was the opinion of the Land Commissioners themselves. Let the Committee listen to and consider the remarkable extract he was now going to read. The Lords' Report was felt to be so damaging to the Commissioners that Mr. Justice O'Hagan and his Colleagues had gone out of their way to answer the Report of the Peers. This was a most unusual circumstance. He did not suppose that a case of the kind had ever occurred in the country before of a Judicial Body answering a Committee of Parliament. But it had been done. The Report of the Lords' Committee contained the following clause—which was only a condensed expression of what he (Mr. Cowen) had just been saying—

“The Committee cannot but look with great regret upon the course adopted in settling judicial rents under the Act. This duty, the most important, and at the same time the most difficult to be discharged under the Act, was, in the first instance, assigned by Parliament to the three Commissioners named in the Act, whose names and standing were stated to be a sufficient guarantee that the duty would be effectively and impartially discharged. The Commissioners, however, proceeded to delegate the whole of this duty to the Sub-Commissioners appointed under the Act, who now number 85. And they made this delegation without having themselves heard any of the cases in the first instance, in the course of which hearing they might have enunciated some general principles to be followed, or established some precedents to serve as examples.”

The Commissioners made the following answer to this clause:—

“If they had been so asked, they would have stated as follows:—When the Land Commissioners, after having, in a space of less than two months, completed the task of framing Rules and forming and organizing their staff, were approaching their practical work in the month of October, 1831, it was announced publicly by the leading members of the Land League that they would select certain cases, which they termed test cases, and bring them into Court, in order to ascertain practically in what manner

the Statute would be carried into effect. Being selected as test cases, it was to be presumed that they would present some features the decisions upon which might govern many others. The Commissioners, therefore, resolved to sit and hear them in person. But before the opportunity arose, the Land League was declared illegal; and the intention of bringing forward the test cases in question was abandoned. The cases first coming into Court had no special character. They were ordinary cases, small in area and value.”

There never probably was a more complete vindication of a body of politicians by a Judicial Court than the vindication of the Land League by the Land Commissioners. The English people did not follow public matters consecutively. They forgot one week what took place the week before. The mass of Englishmen had a dim idea that the Land League was a most reprehensible organization, and nothing that even the Irish Land Commissioners could say would alter that opinion. When the League announced its determination to select these test cases, the Prime Minister went down to Leeds and made a most mischievous speech to an applauding audience—denouncing the conduct of the Irish Members, and intimating in a significant manner that the resources of civilization were not yet exhausted. Immediately following this speech the Chief Secretary for Ireland hurried over from Dublin. A Cabinet Council was suddenly summoned, and he returned with authority to issue warrants wholesale. His hon. Friends the Members for Cork and Roscommon, Mr. Dillon, and several hundred other Irishmen were sent to gaol. In the course of a short time 1,000 men were imprisoned in this way without trial; and all the machinery that the League had organized for getting up the test cases—which the Commissioners now say would have been of such service to them—was rudely broken up. And what had followed? As soon as the leading members of the League were incarcerated, popular indignation arose, and there was no one to guide it. From agitation the people drifted into conspiracy, and from conspiracy to crime. They had the terrible and melancholy records of the last two years to look back upon as the consequence of the hasty and unjustifiable exercise of authority on the part of the Government which had led to the breaking up of the League and the wholesale arrest of its members. If the project of

Mr. Joseph Cowen

the League had gone forward, if the test cases had been submitted to the Commissioners, the course of the Land Act would have been much smoother, its cost much less, and its results vastly superior to what they had been. He did not know how far it was possible for any action that the Government could take, or that the Land Commissioners could take, to remedy the inequality and uncertainty; but of this he was quite sure—that the fact of that want of uniformity existing was the strongest possible reason for an alteration of the Land Act. He did not propose to enter into that discussion now; but, so far as the Land Commissioners were concerned, there was one point in regard to which he thought they were open to strong censure—they had not in any way encouraged the carrying out of the Purchase Clauses; they had given no stimulus to those clauses; and he thought the Committee could find a reason for that in the words of Mr. Litton, who might be taken to fairly represent the feelings of the Government on this subject, and who was a typical Representative of the Irish Liberals. Mr. Litton had declared that to encourage the establishment of a peasant proprietary would be largely to promote the movement for the Repeal of the Union. Mr. Litton thought that if they established an independent peasantry in Ireland they would get political power that would be used in the direction of separation. He (Mr. Cowen) thought it would have a very opposite tendency; but, still, Mr. Litton had given expression to the opinion quoted, and the consequence was that this section of the Land Act, to which all parties looked forward most hopefully, had least opportunity of being carried into operation. He did not know how far the Government could use their influence with the Land Commissioners to stimulate the operation of the Purchase Clauses; but he maintained that they ought to do something to effect that which the Irish people had very greatly at heart. The Land Act itself was a new departure in the social legislation of this country, and its justification was only to be tested by its success. Now, had it been successful? Probably, it was too soon to pronounce a decided opinion; but certainly it had not come up to the anticipations of its promoters. It had dis-

appointed all parties, opponents as well as supporters. The Government said it would lead to a better payment of rent. He believed rent was being paid better; but whether that was a consequence of the Land Act or of better times he could not say. The Government said they believed the Land Act would increase the price of land; but that, certainly, had not been the case, because land was now practically unsaleable, and its value was very seriously depreciated. The Land League proposed to buy the land at 21 or 22 years' purchase; but now an owner could not get more than 13 or 14 years' purchase. A few years ago the sale of land in the Landed Estates Court amounted to about £1,000,000 a-year; but he did not suppose it now amounted to more than £100,000. In respect, therefore, to the sale of land the Act had not been successful. It had led to better payment of rent; but it had not led to an increased value of land in Ireland. Another defect of the Act he would name. It had not reached the very class it was most desirable to help. It had benefited the comparatively well-to-do peasantry; but it had in no way served the starving cottiers of the West and South. If legislation had to reach them, it would have to be of another kind. The Land Act was said to be a new departure in legislation. The Prime Minister asserted that its justification would be its success, and that success would lead to the establishment of social contentment and political repose. Would anybody undertake to say that there was social contentment in Ireland at the present time, or that there was political repose? The Irish people were living under the very hardest Coercion Laws that were known in Europe. They were kept down on all sides by a ruthless and unbending military and police administration. If the Land Act had produced the contentment that was expected from it, the Government ought to be able to abandon these repressive laws. If they could do that and place the Irish people in the same position as the English, giving them equal liberty, then they might say the Act had been successful. But as they could not, or would not, or dare not do this, they certainly had no grounds for any such contention. Having said that, however, he had no wish to join in that general con-

demnation that had been indulged in by the Lords' Committee in the Report to which he referred. He believed that in the very urgent and very pressing circumstances the Land Commissioners had striven honestly and fairly to do their duty; and, although they had not realized all that was expected of them, yet they had accomplished certain good, and he hoped that in a comparatively short time they would be able to see good rents fixed.

MR. TOTTENHAM said, he did not propose to follow the hon. Member for Newcastle (Mr. Cowen) into details; but having regard to the general tenour of his speech he could not imagine stronger condemnation of the Land Act being uttered. It was not his intention to go into the merits of the Vote, or of the remarkable document which was issued by the Land Commissioners in defence of their conduct in answer to the charges brought against them by the Lords' Committee. He considered that the action of Her Majesty's Government in proposing at that period of the Session Votes to which they knew there was not only very serious objection, but to which Notice of opposition on various points had been given, was not only reprehensible in the extreme, but an endeavour to evade that discussion which it was right and proper ought to take place upon such matters in the House of Commons. He was not now going to discuss the details of the failure of the Act, or the salaries of the officers which they were now asked to vote; but he protested against the attempt on the part of the Government to burke all inquiry into this matter. The Government had tried to throw discredit upon all statements made as to the conduct and action of the administrators of the Act, showing, apparently, that they were determined to see nothing but good in what he could only call their mis-shapen offspring. The 16th of August could not be considered a proper time for taking a Vote of this description; but, aided by their alliance with those to whom they had been lately throwing fresh sops in return for vituperation and insult, the Government hoped in the last few days of the Session to hurry this Vote through Parliament without any serious opposition. That was not the time for entering into a full discussion of a question of such magnitude; and he should

content himself by simply entering his protest against the action of the Government on this occasion. He thought those who were of the same opinion would best consult their own dignity if they raised no further discussion upon these Votes.

MR. LEA regretted that this question had been raised by the hon. Member for Newcastle (Mr. Cowen). It would have been better, in his opinion, if the subject had been left over until next Session, when it was to be brought before the House by the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Westminster (Mr. W. H. Smith). He (Mr. Lea), however, did not like to hear the Land Commissioners abused without saying a word in their defence. The hon. Member for Newcastle had said there was great inequality in the decisions arrived at by the Sub-Commissioners. No doubt there was a certain amount of inequality; but it was impossible that the decisions of the Commissioners should agree in every respect. There was considerable difficulty with regard to giving effect to the Act as to the Purchase Clauses. In the first place, he did not know how they were to arrive at the basis for purchase unless they had the fair rent paid. As far as his experience of Irish tenants went, what they desired most was that they should have some reduction of the rent. Many of them had submitted to high rents; but they now wanted the benefit which was to be derived from the decrease of the rent. The hon. Member for Newcastle had said that the Land Act had not been so successful. Well, it had not been as successful as was hoped; but it was an early day to condemn an Act which had only recently been set to work. It certainly had not increased the value of land; but to bring about that result would, of course, be a matter of time. The hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell), in referring to the state of Ireland, undoubtedly admitted that the Land Act had been a considerable benefit to the country in producing the present state of tranquillity. He thought, therefore, that the hon. Member for Newcastle should have admitted that the Act had been of considerable benefit in that respect. In regard to this Vote, there was a question which the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant might well be expected to answer—namely, whether or not he

intended to reduce the number of Sub-Commissioners? Did the right hon. Gentleman think that the state of business required that they should be continued for another year or two? There were a certain number of Sub-Commissioners whose time expired this year. They were appointed annually, he believed; and he would ask the right hon. Gentleman whether he thought the state of business would allow the number to be reduced this year, or whether it would be necessary to continue the present number? Perhaps by-and-bye the right hon. Gentleman would be able to answer that question.

Mr. BULWER said, he did not wish to prolong the discussion. He only regretted that the hon. Member for Newcastle (Mr. Cowen) was not present, as, knowing the hon. Member's impartiality, he (Mr. Bulwer) would have preferred to make the few observations he was about to make in his presence. He did not concur in what had fallen from the hon. Member as to the charge of corruption against the Sub-Commissioners. The Committee of the House of Lords had attached no such charge to those officials; but that they had charged them with not having properly performed their duties was perfectly true. He (Mr. Bulwer) would hardly call their action "corruption," though he did not feel satisfied with it; and what he wished to point out to the hon. Member for Newcastle was this. The hon. Member had told them, rightly enough, that they could get a great deal by violent conduct from this country, and he referred to the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) having "taken off his coat" in this matter; but the hon. Member had forgotten one fact. He (Mr. Bulwer) was not there to defend the Government; but when the hon. Member for Newcastle was abusing the Government for their shortcomings, he had forgotten the motive which induced the hon. Member for the City of Cork to take off his coat. That motive was not to have fair rents fixed. He had an ulterior object, which the hon. Member for Newcastle, even if he had not forgotten it, at any rate had not mentioned, and which most people recognized as a justification for the Government for disturbing the action of the Land League. The hon. Member had said that the Commissioners did not set to work to

reduce rents, and that they, possibly, were actuated by a spirit of fairness. Well, he did not wish to bring any accusations against them at all; but if they thought their mission was to reduce rents, if his memory served him aright, they had some justification for that opinion. No one could have forgotten the celebrated occasion upon which a Government candidate claimed the support of a constituency in the North of Ireland mainly on the ground that, if he was returned to Parliament, rents would be lowered. The Sub-Commissioners, if they had reduced rents more than they ought to have done, had, therefore, some sort of warrant for their action. He should have expected from a man of the fairness of the hon. Member for Newcastle a speech such as he had delivered. They all knew that the hon. Member had great sympathy with people who took extreme views, so long as they did not violate the law. He (Mr. Bulwer) could not say he had the same sympathy with those people; but the hon. Member had forgotten that those who advocated these extreme views had violated the law. As regarded the Commissioners, he would only add that if they required a defence they would hardly be satisfied with that offered by the hon. Member for Newcastle. The hon. Member had damned everybody all round with faint praise, except the Government, to whom he had given no praise at all.

COLONEL COLTHURST wished to say a word as to one point raised by the hon. Member for Newcastle (Mr. Cowen). The hon. Member had attributed the failure of the Purchase Clauses to the action or the non-action of the Chief Commissioners, and also to an opinion which had been expressed by Mr. Litton, and this was a most unfortunate impression to allow to go abroad. Well, to his (Colonel Colthurst's) mind the failure of the Land Commissioners to do their duty had not at all affected the Purchase Clauses. The reason of the failure was this—and although the hon. Member had referred to it at the end of his speech he had not given it as the reason—that land was at present practically unsaleable in Ireland. It was not to be expected that people would put land in the market at the present moment unless under pressure of the most dire necessity. Another point was the necessity of quickening

the appeals. Until some means were devised for enabling appeals to be decided more rapidly by the Chief Commissioners, it was hopeless to expect any action from the Purchase Clauses, for the quicker the work of the Sub-Commissioners—and he was happy to say it was being done quicker and quicker every day—the greater was the block in the Appeal Court; and until they got a judicial rent fixed over the greater part of Ireland, they would not have the Purchase Clauses working. He hoped the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary would bear that in mind. It was not the first time he (Colonel Colthurst) had brought it under his notice. He trusted the right hon. Gentleman would be able to say, on the part of the Government, that they had taken some steps to enable the Chief Commissioners to dispose more rapidly of the appeals.

MR. HEALY said, he hoped that some statement would be given as to the progress made in fixing fair rents. The last Return which had been presented to the House only went down to May; and it was not a fair thing that they should discuss the Vote without showing how far rents had been fixed up to the present time. Furthermore, he should like to ask the right hon. Gentleman if he could give them some statement as to the total amount of reduction which had been effected? He found, on looking at this Vote as compared with the Vote of last year, that there was a considerable inflation. The Vote was £157,581, which was an enormous sum, and an increase of £70,000 over the Estimate of last year. It was a most extraordinary increase in the expenses of the working of the Land Commission, and one which could not be looked upon save with horror. The total amount of reduction in rent made annually did not amount to the working expenses of the Commission. Of course, the answer was that the total working expenses would come to an end some time or another, and that the reduction made in the rents would last for 15 years; but his contention was that, as long as the Act was worked in the way in which it was worked year after year, they would have to meet the present amount of expenditure, and that, therefore, the expenditure would be greatly disproportionate to the amount of the

Colonel Colthurst

reduction awarded to the unfortunate tenantry. To his mind, it would be far better for the Government to make to the landlords a present of the capitalized expenses of the Commission—capitalized value of this £150,000 a-year—and to devote it to the reduction of the existing rentals, than to put the unfortunate tenants to the necessity and trouble of law suits, with the accompanying bickerings, and heart-burning, and expenses of surveys, plans, and witnesses, which would swallow up the reduction of rents for some years. Ingenuity could not have devised a more unhappy expedient than the fair rent scheme of the Land Act as a panacea for the misfortunes of the tenants. The more he contemplated the Fair Rent Clauses of the Land Act, the more he was amazed that anybody could have proposed them as a panacea for the evils the country was suffering under. What happened under them? Take the case of a man whose valuation was £20, and who had to pay £30 a-year rent. That man wanted to get a fair rent fixed. He had, in the first place, to get an engineer, surveyor, or valuer, or whatever they might call him, to prepare plans, and specifications, and maps, and so on, at a cost, perhaps, at the least, of £4. Then he went to an attorney, and perhaps had to travel a long way before he could obtain the services of one, losing both time and money. He would have to pay the attorney a few sovereigns more. Then, perhaps, some point of law arose. The attorney refused to be responsible, and the man had to employ a barrister, so that frequently the cost of getting a fair rent fixed would amount to from £8 to £10. How much would his reduction amount to? If his rent was £30, probably he would get it reduced to £28, so that for several years the total amount of his reduction would be swallowed up in his expenses. There then was another point. The hon. Member for Newcastle had referred to the capricious action of the Land Commissioners; and he (Mr. Healy) thoroughly endorsed his statement in that respect. They found that during the period the "No Rent" Manifesto was in force the reductions given were 24 or 25 per cent; and according as the temper of the people was excited, and there was agitation in the country, they found the maximum of reduction, and that thus when the

country was quiet and the Prevention of Crime Act had been passed they found the percentage of reduction reduced to 24, 23, 21, 20, 19, 18, 17, and as low as 15 per cent. Capriciousness of the grossest character was apparent. Moreover, he declared that such a proceeding justified the charge made against the Commissioners of corruption. They said that a corrupt Court was a Court influenced by motives other than the abstract questions of law which came before it. In that sense of the word, therefore, he thought the Land Commission Court was a corrupt Court. His contention was that it was a corrupt Court when it showed itself to be influenced by the clamour of landlords on the one side, or the complaints of tenants on the other; and there was the strongest evidence to show that, according as the House of Lords put pressure on in the shape of a debate, or a Motion, or a Committee of Inquiry, as the groans of the landlords went up, so did the backs of the Land Commission weaken, and their reductions decrease. He thought, therefore, hon. Members were justified in saying that the Land Commission Court was a corrupt Court. That it was a capricious Court had been fully established by the reductions which had been given. He thought the Government were greatly to blame in this matter. Then the House of Lords, for two years, had a Committee sitting upon the Act, and were summoning Sub-Commissioners by the dozen, several of the Land Commissioners, and leading men belonging to the landlord classes. He thought the Government were to blame in not conducting a counter-inquiry from the tenants' point of view, so as to restore the balance and create a counterpoise in the minds of the Land Commissioners. He could not conceive what the Government intended, by the small Motion they had carried in this House, to show that it was injurious to the interests of the Land Act that the House of Lords should institute an inquiry into the operation of the measure, if now they could refrain from holding a counter-inquiry into the grievances of the tenants. It remained on record that the Government had permitted an inquiry into the grievances of the landlords, while they had not promoted or allowed a counter-inquiry into the grievances of the tenants. The result of

what had taken place was this—that the complaints made by the tenants of Ireland, and the injury they declared they had suffered, through their representatives, owing to the corrupt conduct of the Land Commissioners, were unknown to the House and to the country, and were closed up in the minds of these unfortunate men, who had not even the newspapers to resort to, so many of them being illiterate; whereas the grievances of the landlords had been published to the world, not only through the Press, but through the influential medium of a Report from the other House. If the Government meant fairly by the Irish tenantry, they should have given them the same facilities, in the shape of an inquiry in this House—they should have given them a tenants' inquiry, as the House of Lords' Committee was a landlords' Committee. They had not done so; and, therefore, he charged upon the Government a desire to cushion the inquiry into the grievances of the tenants; whereas "another place" was taking the greatest care of the interests of the landlords. They would have, by-and-bye, a statement as to these fair rents, and also as to the annual increase in the reduction. Another point he would like to draw attention to was the extraordinary difference which occurred in the different Provinces in the fixing of fair rents. Far be it from him, as an Ulster Member, to complain of the inequalities, as far as they improved the condition of the Northern Province; but he could not help commenting on the fact that, according to last month's Reports, there were 1,700 cases of judicial rents fixed in the Province of Ulster; whereas, when they went to Connaught and Munster, there were only 300 in the one, and 500 in the other. He was aware that there had been many more cases sent in from Ulster than from any other of the four Provinces; but, surely, the Government ought to be as desirous of settling the rents in the other Provinces as in Ulster. He did not wish to have a single Land Commissioner in Ulster moved; but he did desire that there should be as many Land Commissioners sent to the other Provinces as were sent to Ulster. If he turned to Leinster, what did he find? Why, that a Commission which had been operating in various other places, after hearing cases in the Midland

Counties, and having had tenant farmers withdraw from cases in consequence of the evidence of men like Professor Baldwin in favour of men like Colonel King-Harman, was removed to Kildare, Dublin, Wicklow, Louth, &c. ; and he wished to know why that Commission alone should be called upon to operate over those areas? He thought it unfair and invidious to say that a Commission of the character which was distrusted in a portion of the Island should be sent to those places. He would like to call attention to what he thought was a growing evil in the case of this Land Commission. In his opinion, the inquiries before it were degenerating into a complete farce. The evidence of the landlord and tenant was duly heard; but, practically, the Commissioners paid no attention whatever to it. The tenant got up, his valuer was sworn, and handed in plans and specifications of the improvements, drains, and reclamations he had made; but all that did not matter a snuff to the Commissioners. They took no more notice of the tenant's evidence, or that of his valuator, than if they were talking Sanscrit. It would be much better, rather than this farce should be gone through time after time, if the tenant should send in his claim and evidence on affidavit, and that the statement of the landlord should be taken in the same way. Evidence of this kind would be quite as valuable to the Commissioners, seeing the manner in which they treated evidence, as that taken under the present system. No attention was paid to evidence; the desire of the Commissioners being to get through the matter as quickly as possible in a hap-hazard way. He would put it to the Government to abolish the inquiry in open Court altogether, and let the whole matter be conducted by affidavit. He had spoken with many tenant farmers, particularly with farmers from the loyal Province—from the County Tyrone. He had had a letter from one who might be taken as a representative farmer on the subject. This farmer said he had been put to great inconvenience in getting a detailed statement as to how much land he had reclaimed in the past, what the cost had been, how many fences he had put up, and how many drains he had constructed, and in the decision given this statement had been wholly ignored. The decision given had apparently taken

no note as to whether the man had been a hard worker and a reclamer of land, or whether he had never occupied himself in works of this kind at all. That corresponded with the Report of the House of Lords' Committee. That Report stated that the man who had made improvements very frequently had not his rent decreased at all; whereas the man who had never done anything on his holding to improve it, seemingly for his own wrong-doing and waste, had had his rent reduced. That opinion prevailed all over the country—namely, that the tenants did not get any return or allowance for their improvements. The hon. Member for Newcastle had pointed out that the Land Commissioners had taken the extraordinary course of answering the House of Lords in a Minute which they issued, through the medium of a letter to the Chief Secretary. The obsequiousness of the Commissioners to the House of Lords was very extraordinary; but when any person in the humble position of a Representative like himself—a Member of the House of Commons—attempted to put any Question whatsoever, they rode off on the high horse and vanished in the cerulean distance. He had put a Question to the right hon. Gentleman as to the fixing of a fair rent; a Question exactly the same as the Lords had put over and over again. He had had to put that Question three times over, and he had to indulge in what those Gentlemen called vituperative language, before he could get any answer. The result was the strongest justification of the vituperation. If he found that vituperation had had such a magnetic effect upon the Government, and if other people found that vituperation was effective, whereas no amount of mild Questions produced any result, they might expect vituperation to become much more general than it had been in the past. He would put the Committee in possession of the facts of the case. The case to which he had referred was that in which a sub-tenant, named Driscoll, had rented from a middleman named Hall the half of a holding. Hall paid £10 10s. for the whole of the holding, and for the half he charged £12. An application for a reduction of rent was made; but they had confirmed the rent, dismissing the application, and the ground on which they did that was that Driscoll had acted unreasonably,

Mr. Healy

because he took the land from Hall on condition that he was to give it up when wanted, and that he refused to give it up. He (Mr. Healy) had put a Question on the case, and had got an answer that the Land Commissioners did not think it in accordance with their judicial position to give reasons for their decisions. But he indulged in so-called vituperative language, he was proud to say, and he extracted a defence from the Land Commissioners, which defence the House had heard from the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant. They said that 14 years ago Driscoll took the land from Hall, on condition that he was to give it up when wanted; and the Land Commissioners held that in refusing to give it up he had acted unreasonably, and that he should be held to his bargain. They gave that opinion without having heard any evidence as to the character of the land, and without having called the landlord—that was to say, the middleman, Hall, although they called his wife. The husband was in Court at the time; but no attempt was made to call him, and they did not hear the sub-tenant as to value. They heard him upon no question whatever, save the legal question of taking the holding; and then, because they considered him unreasonable in refusing possession of the holding, they fixed the rent he had to pay at 30s. more for half the land than the middleman himself had to pay to Lord Bantry for the whole of it. What was the unreasonableness? They said the land was taken for a temporary purpose; but he would leave the Committee to judge of that, when he said that that temporary purpose lasted for 14 years. If the conditions had only remained in force a fortnight, no doubt the agreement as to the temporary purpose would have been valid; but in this case they remained in existence for 14 years. He held the land to make a living out of it, and it was considered by the Land Commissioners unreasonable conduct to hold the land as the Act allowed him to hold it. What was unreasonable in his conduct? Previous to the passing of the Land Act every yearly tenancy was held subject to notice to quit. Driscoll had received two or three notices; but the writ of ejectment was not carried out; and, therefore, it appeared to him that this man, even in the opinion of the Land Com-

missioners, was really the tenant, because he had not taken the land for temporary purposes, and, the notice to quit having been issued, the landlord did not proceed to turn him out of the land. The question was this—the man having had the land, ought the Commissioners to have sent a valuer or not? They considered that his conduct was unreasonable; but he had paid his rent so punctually that he was unable to get from the middleman the benefit of the Arrears Act; whereas the middleman could get the benefit of it, and actually had his own arrears to Lord Bantry wiped off under the Act, although, in point of fact, he was getting from Driscoll 30s. a-year more rent than he was himself paying to Lord Bantry. This, too, although it was proved by the middleman's wife that she made out of the hay alone in one year £11. And then the unfortunate sub-tenant, who had to pay 30s. a-year more than Hall paid for twice as much land, could not get the benefit of the Land Act, because he took the land 14 years ago for a temporary purpose, forsooth! Was not that decision in the very teeth of the Land Act, which said that not even against the middleman, but against the head landlord, a man should be able to retain land which he took as a tenant? What was the defence of the Land Commission? He would not complain if the Land Commissioners had acknowledged that they had made a mistake in this case, and had said that they did not send a valuer because of the pressure of business, or something else, and that they had got into a hole and very much regretted what they had done. But they had assumed a kind of infallibility—that everything done was done properly; that all the parties were heard; and that the decision was a fair one; that Driscoll's conduct was unreasonable; and that to ask a Question in Parliament in review of their decision was not proper. The Commissioners ought to have come with bated breath and whispering humbleness and made an apology for their action; and he had brought this matter forward, not for the sake of a particular case, but because he believed it was of a piece with the action of the Commissioners in very many cases. It was very seldom that a tenant was able to get into the hands of a Member of Parliament a complete statement of

his case, so that it might be placed before the House in a compendious form; and, therefore, how many cases must there have been of hardship of a similar kind owing to the action of the Commissioners? He had put the matter forward, and, instead of being met with a courteous answer, he was told that he had indulged in vituperation. He thought the Chief Secretary would do well to wash his hands of the Commissioners, and to say that he did not stand here as their defender, and to throw up the sponge in their defence, for there could be no defence for their action in this matter. The Chief Secretary had argued in defence that the rent had remained unaltered for a considerable time, and, therefore, that showed the fairness of it. Why, would it not remain unaltered when there was notice to quit? It was no defence to say that the rent had been paid, and had remained unaltered for a considerable time, when, if there had been any default, the tenant would have been ejected, and turned on the world.

Mr. TREVELYAN said, the hon. Member (Mr. Healy) had issued two or three challenges of a practical nature, and before he sat down he would certainly gratify the hon. Member's curiosity. He must at once protest against some of the language the hon. Member had used—most abusive in tone, violent and immoderate. The hon. Member said the conduct of the Land Commissioners was corrupt and capricious; and the reason he gave was, that they were so susceptible to pressure, both from landlords and tenants, that they varied very much in the nature of their decisions in obedience to that pressure; and he understood him to say that the tendency of their action had been to give less and less to the tenants. Upon that point it could not be expected that a private Member should have very exact statistics; and there was no doubt that during the first six months of the existence of the Land Commissioners very large reductions were given; but it could not be said that the general tendency had been that which the hon. Member believed. Very large reductions were given from the first sittings of the Commissioners up to January 28, 1882, averaging 23·6 per cent; but since then there had been a remarkable uniformity. The first set of dates was from January 28 to April 15, and the reduc-

tions were, on an average, 20·5; from April 15 to May 31, 21·5 per cent; in June, 20·4 per cent; in July, 19·7 per cent; in August, which included a very small number of cases, the average was 18·2 per cent. The average for the whole of the year 1882 was 20·5 per cent. After August came the Vacation; and in September, October, November, and December of last year the average for all Ireland was 19·4 per cent. Then, in January, 1883, the average was 20·1 per cent; in February, 19·99; and in March, 20·6 per cent, or a point higher than it had ever reached since the beginning of 1882. He thought these Returns showed a very remarkable uniformity.

Mr. ARTHUR O'CONNOR asked if the right hon. Gentleman would compare the January in one year with the January in the next year?

Mr. TREVELYAN said, he had not got the exact figures for January, 1882, but he had figures from the commencement up to January, 1882; and since the first three or four months of the sittings of the Commission there had been an almost absolute uniformity, so that it could hardly be said that there was any sign of the decisions of the Commissioners having been affected by pressure.

Mr. PARNELL asked if the right hon. Gentleman could give the averages since March, 1883?

Mr. TREVELYAN said, he had not got the averages; but he had a Return of the reductions down to April, 1883. The hon. Member for Monaghan had referred to the great and marked increase in the Vote for the Land Commission. The increase was very great indeed—£157,000, as against £92,000. That was a very large increase; but any person interested in economy must see that the increase was explicable. The increase was in salaries, allowances, and travelling expenses. The extra salaries for Assistant Commissioners amounted to £38,000 a-year, and their travelling expenses amounted to a very large part of the increase—namely, to £25,000 a-year. What was the cause of the increase? It was that in the autumn of last year the Government, under pressure—and very proper and legitimate pressure—from the House of Commons, and from no one more than from the hon. Member

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for Monaghan (Mr. Healy), feeling that the Sub-Commissioners were working much too slowly, tried to quicken their action by the appointment of valuers. That advice, which had been recommended to them by legitimate advisers of the Government, thoroughly disappointed their expectations. After the appointment of one valuer to each Commission the average of cases disposed of, which had been 76 per day, only rose to 77 per day. The Government felt that at that rate the tenants would be kept in a state of suspense which would be cruel; and that from the point of view of what the tenants expected the Act to effect it would be almost a failure; and they determined not to stick at any expense of public money to bring about a different result. The cause of the slow working of the Commissioners was that the legal Commissioners were kept idle for several days in the week through the two lay Commissioners being out valuing; and the Government decided to double the number of lay Commissioners, so that the work might go on pretty much all the week. The effect of that step was at once observable. Almost immediately after the appointment of the new Assistant Commissioners the decisions rose to 116 per day; and after a while, by increase which was perfectly explicable, they rose to 137 per day. The result of this was that the present aspect of the question was satisfactory; and although hon. Members would not allow that, he thought they would allow that it was satisfactory as compared with the apprehensions expressed during the debates on the proceedings of the Land Commission in the autumn of last year. A few months ago fresh applications were coming in very rapidly, and the cases were being decided comparatively slowly. That condition of things was now changed. From the last Return, July 31, which had been presented to both Houses of Parliament, it appeared that there had been altogether 98,034 applications for the fixing of fair rents up to June 30. In July 580 new applications came in, making a total of 98,614. The fair rents fixed in July were 3,912; applications dismissed and struck out, 1,377; and applications withdrawn, 589. The total number of cases disposed of was thus 5,800; and up to July 31 there had been 61,354 cases disposed of

out of 98,614. That gave reason for hoping that in the course of seven working months the whole of the arrears would be wiped off, so far as the Sub-Commissioners were concerned. 47,266 agreements fixing fair rents had been come to, of which 2,382 were made in July, these making 109,000 cases settled by agreement and by the Land Commission. With regard to the gross reductions of rent, the hon. Member for Newcastle (Mr. Cowen) had made a very melancholy statement about the comparison between the amount of rental reduced and the gross amount of money spent on the Land Court. Up to the time of the last Return about £195,000 had been spent. What had been the gross direct reductions in consequence of the action of the Land Act? Up to April 30 last the reductions made by the Land Commission amounted to £147,000, and the reductions by agreement amounted to £117,000—total £264,000; and he calculated roughly that since that date reductions amounting to £80,000 at least had been made. So that the total reductions by the direct action of the Courts must by this time amount to something like £345,000 or £350,000. Then as to this comparison between the expenditure on the Land Commission and the reductions made, it must be remembered that some of the reductions would last 15 years, while this very large expenditure was clearly only a temporary expenditure. The hon. Member for Donegal (Mr. Lea) had asked for some definite statement as to the proposals of the Government with regard to a reduction of the expenditure on the Land Commission. He would say, generally, that that was not the first thing in the mind of the Government. The first consideration was that the Courts of First Instance should have settled these cases over the whole of Ireland as soon as possible; and in order to get that done they would look, first, to reductions of rent, and, secondly, to economy. But all the Land Commissioners at this moment had commissions running up to the end of the year; and it was quite clear that if seven or eight months were to wipe off the arrears, there would after that be a great and very sensible reduction in the expenditure. He could say no more than that the reduction would be such as would make the Vote very different

from what it was this year. As to the work of the Commission, of course, however much hon. Members might differ from the Government as to the amount of the direct effect of the Commission, they would allow that there had been a great deal of indirect effect. There could, he thought, be no doubt that the reductions of rent all over Ireland—spontaneous reductions which, in some cases, extended over the whole of the estates of great landowners—had been considerably extended by the assistance of the Land Courts, so that those reductions, whether large or small, might be put down to the credit of the Land Commission. He did not say there were not other things occurring in Ireland to bring about this result. No questions had been asked about the operation of the Arrears Act, which was now approaching its termination. One cause, by the way, of the increased expenditure this year had been the increased charge for the staff required to work that Act, and which cost he was happy to say would soon come to a finish. Up to the last Return he had received, £710,000 had actually been paid up out of a total of £840,000, and he supposed that by the end of this month the payments would have come pretty nearly to an end.

MR. PARNELL asked if the right hon. Gentleman could state the amount of arrears wiped off under the Arrears Act, exclusive of the year's rent paid by tenants?

MR. TREVELYAN said, he could not do so; but he would endeavour to get the amount.

COLONEL COLTHURST asked for information as to the appeals?

MR. TREVELYAN said, the number of appeals lodged in July was 846, making the total 9,996; whereas the number that were heard and withdrawn in the month of July amounted to only 221. That would engage the attention of the Government. There were legislative difficulties to a very great extent; but he should consider that if by next Session he could not tell a better story to defend himself than he could now he had failed in his duty. He thought it could not be denied that there never was a Parliamentary Committee before which had been engaged in inquiring into the decisions of the Judicial Body, and into every report, well or ill-

founded, which might have been made in regard to those decisions. Of course, there was a very great difference between answering charges made against a decision on a special occasion and wholesale and sweeping charges as to the principle upon which a large number of decisions were given, especially when those decisions were such as entirely to destroy, if accepted by the country, the authority on which they were made. He hardly thought the hon. Member for Newcastle (Mr. Cowen) had been sufficiently generous in the criticism he had made upon the Land Commission. The hon. Member, when finding fault with the Commissioners for the manner in which they had answered the charges made by the Committee of the House of Lords, had not taken into account the natural sense of injured pride and self-respect which would be felt by Judges who had intended to discharge their duties conscientiously under extreme difficulties, and who had been placed in a situation nobody else had ever been placed in before. He felt that the charges brought against them were based upon inferior and *ex parte* evidence—upon evidence which had only been heard on one side; and the Court which made the charges came to their decision so quickly, that no evidence could be given on the other side. There were most serious accusations made against the Commissioners. He had no wish to enter into a general debate upon the matters at issue between the Lords' Committee and the Land Commission; but he would quote one or two charges as instances of the grave reasons the Land Commission had for not consenting to lie under the imputations cast upon them, which they would have done practically if they had appeared to acquiesce in the charges made by the Lords' Committee. Here was one instance. In their Report the Lords' Committee said that—

"Little or no difference appeared to have been made, whether the rent was an old rent which had been paid for a number of years, or whether it was a modern rent."

The Lords' Committee quoted the evidence, and placed a part of it on the body of their Report, which was the only part probably that nine persons out of ten would think of reading. The witness on whose evidence that allegation was based said—

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"I think the principle is to give a reduction varying from 25 to 40 per cent."

He had just been reading to the Committee the reductions which had been made since January, 1880, and the Committee would remember that those reductions all over Ireland averaged 20 per cent; yet the House of Lords' Committee gravely came forward and endorsed, to a great extent, a charge that the principle upon which the Land Commission was in the habit of acting was to give a reduction varying from 25 to 40 per cent. Then, again, the Lords' Committee charged the Land Commission with about as grave a dereliction of duty as any Judges could possibly commit, for they said that the Commissioners had before them a considerable amount of evidence from which there was much reason to conclude that some of the Sub-Commissioners had adopted, in fixing rents, the simple mathematical process of adding two, three, or four various estimates together, and dividing the value of such estimates by the whole number. They did not say whether this charge was just or not; but the Lords' Committee said—

"This proceeding, if really followed, is one that involves a grave dereliction of duty on the part of the Sub-Commissioners, and is unjust to the landlord and tenant."

A more dangerous and formidable manner of making an accusation by implication he had never heard. All he could say was, that if the House of Lords, in olden days, had settled their appeal cases, and distributed landed estates, in such a manner and upon such evidence as they had adopted here, they would have formed a very different Appeal Body from that they had the credit of being. He could not conceive an attempt more calculated to injure the reputation of public men; and, after all, the reputation of public men was as valuable as any amount of real property. He could not, therefore, understand the reason why the Lords' Committee had attempted to throw away the reputation of public men—for it really amounted to a charge of corruption—upon such miserable evidence, as that laid before them. The Assistant Commissioners repudiated the charge as untrue in regard to themselves, and stated that they believed it to be untrue of the Sub-Commissioners. On what evidence was the charge based? It was on the evidence of Professor

Baldwin. Professor Baldwin himself was charged by another witness with the same conduct; and yet so indifferent were the Lords' Committee to get at the truth of the matter, that when they had Professor Baldwin before them making these charges against other people, they did not appear to have questioned him as to whether he had used the same method himself. Professor Baldwin appeared to have been present upon one occasion in a County Court when a decision was being given, and he said that he came to the conclusion, on the whole, that this was the method adopted by the Commissioners. The charge made by the Lords' Committee had been referred to all the Sub-Commissioners, and he had received from all of those gentlemen a most indignant denial. He must say he thought the Land Commissioners were quite right in placing their denial before the public; and although the course they had adopted, he was ready to allow, was one which was actually unprecedented, it was the only remedy they could take against a great wrong, as unprecedented as any proceeding that had ever been entered into. The Lords' Committee stated that a strong impression prevailed in the country that where the Commissioners did not reduce rents to the point at which they had been reduced by some of the Sub-Commissioners, if they had thereby become unpopular and had been removed to other districts, the changes thus made would have led to still greater reductions. The Lords' Committee went on to say that such a feeling was highly unfortunate, and it was much to be regretted that there should have been anything to give rise to it. Now, before the Lords' Committee placed that record on paper, they ought to have examined into the question whether there was any ground for it. It was met by the Commissioners by a flat denial; and, having during 14 or 15 months had the honour of watching Irish affairs in that House, he had come to the conclusion that that sort of pressure had never been used, and that the only pressure which had ever been used with success was the pressure of some Gentlemen generally considered to represent the landlords, who complained not that the reductions had been too large, but that there were gentlemen on the Sub-Commission who had certain antecedents and certain connections

which did not fit them to discharge the duties in the particular county in which they were placed. But he could not recall a single instance in which a responsible Member of that House had made a representation that the rents were either reduced too much or reduced too little, and that the assertion was listened to by the Commissioners. He would not go through the charges made, or insinuated, by the Committee of the House of Lords, and a number of charges which were flatly denied, and denied with evidence, by the Commissioners. In some cases the charges brought by the Lords' Committee showed the most singular ignorance of the details of the procedure of the Commissioners. The witnesses the House of Lords had before them appeared to him to have been most unhappily chosen for the purpose; and in regard to the drafting of the Report itself, it was just that sort of Report which he could not imagine any body of men attacked by it sitting down quietly under. If the House of Lords had framed such a Report in regard to any of the officials of the High Court of Justice in London, he was satisfied that very few months would have been allowed to pass before the Judges would have repudiated it and made a reply to it. He thought he had now referred to every point which had been raised in the course of the debate.

MR. HEALY said, the right hon. Gentleman had not referred to the case of Driscoll and Hall.

MR. TREVELYAN said, he did not think he could go into that matter, and he did not think that it was for a Land Commissioner to enter into a question of that kind. He rather thought if he had had the drafting of their letter that he should have left out the first half of it, and he would not have raised a point which he knew the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) would have been quite acute enough to lay hold of. It would not be right that he should follow the example of the Commissioners, so far as his own time and reputation were concerned, in discussing any one of the 50,000 or 60,000 decisions of the Sub-Commissioners, or of the 2,000 or 3,000 decisions of the Land Commissioners. He was perfectly convinced that if he were to do so, before a month or two had elapsed he would only succeed in ruining his reputation, and of satisfying

the country that he was not only a very incompetent lawyer, but an exceedingly audacious and self-sufficient speaker. He fully admitted that he was neither able nor qualified to discuss the decisions of the Commissioners. With regard to the Purchase Clauses of the Land Act, to which reference had been made over and over again, he did not think there was any desire on the part of the House, or of hon. Members who had already spoken, to enter into the question why the Purchase Clauses had not been made greater use of. That was a matter which would afford material for a long debate, and would take considerable time to settle. The reasons which he could give might at the proper time be adduced; but they would not be the same as those which had been given that evening. There was one point, however—as to the price at which land sold—in regard to which the comparatively small experience of the Land Commissioners had, he must say, been rather favourable. Whenever a large sale was proposed the papers were sent to the Treasury, and the Treasury were good enough to communicate them to the Irish Office, to ask its advice as to whether so large a transaction should be entered into; and he had noticed that there had been several large transactions at a very good figure. He had one lying before him then, in which an estate of 231 acres, the rent of which was £344, liable to deduction for quit rent, and so forth, amounting altogether to about £17, so that the rent might be called £325. The purchase money agreed to be paid for that property was £6,300, or as nearly as possible 20 years' purchase, and 20 years' purchase, as a rule, was the price paid in several instances. In point of fact, 19 years' purchase, and something more, was the average in a large number of cases.

MR. PARNELL asked if that was after judicial rents had been fixed?

MR. TREVELYAN said, he did not know; but 19·8 years had been the average number of years' purchase in the case of holdings of the total value of about £188,000 dealt with by the Land Commissioners. He had now gone through all the points which had been raised, and he thought he had shown that the increase in the salaries and expenditure of the Land Commissioners could be thoroughly accounted

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for even by those who might not agree with the decisions given by the different Courts and in the work done by the Commission. That work had been very considerable; and he must say that, in his opinion, a great deal of the expenditure had been not unworthily incurred.

Mr. GIBSON said, no one could over-estimate the importance of the Vote which was now under discussion in the Committee; but it was obvious that on the 16th of August, and during the last few days of the Session indeed, it was absurd and ridiculous to attempt to discuss with anything like fairness a Vote of this magnitude and importance. One had only to glance at the Committee at the present moment to see that it was foolish to say that they were now discussing the great issue which had been raised in connection with Irish affairs. He ventured to think that it would be impossible at that moment to discuss properly this most important subject, raising such important issues. He would not say how many Members there were in the Committee at that moment. He would forbear from calling the attention of the Speaker to that matter in a more marked manner, as it might cause the prompt adjournment of the House; but he might indicate that there was a very limited and sparse attendance on the Benches of both sides of the House. Even on those Benches on which patience, perseverance, and patriotism were claimed to linger, there were only three Members to be found, all told. He made that remark, not in disparagement of hon. Members, but to show that the House was not in vigorous Session at the present moment, and that hon. Members could not be expected to take any active part in the discussion of the subject. His right hon. Friend the Member for Westminster (Mr. W. H. Smith) had had his attention drawn to this matter in the proceedings of the Land Commission for a considerable time; but, recognizing the logic of facts within the last 10 days, his right hon. Friend had given Notice that early next Session he would call in review the proceedings of the Commissioners, and subject them to the criticism of the House at a time when they could be independently and calmly discussed—when all the arguments on both sides could be fully reported and weighed and con-

sidered by the House and the country. He ventured to think that his right hon. Friend was right, and that it would be absurd for him, or for any other Member of the House, to expect that any proper criticism at this time could be formulated, weighed, or listened to in a way that could secure practical or proper consideration. The submission of this Vote for the Land Commission at this moment was to bring it forward at a period when debate was impossible and discussion was obviously out of place. That being the case, he was surprised that the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant should himself have volunteered an attack upon the Lords' Committee.

Mr. TREVELYAN said, he had only done so in answer to the arguments which had been adduced.

Mr. GIBSON said, that, no doubt, the remarks of the right hon. Gentleman were made in answer to other speeches. However, it was quite evident that the answer had been formulated in order to make a deliberate attack upon the proceedings of the Lords' Committee. He ventured to say that the reply of the right hon. Gentleman was far more intended and suited for dealing with criticism which might be urged next Session, and which had been already urged by the Press, than any attempt to give a reply to the precise question presented in the debate on the present occasion. He thought the right hon. Gentleman had used some language towards the Lords' Committee, and the witnesses summoned before that Committee, which, if it were reported to-morrow in the morning newspapers, would be found to go far beyond the limits of sound and calm criticism. The right hon. Gentleman, in his reference to the Lords' Committee, had made use of this extraordinary expression—"That they appeared to be indifferent to getting at the truth of the matter." He could not imagine that a graver charge could be made by a Minister—a responsible Minister—of the Crown against the Committee, who were discharging responsible duties with a conscientious desire to perform their duty under the Bill. The right hon. Gentleman also said in reference to the witnesses that they were "extraordinarily inferior." What was the meaning of that? The right hon. Gentleman was a master of English, and was a

man of considerable eminence in literature; but in this case the collocation of words was remarkable, and he questioned whether, in a calm literary effort, the right hon. Gentleman would repeat the phrase "extraordinarily inferior," which he had used in the House that night. What did the right hon. Gentleman mean when he said that the witnesses were "extraordinarily inferior?" The right hon. Gentleman did not venture to tell the Committee what he did mean, but he was referring to the Sub-Commissioners who were examined before the Lords' Committee; and if that was the opinion of the right hon. Gentleman of the Sub-Commissioners, when they were examined before the Lords' Committee, he would like to know what opinion the right hon. Gentleman would expect hon. Members on that side of the House to have in regard to those Sub-Commissioners, many of whom had been appointed against their protest by the right hon. Gentleman's own Government? But the remarkable criticism of the right hon. Gentleman did not rest there. Having said that some of the witnesses were "extraordinarily inferior," he proceeded to say, with judicial calmness, that their evidence was "miserable." This was no paraphrase; he was saying the actual words of the right hon. Gentleman, and that was the way in which the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant volunteered criticism at a time when criticism should be smoothed down, in order to let hon. Members get home to their families. Could anyone conceive, or imagine, observations more calculated to excite debate, and to lead to angry and contentious feeling? He (Mr. Gibson) would, however, forbear. He could not forget that this was the 16th of August. The Chief Secretary mentioned, in the course of his observations, only one name—the familiar name of Baldwin. Now, he was surprised that the Chief Secretary did not try to grapple with that evidence. He certainly did not praise it; he, unquestionably, rather appeared to condemn it; but he (Mr. Gibson) would pass from the right hon. Gentleman's description of the matter with this observation—that, from the beginning to the end of his speech, he forbore to criticize, to condemn, or to praise the evidence of the one solitary individual he named

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as having, in fact, been examined before the Lords' Committee. He (Mr. Gibson) had never had the honour of seeing Professor Baldwin, and he had not the pleasure of his acquaintance; but he had heard very often about him, and he had read some of his productions, and some things connected with him. He was, therefore, prepared to believe that Professor Baldwin was a man of great experience, of great knowledge, and of considerable ability. He had read the evidence which Professor Baldwin had given on the present occasion, and he was, therefore, disposed to believe that Professor Baldwin was a man who would not speak lightly, and who, when he had given evidence, was entitled to have that evidence considered calmly, with intelligence, and with a desire to get at the truth. He was sorry that upon this occasion the Chief Secretary had gone into the constitution of the Lords' Committee. That was a wide question, it was an important question, requiring full consideration; and at this period of the Session, in the present state of the House, it was impossible that it could receive full and ample discussion. When the matter was brought before Parliament early next Session, he trusted that it would be considered fully and fearlessly; and he was satisfied that his right hon. Friend the Member for Westminster (Mr. W. H. Smith), who was in charge of the question, and who was a man of moderate views, and a man of great temperateness of expression, would present his opinions to the House in a way which, if they did not command consent, would, at all events, command a respectful hearing. He (Mr. Gibson) would, therefore, forbear from going further into the question until that time arrived. But he begged leave to say that if the Government had criticism to make in connection with the Lords' Committee they were themselves to blame. They deliberately refrained from appointing any person upon that Committee, or from taking any active part in the examination of the evidence before it; and, therefore, it was idle, and almost absurd, for them to presume to suggest criticism which mainly depended on their own abstention from the performance of their distinct public duties. The Memorandum issued by the Land Commission was an attempt to re-

ply to the Report of the Lords' Committee, and it had been rightly indicated by the right hon. Gentleman as being absolutely exceptional, and wholly unprecedented. For himself, he had no desire, in the slightest degree, to blame the Commissioners for having issued the Memorandum, which they considered necessary to place them rightly before the public in reference to the performance of their public duties. He always endeavoured, as far as he could, to be fair to every person, and particularly to those who were charged with the administration of difficult and responsible duties. The objection he had to the introduction of this topic to-night was that it might possibly be alleged that the question had been discussed in consequence of the attack which the right hon. Gentleman referred to. Any such suggestion was quite out of place. The right hon. Gentleman had given a most meagre description of it; and he (Mr. Gibson) declined, at the far end of the Session, in the presence of a limited number of Members, to discuss either the Memorandum of the Commissioners, or the Report of the Lords' Committee, reserving to himself the right of discussing them fully and completely hereafter. There was, however, one point mentioned by the right hon. Gentleman which he must refer to. The Commissioners had made constant statements, both in that House and elsewhere, that the old rents in Ireland were not intended to be interfered with, and that under the Act of 1881 it was only exceptionally high rents that would be dealt with, and that the older properties upon which the rents had not been raised for many years would not be touched or interfered with. Notwithstanding those statements of non-interference with the old rents which had been paid for many long years, and even for generations, it was obvious that under their administration of the Land Act these rents had been constantly interfered with, and that some of the oldest standing rents on ancient properties in Ireland had been reduced just as much as the rack rents upon other properties. That was a broad charge, and he thought that the way in which the Commissioners met it would not carry assent with it when their arguments came to be weighed. The right hon. Gentleman, without going into the mat-

ter at all, suggested that the Commissioners had not been afraid to grapple with the question. No doubt, it might be said that they had not been afraid to express their feeling in regard to the charge; but he at once arraigned the way in which they had met it. It was a matter familiar to everyone acquainted with the administration of the Irish Land Act that upon property after property in some of the best-managed estates in Ireland, where the same rent had been paid for generations, and for more than a century, the old rents had been reduced, notwithstanding that all the Commissioners said that when the question came before them *prima facie*, it must be assumed that these old rents were just, and ought not to be changed. When and where had they indicated to the Sub-Commissioners in Ireland that if old rents had been paid for generations and centuries, it was to be assumed that they were right rents and reasonable rents—rents that were not lightly to be reduced? He failed to see, and he had a tolerable acquaintance with the administration of the Irish Land Act, where that instruction to the Sub-Commissioners had been given; and he ventured to think that whenever the matter was discussed, that would be found to be a circumstance which must challenge criticism, and in regard to which he did not think it would be found that criticism was on the side of the Land Commissioners. He declined to enter into the question in any detail at the present moment. The charges made most frequently against the Land Commissioners, notwithstanding the Memorandum of excuses and vindication they had published in defence of the charges made against their conduct in the House and elsewhere, were mainly two—that they had allowed the administration of this Code to proceed without laying down a single principle to guide those who were to regulate and control its administration; and, secondly, that they had so managed the administration of appeals as to minimize the exercise of the rights of those who were dissatisfied with the decisions of the Commissioners. The right hon. Gentleman had passed by this point lightly. In fact, the only substantial part of his speech was an attempt to attack the Lords' Committee, and the evidence given before that Committee. The right hon. Gentleman had confined him-

self to attack rather than defence—a wise enough principle when what was to be defended was somewhat difficult. What the right hon. Gentleman had said in reference to the Purchase Clauses of the Land Act he wished that he (Mr. Gibson) himself could believe. The Purchase Clauses of the Land Act were, he was convinced, undoubtedly intended by the Government to have a *bond fide* reasonable and substantial operation; and when they modified the clauses of the Act of 1870, and the later Act of 1881, by giving further facilities to the tenants for the purchase of their holdings, he believed it was honestly intended by the Prime Minister and the Government that these new Purchase Clauses should have a wider operation than the old Purchase Clauses. He admitted that; but, as a matter of fact, as an incontrovertible fact which could not be denied, the Purchase Clauses had had, he would not say no operation, but a very trivial operation, and an operation absolutely incomparable with the operation of the Tenure Clauses of the Land Act of 1881. He wished he could believe what the right hon. Gentleman had described, in such roseate hues, as to the number of purchases of land in Ireland, and the price land was saleable at. He would be glad to think that in many parts of Ireland land was saleable, and saleable at the moderate figure of 20 years' purchase; but, unfortunately, that was not the rule, nor anything like the rule, for the land had become absolutely unsaleable, and it could only be sold at prices considerably under what they were before the Act passed. He should be glad to learn that he was wrong in this view; but, unfortunately, all the facts within his knowledge tended to convince him that he was right; and he believed the Committee would do him the justice to say that he had never taken pleasure in drawing gloomy conclusions with regard to the effect of the Act. There was a Bill before the House which awaited its Committee stage to-morrow, the Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland) Bill, which did propose to amend the Purchase Clauses of the Act of 1881 to some extent, and which would give some further facilities for the purchase, and possibly some relief from the great evil of unsaleability of land in Ireland. He

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would prefer to look to that Bill becoming law for relief; and it might be that Her Majesty's Government would see their way to some Amendments which would give the measure a wider scope and a more beneficent operation. He was, however, not very sanguine of seeing any great extension of the Purchase Clauses as presented by the Government in this Bill; but he hoped when they discussed next Session the administration of the Land Act, it would be borne in mind by the House that this Session they had affirmed, on the Motion of the noble Lord the Member for Middlesex (Lord George Hamilton), that it was desirable to give increased facilities for the purchase of land in Ireland by occupying tenants; and he trusted that an effort would be made to render the clauses in question what they were not now—a reality.

Mr. PARNELL said, the Court of the Land Commission had now been working for something very close on two years, and it had been possible for the Government, and all parties interested in the success of the Land Act of 1881, to discern in what respect that Act had failed in carrying out the hopes of Parliament, and in what particulars it was reasonably open to amendment. Therefore, he regretted very much that the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, in his able statement, had not announced whether the Government had any intention with regard to the amendment of that Act, and that it did not touch upon points in which time and experience had proved it to be notoriously deficient. Neither did the right hon. Gentleman announce that the Government intended to introduce, in the next Session of Parliament, some measure dealing with those deficiencies of the Act; as, undoubtedly, as the days went by it became more and more abundantly evident that unless Parliament was warned by the experience of the past and legislated in time to remove the admitted deficiencies of the enactment, he believed they would have before many years passed another agitation, and a greater agitation, owing to the discontent caused by the rents which were now being fixed under the Land Act of 1881. Now, the right hon. Gentleman, he thought, had proved, by the figures he gave to the Committee, that

the Act, so far from remedying in a great majority of cases the admitted grievances of Irish tenants, had up to the present moment failed to do so; and that so far as those grievances needed remedy, they had been remedied most slightly and most inefficiently. The law in Ireland for oppressing the population and the great masses of the people had been administered quickly and sternly; but the Land Act of last Session, as plainly proved by the figures given by the right hon. Gentleman, had been administered tardily, slowly, and inefficiently. The right hon. Gentleman had shown, after two years' working of this Act, that only 61,000 decisions had been given for the fixing of fair rents, and that only 47,000 settlements had been arrived at out of Court, and had been registered in Court as fixing the judicial rents—that was to say, out of a total of 500,000 tenants, who were subject to the operation of the Land Act, only a little over 100,000 cases, after working two years at high pressure, and with a staff which the right hon. Gentleman seemed to indicate would be after a time reduced, only one out of five—and he was not now making a reduction for those tenants subject to leases, who were out of the operation of the Act—only one in five had been decided upon by the Land Commission; and that further, with respect to a very considerable proportion of those decisions, they had yet to go before the Court of Appeal constituted by the Act. The Act itself had hopelessly broken down, and all the parties to the litigation connected with the Act in Ireland would be obliged to look forward many years before they could hope to see the termination of that litigation. Now, what did that mean? It meant that while Parliament in 1881, two years ago, promised to every tenant coming under the provisions of the Act that a fair rent should be fixed, nearly four out of five of those tenants were still obliged to pay the old rack rents. He and his hon. Friends had recommended, in the course of debate that Session, that the law should be altered, so far at least as to fix the payment of the judicial rent from the date of application to the Court; or that, even if the tenant were compelled to pay the rent meanwhile, until the Court were able to reach the case or, in other words, for the next

10 years—and, according to the rate at which decisions had been given up to the present moment, it would take 10 years until the 500,000 cases in Ireland would be settled—that at least the good faith of Parliament should be demonstrated to the Irish tenants by making it clear that, when this fair rent had once been fixed, if it were proved that the tenant had been paying more than a fair rent, he should receive back the amount paid in excess. Little or no notice had been taken of that proposal; but when they looked at the fact that, according to the figures given by the right hon. Gentleman that night, and according to the Returns of the Land Commissioners, in nine cases out of ten—and he believed in a larger proportion—the Judges, who had been appointed by Parliament to decide what the fair rent should be, had decided that the tenant was paying more than a fair rent, he said they had a claim at least for this partial act of justice from the House of Commons to the tenants supposed to be benefited by the Land Act of 1881. Let them look at the cost of those 61,000 contested cases—cases which had actually come into Court and been decided upon by the Land Commission after the tenant had been obliged to pay his valuer to make a valuation and survey of his farm—after the landlord had paid his valuer for doing the same thing, and incurred a similar expense for solicitors who had to be fed far beyond the scale allowed by the Commissioners, and in some cases for counsel engaged in the proceedings. He certainly thought the Government ought carefully to look into this question of the delay in working out the provisions of the Land Act, and the vast cost which it had entailed on all parties to the suits, a cost, according to the best judges and most careful estimates, considerably in excess of the amount of reductions allowed up to the present moment by the Land Courts after two years' working. Had the one simple provision suggested by Irish Members been adopted with regard to the date of fixing judicial rents, they knew well that it would have operated to quicken, in a most extraordinary manner, the settlements out of Court which the right hon. Gentleman, on several occasions, had alluded to as being the only hope of the Act ever being brought into satisfactory opera-

tion. It was, he said, a monstrous injustice that the tenants, owing to the imperfections of the Act, should be compelled to pay the old rents, and be practically placed outside and debarred from the protection which Parliament was supposed to have given them. It was useless to expect that the Irish people would believe that Parliament had done as much justice as it could for them, when the old state of things, as had been proved by the 61,000 decisions requiring tenants to pay rack rents, and in many cases exorbitant rack rents, was allowed still to exist under the operation of the Act. He had also hoped for some statement from the right hon. Gentleman with reference to the failure of the Court to carry out the section of the Act of 1881 dealing with the subject of leases. Everyone recollected the discussions which took place on that section, when certain provisions were adopted by the Government which it was hoped by the Government would result in the annulling of a considerable number of leases, and in the bringing of the tenants under the Act. According to the Report of the Commissioners those sections had completely broken down; out of several thousand applications by tenants to annul leases the Land Court had only been able to entertain a very few hundreds. He had not the figures at hand; but he believed only in one case out of ten had the sections of the Act with regard to the breaking of leases proved operative. Certainly he thought, with regard to this point, it would be well for the Government to consider whether something could not be done early next Session in respect of the working of those clauses—a provision made which would give some amount of protection, and some measure of justice, to the important class of leaseholders in Ireland constituting, as they did, the best portion of the Irish tenantry, who found themselves partially shut out from the benefits of the Act of 1881. The hon. Member for Newcastle (Mr. Cowen) had alluded to the paragraph contained in the Report of the Commissioners regarding the question of test cases. He quite agreed with the hon. Member that the Land Commissioners had signally justified the action of Irish Members in the autumn of 1881, shortly before the suppression of the Land League and the summary arrests which took place of several hun-

dreds of persons during that winter in Ireland. He had never had an opportunity of referring to this matter before; first, because he was not in a position to take part in the discussions which occurred immediately after the arrests; secondly, because the matter had not presented itself prominently before the hon. Member brought it up in his speech; and, further, on the principle of letting bygones be bygones, he should not have alluded to the matter now had it not been brought up by the Commissioners themselves in their Report. But he wished to explain what they intended to adopt in reference to this matter of test cases. They intended to have chosen from any estates of a certain size in Ireland a certain number of cases which, from the circumstances of the holdings, would have been recognized by the tenants on each of those estates as test cases, and as a standard of what the Land Commissioners were likely to do in their cases if they went into Court. They would have materially lightened the labours of the Land Commission, and it would have had a most important effect in bringing about settlements out of Court. What had happened, however, was just the reverse. In many cases the tenants of whole estates had gone into Court; whereas, if half-a-dozen test cases had been selected, it would not have been necessary for the tenants to go to the expense of feeing their solicitors, and incurring the other preliminary outlays necessary to be made before their cases could go into Court. It would have been possible on such estates for the tenants, if judiciously advised, to have selected, say, half-a-dozen or a dozen cases which would have served as models and examples of what the Commissioners would be likely to do in the other cases; and if that course could have been pursued, he firmly believed that, in all probability, instead of having only 110,000 cases settled after two years' working of the Land Act throughout the whole of Ireland, at least 50 per cent of the tenants would have had their judicial rents fixed, and that the decisions of the Courts would have been far more satisfactory than they had proved to be. However that might have been, it was no use to go back to these things; and he repeated that he should never have alluded to the subject at all had it not

been, first, for the paragraph contained in the Report of the Commissioners, to which the hon. Member for Newcastle had referred; and, secondly, but for the speech which the hon. Member had made that evening. The Land Question was so far from being settled that there was in the morning papers a report of a meeting of delegates from three of the richest and most important counties in Ireland—speaking from an agricultural point of view—Limerick, Tipperary, and Clare. At that meeting 500 delegates assembled from different parts of those counties; resolutions were passed denouncing the judicial rents which had been fixed in those districts as being rack rents, and pointing out that the clauses of the Act giving the tenant the benefit of his improvements in fixing the rent were being habitually disregarded, and that rents were being fixed in every case on the tenant's improvements. It would be well if the Government were to look to these things in Ireland, and to legislate in time before reproach was cast upon them, in truth and justice through the action of the Land Commission, that they had not seen that this Irish Land Question was a pressing question till it was forced upon them by the necessities of the position, or by the violence, if they preferred the term, of the agitation in Ireland, and by the impossibility of collecting the old rack rents which had been demanded of the tenants.

CAPTAIN ALYMER said, he thought the course which the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland had adopted towards the Committee of the House of Lords was most unprecedented, and deserved a very strong protest indeed. The right hon. Gentleman had gone out of his way, on a discussion of a Motion for the reduction of this Vote, to make a strong personal attack upon the Lords' Committee. Amongst other things, the right hon. Gentleman said that the reduction in rents was only 20 per cent, instead of 35 or 40 per cent as stated by the noble Lord (Lord George Hamilton); but there, he thought, the right hon. Gentleman was in error. If the right hon. Gentleman took the cases in which reductions were made, he would find they amounted to at least 25 per cent; but even if the Report of the Committee was not correct, it went far to show that

the Land Act of 1881 had entirely failed. He agreed with the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell), but from another point of view, that that Act had hopelessly broken down; and he also agreed with him that the sooner the Government turned their attention to the re-modelling of the Act the better. The tardiness with which the decisions were given, the number of appeals that could not possibly be heard for years, the difficulties which the Commissioners themselves had put in the way of anyone getting an early trial—all these things were accumulating day by day, and it was necessary that something should be devised that would provide a way out of the difficulty that existed.

MR. KENNY said, he had not the advantage of hearing the speech of the Chief Secretary; but he understood the right hon. Gentleman had not denied the allegations made by a number of speakers. Many gentlemen were examined before the Lords' Committee, and one of those gentlemen, whose opinion was valued most highly upon all agricultural questions, was Professor Baldwin. Surely the Committee would not treat Professor Baldwin as an inferior person.

MR. TREVELYAN said, he did not remember that he used the epithet the hon. Member had put into his mouth; but, certainly, the word "inferior" would not apply to Professor Baldwin.

MR. KENNY said, he was glad the right hon. Gentleman had corrected himself; and he thought the Committee would be glad to find the Chief Secretary did not include Professor Baldwin in the category of inferior persons. He did not wish to go into detail; but Professor Baldwin had given evidence upon a point which should be brought up on a Vote of this kind, that point being the arrangement of the Circuits. He had not the evidence of Professor Baldwin with him, and therefore he was unable to refer the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary to the exact place in which the evidence on this point appeared; but he remembered that Professor Baldwin distinctly stated, in his evidence before the Lords' Committee, that he had found himself three times in the same place, entirely owing to the mis-arrangement of the Circuits by the officials in Dublin. The Circuits were arranged very badly, and this was the

cause, in a great measure, of the delay which occurred. The Secretary to the Commissioners, or the Chief Commissioners themselves, arranged the Circuits. They put down the cases to be heard, and in nearly every instance they put down twice as many cases as were actually heard. The result was that all the tenants whose cases were listed attended the Court; but at least half of them had to go away, without having their cases decided upon. They were greatly disappointed; but what was worse still, they had to continue paying rack rents until such time as the Commissioners could fix their judicial rents. The time they lost in waiting in the Court was very considerable; and at this time of the year, when agricultural operations required most attention, their time was very valuable to them. The remedy for this state of things which Professor Baldwin suggested was that the Sub-Commissioners should be entrusted with the duty of arranging the Circuits and fixing the sittings of the Courts, and that they should also be able to decide upon the number of cases which should be listed for hearing, with the view of preventing an undue number of cases being placed on the list, with the result that a great number of tenants were obliged to attend the Court when there was not the slightest chance of their cases being reached. Allusion was made by the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for the University of Dublin (Mr. Gibson) to what he called the indiscriminate levelling down of rents, and the right hon. and learned Gentleman added that no distinction whatever was made between the estates on which low rents were paid and those on which high rents were exacted. He (Mr. Kenny) failed to call to mind—and he was acquainted with a great many estates—any of those very old proprietors upon whose estates the rents were exceedingly low; and he failed to call to mind any of those old proprietors whose tenants had unhesitatingly and without murmur paid their rents for a great number of years. As a matter of fact, a great many of the tenants had been forced to pay their rents simply because they had no tribunal to rearrange their rents, so that the old proprietors deserved very little credit for the so-called consideration they had extended to their tenants. He found that,

Mr. Kenny

in a great many instances, old proprietors had been quite as exacting in regard to their rents as the new proprietors. He admitted that, as a body, the new proprietors were more conspicuous for their rack renting than the old proprietors were. At the same time, he did not think there was any reasonable ground for the complaint that the old proprietors had been more harshly treated than the new proprietors. He knew that the barristers and solicitors who appeared before a certain County Court Judge took good care to mention the class of landlord whose cases were in Court; because the Judge in question had the reputation of viewing with particular favour and leniency the cases of the class of old proprietors, to which he himself belonged, while he had a decided antipathy to the new proprietors. The hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) had alluded to the tardiness with which appeal cases were heard. He (Mr. Kenny) was not surprised that great tardiness was displayed by the Chief Commissioners in hearing appeals. At the present time there were between 9,000 and 10,000 appeal cases waiting for hearing; and he thought he was correct in saying that at the rate of progress which the Chief Commissioners were making these cases would not be disposed of until six or seven years from now. One of the causes of this delay arose from a recent decision of the Chief Commissioners. The Chief Commissioners had placed a very extraordinary construction upon one of the clauses of the Land Act, a construction which arose probably from their interpretation of a clause of the Arrears Act which was enacted 12 months after the Land Act, and which was supposed to affect the 47th clause of the Land Act. The 47th clause of the Land Act provided that the three Commissioners should hear appeals; but when, from sickness or other cause, one Commissioner was unable to attend the Court, the other two Chief Commissioners could hear appeals, one of whom should be a Judicial Commissioner. Now, the 22nd clause of the Arrears Act provided for the appointment of an additional Chief Commissioner, whose name was specified in the clause. There was a further provision in this clause that in any case where it was competent for the three Commis-

sioners to hear appeals before the passing of the Arrears Act it should also be competent for three Chief Commissioners to hear the same cases after the passing of the Arrears Act; the Arrears Act, therefore, really made no change in the powers of the Chief Commissioners to hear appeal cases, or in alteration of the numbers beyond that specified in the Land Act of 1881. The Chief Commissioners had only recently decided that it was a matter of grave doubt whether two Chief Commissioners ought to hear appeal cases sitting by themselves. Now, he (Mr. Kenny) failed to see—and if the Attorney General for Ireland were present he would put the case plainly before him—that the 22nd clause of the Arrears Act in any way interfered with the operation of the 47th clause of the Land Act; in fact, he considered a great wrong was inflicted on the tenantry of Ireland when it was declared by the Chief Commissioners that it was improper for two of their number to hear appeals. Now, what would be the consequence of that declaration? It would be that it would be necessary for three Commissioners at least to attend appeal cases throughout the Provinces. There were four Chief Commissioners; but there was no attempt to deny that the fourth Commissioner never went outside of Dublin; as a matter of fact, he believed Lord Monck's state of health would not permit of his travelling; and, therefore, he had not been outside of Dublin on the business of the Land Commission. He did not offer any objection to the appointment of Lord Monck; he believed the noble Lord was competent to sit in the Chief Commissioners' Court in Dublin; but he did object to its being placed in the power of any one of the Chief Commissioners, by either deciding to go on his holidays, or by sickness, to prevent appeals being heard, and to compel the postponement of the Court of Appeal in any places where the Chief Commissioners might have decided upon hearing appeals. At the present moment one of the Chief Commissioners was on his holidays, and when he came back one of the others would take his holidays; and the result would be that while this constant ringing of the changes by the Chief Commissioners was going on, the hearing of appeals would be very greatly delayed. He considered it was the duty of Her Majesty's Government to call the

attention of the Chief Commissioners to the very extraordinary decision they had arrived at in regard to the hearing of appeals. It must be remembered that while in Ireland there now stood for hearing 9,000 or 10,000 appeal cases, and the delay of hearing the cases continued, the landlords continued to demand the old rents; and where they succeeded in getting, as they did in a great many instances, the old rack rents, it was a shame for the Government not to interfere and to recommend to the Chief Commissioners the desirability of their re-consideration of the very extraordinary interpretation they had placed upon the Act of Parliament, an interpretation which was entirely contrary to common sense. He thought that any reasonable man would come to the conclusion with him that the interpretation of the 47th clause of the Land Act and the 22nd clause of the Arrears Act was not only unfair and unjust, but it was calculated to beget a feeling of resentment and discontent in Ireland, which was not an advantageous feeling at the present time. The Land Act of itself had been a complete failure; it had failed to satisfy the requirements of either landlord or tenant; so that these extraordinary and fantastical constructions of the Act by the Chief Commissioners ought to be avoided as much as possible. If he found that the Chief Secretary did not turn his attention to this matter he would, next Session, bring the matter forward in the shape of a Question to the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland, whose opinions on subjects of this kind were very valuable, and who, he was confident, would not approve of the decision of the Chief Commissioners in this instance. He impressed upon Her Majesty's Government the desirability of their facilitating the hearing of appeals, which would tend to cause landlords and tenants to come to terms, and thus stop that litigation which was distracting the country, and resulting in loss to the people.

MR. MACFARLANE said, he had discussed the Land Act with a good many farmers, and they could not deny that the principles of the Act were very good and sound, and that they were an invaluable boon to the tenantry of Ireland if they could only be put in operation. He did not wish to undervalue for one moment the difficulties the Go-

vernment had at the time they passed the Act. Possibly, they were not able to do more at the time; but what he wished to impress upon them now was the absolute necessity of bringing in, not later than next year, an Act to amend the Act in its relation to leases. It was strictly unfair that a judicial rent should not operate from the date the application to the Court was made. If the Government would bring in an Act next year to amend the Land Act of 1881, so that the rent fixed should be a judicial rent from the date of the application, they would do more to prevent discontent than they could do by any other single measure. As an impartial observer, his firm conviction was that until something was done to amend the Act in the directions he had indicated, the Land Act would not be a complete success.

Mr. BARRY said, he had not had the advantage of hearing the speech of the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland, and, therefore, he was not aware whether the right hon. Gentleman had given any undertaking to amend the Purchase Clauses of the Land Act. In the earlier part of the discussion he listened with pleasure to the speech of his hon. Friend the Member for Newcastle (Mr. Cowen). He agreed with that speech, except in the part where the hon. Gentleman found fault with the Sub-Commissioners for the feeble results of the Purchase Clauses. There was very little fault to be found with the Sub-Commissioners on that head. The fault really laid in the very defective machinery provided by the Act. When the Land Bill was in Committee he submitted an Amendment with the view of increasing the amount of the purchase money, and extending the time for the repayment from 35 years to 52 years; but the Government would not accept it. He then ventured to predict that within one or two years there would be an utter break down of the Purchase Clauses as they stood in the Act; and he thought that by the facts which had been submitted to the Committee that night his prediction had been amply verified. His object in rising now was to impress on the Government the necessity of devoting their attention to an amendment of the Purchase Clauses, because, without amendment, they would simply be a dead letter.

Mr. Macfarlane

Anybody who was anxious for a final settlement of the Irish Land Question must see that the Purchase Clauses would be a large element in contributing to that settlement. He trusted that during the Recess the Government would give their attention to this subject, and that early next Session they would do something which would increase the scope of the Purchase Clauses.

Mr. HARRINGTON said, that the figures which the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland had presented to the Committee were very fallacious. The right hon. Gentleman showed them that the number of cases decided by the Land Commission had increased very largely of late, and he expressed the hope that they would very soon get rid of the arrears of work in the Land Courts. He wished to point out to the right hon. Gentleman that there was a great acceleration of work in the summer months, because the landlords were anxious in those months to co-operate with the tenants and the Sub-Commissioners in getting rid of the work. The landlords desired to have the holdings examined when they looked pleasant and in good condition. He did not wish to dwell upon that fact at any length; but it was well cognizance should be taken of it. Naturally, it was the object of the landlords to retard the settlement of cases as much as possible; and during the winter months especially they did everything in their power to stay the progress of the work of the Sub-Commissioners. He was sorry to see the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland resume his seat without giving the Committee some assurance that he would endeavour to use his influence with the Sub-Commissioners, who, upon the clearest testimony of his hon. Friend the Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy), and upon other unimpeachable testimony, repeatedly visited holdings in company with the landlords and the landlords' agents. That was a state of facts which the right hon. Gentleman, or anyone else who was anxious that the people of Ireland should have confidence in the Land Act, should endeavour to use his influence to put an end to as soon as possible. The people of Ireland were particularly jealous in matters of this kind; and he could assure the right hon. Gentleman and the Government that

his countrymen would have no confidence in the decisions of any Commissioners who visited the holdings in the company of the landlord or the agent. At present this practice on the part of the Sub-Commissioners was doing a great deal to break down the confidence of the people in the Land Act.

Mr. O'KELLY wished to emphasize the point which had just been raised by his hon. Friend (Mr. Harrington). He had occasion that day to call attention to a case occurring in the county of Leitrim, the Sub-Commissioners availing themselves of the use of the carriages of a landlord, and the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland was obliged to admit the facts. Perhaps, from the right hon. Gentleman's point of view, the fact that the Sub-Commissioners were driven from farm to farm by a landlord might not influence them to any great extent in the decisions they gave; but that was not his (Mr. O'Kelly's) opinion, or the opinion of the people of the country. It would be impossible to convince the mass of the Irish tenants that a man who was hand and glove with a landlord and his agents would do justice when he came to try a case brought before him. The hon. Member for Newcastle (Mr. Cowen) had been, he thought, a little severe on the Sub-Commissioners with reference to the failure of the Purchase Clauses. He (Mr. O'Kelly) did not think the failure of the Purchase Clauses was to be ascribed to the conduct of the Sub-Commissioners, nor did he quite agree with some of his hon. Friends as to the cause of the failure of those clauses. The failure would always continue until a radical reform had taken place, and the people were resolved not to purchase their own improvements. Under the law as it stood at present, if a farmer desired to buy his farm he would not only be obliged to buy the landlord's interest in the farm, but also the improvements which he himself had made. Until that blot, which was one of the greatest blots on the Land Act, had been removed by the re-introduction of the "Healy Clause," there would never be any large operation of the Purchase Clauses. He hoped the Government would address themselves to that aspect of the question, for, in his view, that was the main point of the whole discussion.

MR. DALY said, the Prime Minister expressed the opinion, when the Land Act was passing through the Committee, that a great many cases would be decided out of Court; but the mere fact of the judicial rent not dating from the time the originating notice was taken out, a landlord had a direct interest in not coming to terms with his tenant. He knew a large landlord to whom the tenant gave notice that he was going to have a judicial rent fixed. The landlord came to him and said—"Let us not go into Court, but you appoint a valuer, and I will appoint another, and then we will decide upon an umpire." If the Chief Secretary desired it, he would supply him with all the data. As a matter of fact, the tenant, who was a hardworking and industrious man in the estimation of his landlord, had been for years and years living by what was termed in Ireland "the skin of his teeth," for he had paid a rental of £72 a-year. When his case came to be arbitrated upon the rent was reduced to £46, and the landlord accepted it. That was a case that at once illustrated the injustice in the initiation of the Land Act of not permitting fair rents to date from the time the originating notice was taken out. The tenant in question was on the verge of insolvency, and by the re-arrangement he had just been saved from such a position. As the Land Act now stood a premium was given to the landlord to withhold, as far as possible, justice to his tenants. While recognizing that the Land Act had conferred a great benefit upon Ireland, he believed that a great mistake was made in its initiation by not making the fair rents date from the time the tenant gave in his notice that he would require a judicial rent fixed.

Vote agreed to.

(3.) Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That a sum, not exceeding £781,345, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the Constabulary Force in Ireland."

MR. PARNELL said, he merely wished to say that he intended to take a Division against this Vote. The Irish Members had placed their position in regard to this Vote so fully before the House on former occasions that he did not intend

to go over again the ground which they had traversed on those occasions. Suffice it to say that as long as the Government, if not in the letter, in the spirit, violated the Mutiny Act by employing soldiers as policemen, there would always be found a body of Irish Members, increasing from year to year, to protest against the Vote.

COLONEL NOLAN said, the Vote was alluded to at Question-time to-day, and the reason queries relating to it were put upon the Paper was because during the last few days some Returns bearing upon the Constabulary, moved for by the hon. Member for Queen's County (Mr. Arthur O'Connor), were laid on the Table, and were now in manuscript, not having yet been published. These Returns were very extraordinary. The Committee might not be aware of the manner in which charges were made for extra constabulary in Ireland. There was a rule that when the Lord Lieutenant thought extra constables were necessary he ordered him into the county, to be paid for by the particular district, if it was a particular district for which they were required, and if not to be paid for by the whole of the county. He would not cite cases in which particular districts had had to pay for these constables, as it would be unnecessary for his argument. He would merely take cases in which the country at large had to pay. From the Return produced at the request of the hon. Member for Queen's County they found that the present Estimate was not an Estimate to keep up the force at its full strength, but a much less sum—an additional charge being made for extra men. As a matter of fact, before they had their full complement they began charging the county with extra men. This was not, perhaps, a national grievance; but still it was a matter of which he had a right to complain. If anyone else but the Government did such a thing some very hard words might be applied to the transaction—it might, for instance, be called swindling. He had desired to have some words introduced into the Police Bill to prevent the Government from charging in this way under the Peace Preservation Act—that was to say, to prevent them charging for extra police until the full complement was made up. The Committee on that occasion was inclined to support

him; but a statement was made by the right hon. Gentleman the then Chief Secretary (Mr. W. E. Forster) which induced him to withdraw his proposal. The right hon. Gentleman's statement was that the charge would not be made for extra police unless in the case of casualties by illness, death, or retirement. That was the right hon. Gentleman's statement as reported in *Hansard*, and he had heard several speeches to the same effect. Surely the term "casualties" would not include the case of a man who was relieved from active duty for a day or two; and yet the Return to which he had alluded showed that the casualties in many instances amounted to 8 or 9 per cent of the force. In the ordinary course of events, casualties would be filled up in a short space of time, the men being charged for a week or two, and the percentage, at the outside, would not amount to more than 1 or 2. He was aware that the law was as stated by the late Attorney General; and here he would point out that a rather curious thing had happened during the passage of the Coercion Act. In the Bill, as originally drawn, there was no restriction; but in Committee it was proposed to amend the measure to the effect he had stated. On Report another Amendment was introduced, dealing with death, illness, or leave of absence. It might be said, why did he not protest against this at the time? But the fact was, that a large proportion of the Irish Members were silent, no longer being able to take part in the debates—a large number of them had retired. He remained in the House with the hon. Member for Cavan (Mr. Biggar), and they had endeavoured to amend the Bill as well as they could. The Chairman, on four or five occasions, when Divisions were challenged, told them to stand up; they did so, and sometimes there were three or four, sometimes six or seven, the result being that they could not go to a Division. The hon. Member for Cavan was in his place, and he, no doubt, would support this statement. [Mr. BIGGAR: Hear, hear!] After one or two additional struggles to amend the Bill, they were obliged to give way—it was useless to protest. On Report an Amendment was introduced which did not for a moment bear out the promise of the late Attorney General in Committee, as anybody who read

Mr. Parnell

Hansard's Debates would see, for the effect of introducing amongst the casualties leave of absence enabled the authorities to swell up these casualties to any extent they chose. He (Colonel Nolan) maintained that it was utterly unjust to allow that state of things to exist. They knew from the Returns that the list of casualties was very unfairly worked up, and that counties had to pay more than they ought. The Irish Members would have to demand Returns showing the leave of absence of every constable when he had obtained it, and why, seeing that while he had it the county had in each case to pay from £40 to £50 a-year. The Irish Members were placed in an awkward position, and would be obliged to insist upon this Return. He would urge upon the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland to look very carefully into this matter of leave of absence, and to show, as nearly as possible, the casualties by death and sickness; because he maintained that it was most unfair to charge such a county as Galway, for instance, with 8 or 9 per cent of casualties. He would not go into the question of particular districts; but, at the same time, he must say he thought it exceedingly unfair that the whole county should be charged in a future case with these extra police. Such a charge did a great deal of harm. County cess was swelled by this charge to 4s. or 5s. in the pound; people were swindled in this way; and, such being the case, it was the bounden duty of the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland to give them some promise that he would look into it, and see that the charge for casualties, when they exceeded an ordinary sum, were reduced.

Mr. O'KELLY said, he hoped the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland would be able to give them an assurance that they in the counties would not be compelled to pay for men who existed merely on paper. The counties were charged with a number of men who rendered no service whatever. It was most dishonest to make such a charge, and he hoped the right hon. Gentleman would give it his attention and endeavour to put an end to the system.

Mr. TREVELYAN said, he most certainly would look into the question. He thought that when they considered the

circumstances of any disciplined and organized force they had to take into view all the defects and drawbacks which existed amongst human beings. One county was accredited with 280 men; but from that number the services of men who were ill, or absent from any cause, had to be deducted. The hon. and gallant Gentleman (Colonel Nolan) had called his attention to the casualties in the district with which he was connected (Galway); and certainly; looking to the manner in which it compared with other counties, the matter was one which required inquiring into. Before next Session he would see that the lines of the Act were followed, and that they imposed no greater burden upon the counties than they were absolutely obliged to do by law. He understood that the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) intended to take a Division upon the Vote, in order to make a protest against the Constabulary Force in Ireland; and, if that were so, he hoped the Committee would allow it to be taken at once.

COLONEL NOLAN said, that if the right hon. Gentleman would look into this matter he would find that the late Attorney General had used the expression that the casualties which occurred would be filled up in a week or two. If the right hon. Gentleman would see that that statement was adhered to, the casualties might be reduced by a large percentage.

Mr. HEALY said, that as he had twice given way at the request of the Government in regard to the Wexford riot, to which he had wished to draw the attention of the House, hon. Members would excuse him if he took this opportunity of going into the matter. Yesterday the subject was being inquired into, and it was going on also to-day. The conduct of the police in their attack upon the people whilst waiting outside the office of the Mayor of Wexford for the result of the poll at the recent Wexford Election, was not under investigation, the police having prosecuted the people to screen their own conduct. He was in the midst of the riot, and the police were nothing more or less than a mob with rifles in their hands—a mob of men who were no more fit to be trusted with rifles than were a lot of lunatics. But he would give a short statement of what had occurred. He would preface his observations with this

—that the Resident Magistrate who was in charge of the town appeared to have acted with the greatest good sense and with the greatest discretion, as far as he was concerned, throughout. He (Mr. Healy) had no fault to find with that official; but he had the strongest condemnation to pronounce upon the subordinate under his control, who had acted with the greatest barbarity, and passion, and want of caution—in fact, his want of caution was such as no words could adequately describe. He was referring to a man who, on several occasions already, had been in conflict with the people—namely, Sub-Inspector Cameron. At Youghal, some years ago, he very nearly brought about a similar riot. He distinguished himself also while stationed at Gort, in County Galway. In the latter place, in consequence of a dispute as to a right of way, in which some Catholic nuns were concerned, and in which his conduct was not all that it ought to have been, he was obliged after a short time to leave the place. He was removed to Galway, and the present Archbishop, Dr. McEvilly, complained of his conduct in placing spies in church to attend the ministrations of the Catholic religion, and to take notes of the sermons delivered from the pulpit. Owing to the representations of the Archbishop, Sub-Inspector Cameron was removed from Galway. This, then, was the man who was sent down to Wexford. He (Mr. Healy) must say, knowing the town of Wexford well, that had the former Sub-Inspector been in charge on the occasion of the election not the smallest bloodshed or riot would have occurred. The former Sub-Inspector was a man who knew the people thoroughly well—who knew their quiet, peaceful, qualities. The town was one in which not a single “suspect” had been arrested under the Coercion Act—it was also situated in one of the most peaceful and prosperous counties in the whole of Ireland. From one year’s end to another there was scarcely any contest between the people and Her Majesty’s Government. The Sub-Inspector to whom he referred was removed, he was grieved to say, and this Sub-Inspector Cameron sent down in his place. Were this man in the position of an ordinary sub-constable he would have been dismissed long ago, because not only was his general character bad,

but his moral character was of the very worst kind. [“Oh, oh!”] Hon. Members seemed to take exception to that statement; but he was prepared to substantiate the remark he made. His statement was that if Sub-Inspector Cameron had been an ordinary sub-constable he would have been dismissed from the Force long ago, because there was a most inhuman Rule in force amongst the Royal Irish Constabulary, than which nothing had ever been heard of more calculated to shock the feelings of right-thinking people. He would be obliged to read the Code to the Committee. It was one of the Rules of the Royal Irish Constabulary which, no doubt, the Chief Secretary would defend, although probably he would do so reluctantly—

“Code 848—Morality. No man can be allowed to marry a woman with whom he has had criminal intercourse; and should it be found even in the case where a man has married with leave such intercourse has taken place between him and his wife previous to marriage, such person shall be dismissed.”

That was the Code under which the Royal Irish Constabulary was worked; and the Government had chosen this Sub-Inspector for the purpose of making him an exception out of the whole body of the Constabulary. The Code had not been put in force in the case of this Sub-Inspector, possibly because he had insulted the nuns at Gort, and had been driven from Galway at the instance of the Archbishop. If the Chief Secretary required any further particulars with regard to the moral character of Sub-Inspector Cameron, he (Mr. Healy) would be glad to give them to him. He would venture to say that Sub-Inspector Cameron could not contradict a single word he had stated. The Code he had quoted was a disgraceful one. It was shameful to the Constabulary, and to those gentlemen who framed it; but when it was in force it was certainly very unjust that it should only be put in force against sub-constables, and should not be put in force against a Sub-Inspector, who had insulted nuns, and had been driven from towns by Archbishops. Well, to come to the so-called riot at Wexford. The people were standing quietly in front of the Mayor’s office at 5 o’clock waiting for the result of the poll. It was provided by the Ballot Act that the poll should be declared publicly;

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therefore, the people were waiting in their Constitutional right for the declaration of the poll. He (Mr. Healy) was passing through the town at the time, and saw about 40 policemen, with rifles in their hands, driving through the crowd with The O'Connor Don in their midst. Their function was to conduct The O'Connor Don to the Mayor's office. There was no reason in the world why they should have gone through the crowd; but through some mistake on the part of the Sub-Inspector, he supposed, they did so—they went right through the crowd. Some hooting took place, no doubt, but no more than he had heard at many elections in English towns. He (Mr. Healy) had requested the people to cease hooting; but the crowd of policemen having seen The O'Connor Don safely into the Mayor's office turned back, and whilst he (Mr. Healy) was endeavouring to obtain order, before a single rude word had been spoken to the police, and certainly before a single blow had been struck, or a stone thrown, the Constabulary commenced hustling the people, and shoving them with their *bâtons* and the muzzles of their rifles. He (Mr. Healy) had only been saved by a local sergeant from being seriously crushed. Indeed, a person who was with him had had his leg badly injured. Almost in a shorter time than it took him to tell the story, the whole crowd was being attacked by the police. Having seen The O'Connor Don into the office of the Mayor, instead of returning quietly whence they came, as they might have done, the police sallied forth amongst the people, and began to bully and strike them. Sub-Inspector Cameron, without waiting for orders from his superior, the Resident Magistrate, drew his sword, and without reading the Riot Act, and without a word of warning, gave the order for the men to charge. He (Mr. Healy) quite admitted that when the police commenced, to use a Cockneyism, "chevying" the people, the mob commenced to retaliate. When they found themselves in the grip of the police, they began to throw stones, and there was a general *mêlée*; but the origination of the riot was not with the people. He would read the words of a reporter, a Scotchman, who had written him a letter on this subject—the reporter of a Dublin daily paper. Every one of the papers except *The Dublin Express*,

which gave the police account of it—even if they took *The Irish Times*, which was a Conservative paper—was practically against the police. This reporter did not wish him to give his name; but he (Mr. Healy) had already had the honour of showing this letter to the Chief Secretary, but, he was sorry to say, without having obtained satisfaction. Well, this reporter said—

"Late on Tuesday night I was passing through the bar-room of the Ship Hotel in Wexford, when I saw the Head Constable and three or four of his men there. They had drinks round"—

and this was a Constabulary offence—

"at the expense, seemingly, of the Head Constable. As these men were on duty with their rifles, I think it worth mentioning to you, as showing the state of discipline amongst the men, who had a few hours before committed such a murderous and unprovoked attack upon the people."

This Scotch Tory reporter was in the midst of the mob, and he referred to the police attack as "murderous and unprovoked." Nothing was more unpalatable to Irish Members than to have to meet Gentlemen like the Chief Secretary, who took all their instructions from the Irish Police, and who regarded the words of Irish Members like himself as of no account against the words of a policeman. It was a very humiliating thing to be brought into contact with an Official like the Chief Secretary when one's word or credit was concerned. The Chief Secretary was found, in his official capacity, to believe the word of his Sub-Inspectors, or his policemen, against the word of any Irish Representative in that House. He felt so strongly as to this Wexford riot, that he had considered it his duty, as the late Representative of these unfortunate people who were bludgeoned on this occasion, to lay the facts before the right hon. Gentleman. He had done so, and he regretted to say he had not received the slightest satisfaction beyond this—he had asked the right hon. Gentleman for an inquiry, and the right hon. Gentleman had told him that there would be one before the magistrates. The magistrates were, of course, the right hon. Gentleman's own creatures. He trusted that the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland would take note of this—that simply because the Mayor of the town, who was

presiding on the Bench, desired to ask a question of one of the witnesses, he was told by one of the right hon. Gentleman's paid officials, Mr. Macmahon, a Crown solicitor, that his conduct was indecent. Now, he (Mr. Healy) would put it to any English Member, what would be thought in an English town, if some paid official of the Crown, who drew his salary from the taxpayers, ventured to tell the Mayor—say the Mayor of Birmingham, as he saw the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Board of Trade in his place—supposing that official was told by the head of the Watch Committee that his conduct in venturing to ask a question of a witness was indecent, how long would such an official hold his place? And yet the Chief Secretary would hear the conduct of his officials so described, and if he could not defend it, he would gloss it over, because it was the practice of Gentlemen sitting on the Treasury Bench, when they heard charges against their officials, not to take notice of them; but when they heard a lot of the merest fribble-frabble on the other side, to take it up and make much of it. He should like to hear the right hon. Gentleman on that point. What was the fact? Why, the fact was that the police prosecuted in Wexford every person they had bludgeoned or stabbed. They found them prosecuting every man who could give evidence against them. When the unfortunate people brought an action against the police, the magistrates dismissed them; and in order to prevent witnesses from being called to give evidence against the police, there were included in a common indictment all people who had been witnesses of the barbarity of the police. In the same way, at a town in County Clare, everyone who witnessed the action of the constables was arrested; and it was the same again at Ballyragget, where men who were getting up evidence in regard to a certain case were put in gaol. Nothing like an impartial inquiry was made by the Chief Secretary, and that was what he complained of. He would be content if the right hon. Gentleman would take the evidence of the reporters of the three Tory anti-popular Dublin papers—*The Dublin Evening Mail*, *The Dublin Express*, and *The Irish Times*. If the Chief Secretary would take that, and hold an inquiry, he would be con-

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tent to abide by the result; but the right hon. Gentleman had no intention of doing anything of the kind. But when an English riot took place, an opposite course was pursued; there was the amplest inquiry and investigation. But when they who represented the people of Ireland brought forward these cases, they found that the word of the humblest policeman was preferred to theirs by the Chief Secretary. If he said the constables were murderers, he might be accused of bias and prejudice; but in this case the reporter of *The Dublin Evening Mail* described the conduct of the police as murderous, and yet he could get no satisfaction from the right hon. Gentleman. The town of Wexford was one of the quietest towns in Ireland, and there was not a single "suspect" arrested there during the "Buckshot" reign of terror. In the whole county there were, practically, no outrages; and it was, in fact, one of the most prosperous and peaceable counties in Ireland. He supposed the next thing would be that these unfortunate men would be summarily dealt with, or be sent forward for trial. If the latter course was adopted, what would happen? When the Winter Assizes came on, and bail cases were brought forward, the Crown would make terms with these men, and tell them that if they pleaded guilty they would let them out on their own recognizances; and so they would get the men to plead guilty, and yet not bring them to trial. That was what occurred in the town of Miltown Malbay. Wexford, which was previously a quiet town, would now have remembrances of the conduct of the police, which was justified by the Irish Executive, and the people would realize that they might have their heads broken, and their bodies stabbed, but would get no reparation or compensation.

Mr. HARRINGTON said, he wished to call attention to a similar case of which he was a witness. In July, last year, he attended a meeting at a town in Kerry, and when the people were assembled, the Resident Magistrate rushed into the middle of the crowd, which was perfectly peaceable and orderly, accompanied by about 18 policemen, and without any previous intimation whatever called upon the people to separate. This was before the Prevention of Crime Act was passed, and the magistrate had not the extraordinary power which he now

wielded, and at that time his interference with a meeting which was perfectly orderly was grossly illegal. He was at the moment addressing the meeting, and when this occurred he left the window from which he had been speaking and asked the Resident Magistrate why he interfered, and what was his objection to the meeting being held? The reply of the Magistrate was that he would not be catechized by him. He then asked whether the objection was to the meeting being held in the street, as, if that was so, he would remove it to another place? The Magistrate said he had better remove the meeting, and he called upon the people to leave the town. They did so, and re-assembled in a field, and when the meeting was again going on, Captain Massey, followed by a body of drunken policemen, with rifles in their hands, rushed from the town, and without a word broke in upon the meeting and beat the people with their *bâtons*. And not only that, but two of the policemen drew their revolvers, and fired into the crowd, though fortunately without hitting anyone. [*A laugh.*] The reason was that the men were too drunk to find their marks. They went to remove him from the place where he had been addressing the meeting; but he refused to leave until they brought the superior officer to tell him by what right he had interfered with the meeting. The officer, however, refused to come, and they arrested him (Mr. Harrington), and took him to a common lock-up, where they kept him all the night. In the morning they found themselves in a disagreeable fix, for they did not know what charge to make. After reflection, they charged him with riot; and when the charge came to be tried, what did the Executive Government in Ireland do? They refused to have the charge tried by the local magistrates in the district, and brought into the county—when the Prevention of Crime Act was not in force—two Resident Magistrates, who had never been in the county before, and who were entirely unknown to the magistrates there; and the result was that when they went on the first day to take their seats, the local magistrates refused to sit with them. The inquiry proceeded for some days, and at the close those two magistrates, who had gone there to save the police and the Resident Magistrate, alone returned the case for trial, and re-

turned him for trial with others. At the conclusion of the inquiry he challenged the magistrates to bring him or any of the persons to trial, and stated that the disclosures as to the conduct of the police would be so disgraceful that they would not attempt to have the case tried before a Superior Court. The case was to have been heard at the Tralee Assizes, but it was struck out. The object of the Officers of the Crown in doing that was to screen the police, who had acted illegally. The police were so intoxicated on that occasion that they actually beat the officers who were in charge of the soldiers. It was proved that they pursued the officers and beat them with their *bâtons*. When an Irish policeman made a statement it was accepted by the Chief Secretary as unquestionable; but the Government in that way fell into a great many mistakes. Some time ago he asked a Question respecting the interference by a policeman with a constituent of his in Westmeath, and what was the answer he received? He would repeat the answer, to show how these men were screened, and how the conduct of the police was justified by the Chief Secretary. On the 10th of May he asked if the Chief Secretary's attention had been called to a paragraph in *The Westmeath Examiner*, which stated that a head-constable had made his way into the house of a man named Gibney, and questioned him as to his knowledge of the murder of Mrs. Smythe; that although they said they did not suspect him they told him they were aware that he knew all about the murder; and on his saying he knew nothing about it they called him a ruffian and a puppy, and said the day would come when he would be glad to give information, but would not then get the opportunity? The reply of the Chief Secretary was that he had seen the paragraph, and had made inquiries, and he found that the statement was garbled and strained, and that the allegations against the police were without foundation. He asked if the right hon. Gentleman would make inquiry of the man who had made the statement? There were two sides to every question; but the right hon. Gentleman refused to hold any communication with the man who had made the allegation against the police. Desiring to have correct information upon the occurrence, he had ob-

tained a sworn affidavit from the man who had made the allegation, and this he would read. It was as follows:—

“Petty Sessions District of Collinstown, County of Westmeath. I, James Gibney, of Kilpatrick, do solemnly and sincerely declare, That I am a farmer living at Kilpatrick, that on the 1st day of May, 1883, I was at my house, and two constables—namely, Constables Lynch and Tilson, came to my door and asked for me. I went out, and Constable Lynch said to me that I should have known all about the murder of Mrs. Smythe, when he himself knew it. I made reply that I knew nothing at all about it, and then Constable Tilson, who was standing by at the time, said to me, with his clenched fist to my face, that I was a ruffian and a puppy, and that the day would come when I would strive to tell it, and would not be let to do so like the rest of them. Then when they were leaving, Constable Lynch made reply, saying, ‘that I can tell you that you spent your day with the murderer.’”

Appended to that declaration was a note for the parish priest, saying he had never known a more sober, honest, and peaceable young man than Gibney; and yet, in the face of these facts, the Chief Secretary refused to make any further inquiry. He took it, as a matter of course, that the police were never wrong. A policeman could bludgeon people in Ireland; and when he made a statement it was treated as perfectly infallible. It happened that, time after time, the information which Irish Members elicited in reference to these things, was information which everyone in the district knew to be absolutely incorrect.

Mr. TREVELYAN said, that with regard to the main substance of the speech of the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy), it was plain that the Committee would not expect him to say anything, and he rather thought the hon. Member himself did not expect him to say anything. In substance, the hon. Member's speech was an inquiry into the nature of the occurrences at Wexford; but at this very moment those occurrences were the subject of judicial inquiry; and whatever view the hon. Member might take of the House of Commons as a platform for discussing matters of this kind, which were now before a Court of Law, it was clear that he himself could not make that use of his position in this House. This matter was now before the Court of Inquiry, which was the only Court of Inquiry that could come to a right decision upon it. The hon. Member had said he had had a private interview with

him, and regretted having spoken out on that occasion, because he did not regard the word of Irish Members. To begin with, the hon. Member had no reason to regret having spoken, because every word he said was at a private interview, and was regarded by him as private, and no harm was done by his having given his view of this matter. But it was not for him to compare the impression of these events on the mind of the hon. Member with the impression on the police. It was not for him to question whether or not he could take the opinion of the reporters of the three Conservative papers. It was clear that in a matter in which grave charges were brought forward on either side—the charges by the hon. Member amounting almost to intended murder by the police, and, on the other side, charges of almost murderous rioting by certain citizens of Wexford—reporters were not a proper tribunal. The only tribunals that could try such charges were the tribunals of the country; and, although the hon. Member might have his own suspicions of those tribunals, it was absolutely impossible for him to substitute any other body for them. Therefore, he would not enter into the question of the Wexford riot, except to say that the reports he had received did not at all bear out the view taken by the hon. Member of that occurrence; but he was quite aware that the discrepancies between the hon. Member and those who had reported to the Executive were the sort of discrepancies which naturally occurred between the observations of people who took a very different view of the case. But it was absolutely impossible for him to pass over, without notice, one or two observations of a personal nature made by the hon. Member. When very strong things were said in that House he very much doubted whether the proper answer to them was strength of language in proportion to that which had been used on the other side. There were certain things so grave that it was absolutely impossible to use language strong enough to express one's feelings about what had been said, without at the same time violating the dignity of that House, while producing no good effect; and, therefore, the language he should use would be of the most moderate description. The officer who was in charge of the military at

Wexford was Sub-Inspector Cameron. That officer took with him a force which he supposed it was his duty to take, and his conduct was at this moment practically before a Judicial Tribunal; but the hon. Member had made certain charges respecting that officer's antecedents, and on that point he was absolutely bound to say, taking the question of the Wexford riot apart, that the Government were perfectly satisfied that Sub-Inspector Cameron was a zealous and a judicious and an honourable officer. The hon. Member made two charges against him—one relating to a difference he had with the Bishop, into which he would not enter now, for it was a very long story, and it would take the House a very long time to go into it. When it was examined, that case was a very small matter really; but he must remind the hon. Member that it was very possible—though he did not think that in this case Cameron was rude to the Bishop—to say very rude things to a very great Bishop and, at the same time, preserve the confidence of the people. The hon. Member said Sub-Inspector Cameron came down with brutal force, and behaved in a very arbitrary manner to some ladies who were members of a religious body. In 1871 the Rev. Mr. Shannon complained of Sub-Inspector Cameron for having arbitrarily interfered in a dispute as to a right of way between a Dr. Melville and some nuns. The nuns claimed the right to pass over a yard belonging to Dr. Melville, and they broke down a barrier. Sub-Inspector Cameron and some of his men took their station near the place of dispute, with the object of being in the locality; and while they were there a mounted orderly brought to Sub-Inspector Cameron a message from the Resident Magistrate. The charge which the Rev. Mr. Shannon made against the Sub-Inspector was that he and one of his men went into the passage in dispute for the purpose of intimidating the nuns. This matter was investigated by an officer, and the result was that Sub-Inspector Cameron was completely exonerated as having done nothing more than his duty. That decision did not satisfy the Rev. Mr. Shannon, and he, in strong terms, demanded a further investigation; but the Government saw no reason for complying with that decision. [Mr. HEALY: Was the inquiry

public?] The inquiry was not public; but the charge was a very light one; and if in 18 years there were only two charges of about this gravity brought against an officer, he thought his antecedents might be said to be very clear. But he could not pass by so lightly another observation of the hon. Member. He could not imagine what idea the hon. Member had of his position in the House of Commons, and of the privileges of Parliament; but this was what had happened. The hon. Member had repeated a statement from which everybody could draw only one conclusion. He brought a horrible charge against Mrs. Cameron, stating that she had lived with her husband before they were married. That was the gist of what the hon. Member said. He had heard nothing of this matter, and he had no reason to suppose it was true; but, even if it was true, he contended that it ought never to have been stated in that House. He did not think that in regard to such charges against men and against women—and he drew no distinction between the two, because he thought that a man's honour and sensitive feelings in these things were just as much to be respected as a woman's—the House of Commons ought to be made a place for references of this kind, unless such references were absolutely necessary in order to obtain a right judgment on public affairs. He thought the hon. Member should consider what an awful precedent he was setting. It would be bad enough if the House took to raking up all sorts of stories, true or in part true, about Members of the House; but what a terrible thing it would be if they took to raking up stories about people who had not seats in that House! They would make the Public Service so intolerable that they would not be able to get men to serve their country, except such men as were indifferent as to their character. He felt certain that in making these charges the hon. Member had not reflected on the great possibilities for evil of which he was setting an example. He did not think it necessary to comment further upon the matter.

Mr. HEALY said, his point with regard to Sub-Inspector Cameron was that, because of the favour with which he was treated by superior officers, conduct was overlooked in him which in the meanest

petty officer would be visited with dismissal. Here was this brutal and shameful Rule 848 existing. Whose shame was it that that Rule existed? What did it exist for? To be put in force, or not to be put in force? The Chief Secretary was responsible for it, and here in his place he defended it. The Rule was either to be put in force, or it was not. If there were Sub-Inspectors in Ireland unduly favoured, that must be because they had shown themselves venomous and malignant opponents of the popular Party in the country; and yet Irish Members were to be condemned for having exposed the conduct of Sub-Inspector Cameron; and, after he had attempted to smash the heads and stab the hearts of the people, they were expected to have great tenderness and respect for him. The right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary had not seen, as he had seen in Wexford, the blood of his best friends staining the ground for simply exercising their civil functions. But the character of Sub-Inspector Cameron, who ruled the constituency and had control over the lives and happiness of the bread-winners in Wexford, was everything to the right hon. Gentleman. He (Mr. Healy) wanted to know whether this Code was in operation or not? If it were, let it be put in force against Sub-Inspector Cameron. He maintained that on account of his antagonism to the popular Party this man had been placed in a position of responsibility that he had no business to occupy, and that his fault had been overlooked; and he asked how long he was to remain in charge of a mob of armed men ready at any time to make an onslaught upon the people with rifles and fixed bayonets? From the expressions which reached his ears when these things were being told, he verily believed that when anything of this kind happened in Ireland it gave satisfaction to every Englishman in that House. There was no pity for the unfortunate men who got bread and water and the plank-bed in prison; but for Sub-Inspector Cameron, the pure and noble officer, there was the greatest sympathy shown when his character was ripped up in that House. The right hon. Gentleman had heard of the stings which wounded honour felt being healed by certain things; this was a good opportunity to promote the officer in ques-

Mr. Healy

tion, say, to the office of Chief Spy at Dublin Castle.

MR. O'KELLY said, he could understand the position taken up by the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, if this was an isolated case of attack, and was the subject of inquiry before a Court. But the Wexford incident was but the general outcome of the conduct of the police, who, whenever they had an opportunity of attacking the people, pursued exactly the same course; and in this, as far his experience went, they were always sustained by the Government. They could never get anything like an independent inquiry into the conduct of the police; when an appeal was made in that House for justice they were always told that the matter was *sub judice*. But before whom? The Government selected men who were part of the Force to which the accused person belonged, men who were moved by *esprit de corps*; and these held a sort of inquiry into the conduct of the individual, the result of which was communicated to the Government, who came to a decision upon the matter, and they knew well what those decisions usually were. A case of this kind had occurred within his own experience in Ulster, where the police, under a Sub-Inspector, attacked and broke up a peaceable meeting at which there was not even the beginning of a riot—not a stone was thrown, nor a blow struck. Hearing a good deal of the possibility of obtaining justice in this matter, he proceeded against the Sub-Inspector civilly; he knew it was of no use to proceed criminally, because the futility of the remedy had been proved in that House. What was the conduct of the Government on the occasion? Instead of allowing the question to be tried fairly as a civil action between man and man, they threw the whole weight of their influence on the side of the defendant; employed Mr. Anderson, Crown Solicitor of Dublin, and practically instituted a Crown prosecution against himself. He believed at one time that he was in danger of being arrested for high treason for having brought, or rather tried to bring, this man to justice—in fact, counts of high treason were alleged against him by the Government. The Judges deliberately postponed their decision in this action at law until a decision had been arrived at in the English Courts in

the case of the Salvation Army, who claimed the protection of the police in their right to hold public meetings, which protection had been refused by the police; but the matter having come before the Courts, the right to demand protection was affirmed. What was the action of the Irish Courts? Before the judgment of the English Court could be registered, which would have otherwise been a guide to them, they immediately assembled in all haste, and decided against the very right which two or three days before had been affirmed by the English Court. Therefore, he said, they had no remedy, either criminal or civil, against the police. When they brought the police before a Criminal Court the Government packed the jury; and if they appealed to a Civil Court they did practically the same thing, and something more—they threw the whole weight of their influence upon the side of the defence. For these reasons he felt it his duty to oppose the Vote as a protest against the conduct of the Government.

MR. BULWER remarked, that, some years ago, Lord Palmerston had congratulated the House of Commons upon being "an Assemblage of Gentlemen;" but their experience of the last few weeks had cast some doubt how far that assertion was applicable to the present time. He ventured to offer, on behalf of Members of the House, a most earnest and indignant protest against the language they had been listening to that night. The hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) had considered it decent, and consistent with his position as a Member of the House of Commons, to hold up to reprobation in that House the private character of a public servant in his absence, and without Notice, knowing that the language he used, although privileged there, would go throughout the length and breadth of Ireland, including that portion of it which he misrepresented.

MR. HARRINGTON rose to a point of Order. He wished to know whether it was in Order for one hon. Member to say that another hon. Member misrepresented his country?

MR. BULWER said, as the hon. Member objected to that term, he would say that portion also which he "represented." But, after all, what did the accusation made against this man amount

to, even if it were true? Simply to this—that, having wronged a woman, he had afterwards made her the only reparation in his power by making her an honest woman. As against the man it was no very serious accusation, but as affecting the woman it was abominable. But this it was which the hon. Member thought fit to bring before an Assembly of Gentlemen, and to hold up to the reprobation not only of that House, but of the whole of Ireland. He (Mr. Bulwer) had been in hope that even stronger language would have come from the Treasury Bench than that which the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland had made use of, condemning the course taken by the hon. Member. He would like to know whether the hon. Member told the Committee this story on his own knowledge, or was he making the statement upon what some malignant fellow had told him? But, supposing the statement was true, what business had the hon. Member to bring it forward, affecting, as it did, the character of a married woman, in an Assembly of Gentlemen, when he knew there was no one present to defend the individual of whom he made it? [MR. HEALY: Are you a friend of the Code?] Whether he was in favour of the Code or not had nothing to do with the statement made by the hon. Gentleman with regard to Sub-Inspector Cameron and his wife, which was a cowardly and uncalled-for attack.

MR. BARRY said, it was the invariable rule of the Government officials in that House, the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and the Attorney General for Ireland, to ignore the statements of Irish Members upon affairs in Ireland, and to accept unreservedly the statements of Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors of Police. Now, with regard to Sub-Inspector Cameron. The hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy), whose veracity had never been impugned either in or out of that House, had described the action of the police at Wexford as unprovoked and brutal, and constituting a murderous outrage upon the people; he had backed up his statement with the testimony of three independent witnesses, who could not be suspected of leaning, in the slightest degree, to the side of the people; and yet the only answer which the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ire-

land gave was that the case was *sub judice*. The right hon. Gentleman placed no value at all on the statement of the hon. Member for Monaghan, and he was prepared to receive the testimony of an Irish constable. The right hon. Gentleman, in his conscience, knew that there was no chance of the truth of this matter being brought out before the Tribunal to which the case had been submitted; he knew the character of that Tribunal, and he knew that the character of Sub-Inspector Cameron would be screened by it; and yet, in the face of that knowledge, he did not hesitate to question the accuracy of the hon. Gentleman. He (Mr. Barry) knew Wexford well, and he had seen 30,000 people gathered in that town during the most excited period of the Land League agitation; and he could say that he had never witnessed there the slightest approach to a breach of the peace, or heard a rude word spoken. On the occasion he was referring to he had gone round the town with an English gentleman at 9 o'clock in the evening, and that gentleman, speaking of the orderly conduct of the people, said he could "hardly believe the evidence of his senses." It was extraordinary that during the Land League agitation there had never occurred in Wexford the slightest conflict between the police and the people; but on the first occasion when Sub-Inspector Cameron was in charge of the police the town became the scene of bloodshed. For his own part, he was certain that the Government would screen the conduct of this person. The Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant must expect that when unjustifiable attacks were made on the people by the police, the former would turn round upon those who attacked them. He was glad they had done so at Wexford; and, in view of the hopelessness of getting satisfaction from the Government as to what was done, his advice to the people was that whenever an unjustifiable attack was made upon them, to snatch the weapons out of the hands of the Constabulary and crack their heads with them.

Question put.

The Committee divided:—Ayes 111; Noes 20: Majority 91.—(Div. List, No. 294.)

Vote agreed to.

Mr. Barry

(4.) £88,689, to complete the sum for Prisons, Ireland.

Mr. PARNELL said, he wished to draw the attention of the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant to a new Rule made by the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland under the powers conferred by the Act of 1877. In that Act it was provided that a clear distinction should be made between the treatment of prisoners awaiting trial, and not convicted of any crime, and those who had been convicted of crime; and special directions were given by the Lord Lieutenant to the Prison Board in Ireland to draw up Rules for the purpose of carrying out the spirit of that section of the Act to which he was referring. He believed Rules were drawn up under that section by the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Secretary of State for the Home Department, and by the Prison Board in Ireland, giving certain privileges or guarantees to untried prisoners. Amongst these privileges and rights to the prisoner was that of receiving visits, one visit a-day from a relative, in the presence, of course, of a prison warder. Several other privileges were given; but a few months, he thought two months ago, the Prisons Board in Ireland took upon themselves, evidently by direction of the Lord Lieutenant, to make a new Rule which practically abrogated the rights and privileges conferred upon untried prisoners, and which practically repealed a section of the Act in question. Under this new Rule the prison authorities were, practically speaking, able to prevent a prisoner from availing himself of any of the privileges which the Act of 1877 granted. The new Rule had been more especially used in the direction of denying visits to prisoners awaiting trial. It had constantly happened that certain prisoners awaiting trial in Ireland had been kept to solitary confinement for months and months together. He wished to direct the attention particularly of the right hon. Gentleman the late Home Secretary (Sir R. Assheton Cross) to this matter, because that right hon. Gentleman was distinguished for his desire, during the passing of the present Act, to ensure by Statute that there should be a distinction between tried and untried prisoners, and that there should be those privileges, of

which untried prisoners had been deprived by the Lord Lieutenant, beyond yea and nay, and as part of the law of the land. The terms of that most extraordinary special Rule, made by the Prisons Board on the 7th of May, 1883, and approved by the Lord Lieutenant on the same day, provided that the Visiting Committee or the Governor might suspend or withdraw permission granted by the section in any case when they or he considered it necessary to do so for the purposes of the security, good order, and government of the prison and prisoners therein, or to prevent the tampering with evidence, or to thwart plans of escape. He denied that the Visiting Committee had power to withdraw the provisions of the Statute of 1877 from untried prisoners; and he denied that it was contemplated by the Statute, which fenced the powers of the Governor round with safeguards and checks, that the Governor should have power, by his own motion, to suspend any one of these Rules for the vague considerations and pretences specified in the clauses. The real reason why this Rule was granted was not for the purpose of the security of the good order of the prison and prisoners therein, or to prevent the tampering with evidence, or to thwart plans of escape, but for the purpose of enabling the most infamous system of *mouchardism*, which had ever disgraced any Administration in Ireland, to be carried on. The Government were successful, to a certain extent, or rather they supposed they were successful, by the violation of the Statute of 1877, in detecting the Phoenix Park assassins; but he maintained that if they had expected, even in a ten-fold degree, by the violation of the Act of Parliament, to have brought about the conviction of these prisoners, they would not have been justified in breaking the law, and of setting a bad example to the people. Least of all were they justified in proceeding, in the wholesale manner in which they had proceeded, in depriving the prisoners of the privileges extended to them by the last Parliament after full consideration—privileges and guarantees which were granted with the full consent of both political Parties, including the then Home Secretary (Sir R. Assheton Cross). The Government had not shown the slightest reason, pretext, or excuse for their conduct. He was waiting

with curiosity to hear what defence could be set up for the Lord Lieutenant. That question of the treatment of untried prisoners was one which the Irish Members would closely watch. He knew well how easy it was to convert the imprisonment of prisoners awaiting trial into a system of slow torture. That was what was being done at the present time. Men were being driven out of their minds and converted into lunatics under the system adopted by the Government. It was horrible to think that at the present time men were being slowly driven mad by the system of solitary confinement which was pursued, and the postponement of men's trials from one Assize to another. If the Government thought themselves justified in claiming that the violation of the law helped them to bring about the conviction of the Phoenix Park assassins, they had certainly failed in all the conspiracy cases which had followed the Phoenix Park murders. The Mayo, the King's County cases, had broken down, and the Government were simply detaining persons in prison, under the infamous system he had described, for the purpose of fishing for evidence which they could not legitimately obtain.

MR. TREVELYAN said, that, as on many other important occasions of the Executive, the reason which permitted this particular action was very simple. It was very often the case that when a very strong measure had to be taken the defence of that measure was also strong, and, being strong, was easy to state. In January of this year the Irish Government found itself face to face with a position which he supposed was quite unprecedented in these Islands. The City of Dublin for 12 months before had been at the mercy of an invisible gang of murderers. On that subject there was no difference of opinion in any way. Whether the men who were executed were the murderers some people doubted, or professed to doubt; but that there was a powerful gang of murderers who dominated the streets of Dublin there could be no doubt. During the first few months of last year there were in Dublin—in the comparatively small population of Dublin—four homicides, three of which were most undoubtedly known at the time to be connected with secret societies, and the fourth of which was then suspected, and had since been ascertained, to have been so con-

nected. A society so strongly organized, and that required such terrible punishment to keep it in order, was quite certain to attempt dreadful things, and at the same time it was known to exercise such terrorism in all quarters that the detection of individual members of it was rendered next to impossible. At length, by a series of contingencies, to which he now need not further refer, but the most important of which, perhaps, was a murderous assault upon Mr. Field, and the almost chance identification of one of the persons engaged in that assault, the Government were able to lay their hands upon that gang. But when the members of the gang were arrested and were put in prison, one thing was quite certain—that with the fact of their being incarcerated the terrorism did not cease. Witnesses and people who had the means of being witnesses would not dare to give evidence with such terrible examples before them of men being shot and stabbed in Dublin in the early months of last year for being supposed to have given evidence. The Government had evidence in its hands before then that members, or that one member, at any rate, of that very gang, while in prison for a minor offence had conveyed to another member a letter directing the murder of a particular person. Both the persons to whom he referred had been convicted of connection with the Phoenix Park murders. Besides that, the Government were actuated by this knowledge—the knowledge of the certainty that if these desperate villains were able to communicate with persons outside they would contrive to terrify all those private citizens of Dublin who were willing to give evidence against them, and if they did not succeed in terrifying them would get them assassinated. It was no libel to say all this when they recollected what happened—namely, that a private citizen, whose only fault was that he came, under compulsion, to serve as a juror, and being a juror gave the verdict which his conscience obliged him to give, was attacked by men whose intention was to murder him, and was only saved by his own remarkable presence of mind and an extraordinarily exceptional strength of constitution. If the Government did not know whether or not they had got the whole gang they strongly suspected that several were still at large, and they

Mr. Trevelyan

thought it absolutely necessary to prevent communication between the prisoners and the outside—first of all, for the purpose of securing the honest evidence which would come forward if there was no terrorism; and, secondly, for the still more important purpose of securing the lives of citizens outside the prison. Under these circumstances, the Government took the very strong step of suspending the permission to receive visitors. The law was not perfectly clear upon the point—that he admitted. Following the advice of several persons much more competent than himself, with whom he had conferred on the subject, he was inclined to think that the Statute bore the construction they put upon it; but he would allow that it was only in the interests of public safety, in a most exceptional state of things, that they would have been justified in altering the Rule. Accordingly, when there seemed to be some prospect of some alteration of the Rule being required he advised the Lord Lieutenant, and the noble Earl readily agreed with him, that they should at once proceed to secure the safety of witnesses, and alter the Rule, and lay it openly upon the Table of the House, securing Parliamentary and Statutory sanction to the course they felt it their duty to take. He was perfectly aware of the interest which the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) took in matters relating to prisoners, both tried and untried, and that he insisted upon the due performance by the State of its duties towards these people. Any ordinary warmth, in fact even greater warmth than the hon. Member had shown, he should not be unwilling to excuse, if he might use the word—nay, he might also say he should be inclined to feel a certain sympathy with; but there were some words which the hon. Member had used which he could not allow to pass unnoticed. The hon. Member, referring to the policy of the Government in regard to the Prison Rules, had spoken of that “most infamous system of *mouchardism* which had ever occurred.” Well he (Mr. Trevelyan) did not believe there was a single Member in the House who, whatever he thought of the methods by which it was done, believed that any one of the men who was executed for the Phoenix Park murders was not guilty. The system which was adopted of bringing these

murderers to justice was perfectly allowable. In the face of day every man of those who was tried had the evidence of independent citizens to corroborate the evidence of informers to convict him; and he (Mr. Trevelyan) utterly denied that the Government, with regard to these trials, had done anything that it need be ashamed of. He did not hesitate to say that in the exceptional state of things of a society like "The Invincibles" being rampant in the City, the Government had acted perfectly legitimately.

Mr. PARNELL said, that in his remarks he had referred to what had been going on, and what was still going on, in every gaol in Ireland where prisoners were awaiting trial.

Mr. TREVELYAN said, he knew what view the hon. Member, and those who acted with him, took as to the system under which crime had been detected in Ireland; but he repudiated the epithets the hon. Member had used, and contended that the course the Government had adopted was perfectly justified. One of the methods they had adopted in the prosecution of their efforts to detect crime was that of preventing prisoners, under exceptional circumstances, from seeing and communicating with people from outside. He perfectly agreed that it was right, in a matter of this kind, that the action of the Executive should be closely watched; but he did not hesitate to say that in the exceptional state of things which had existed, and which had never occurred before in Ireland, of a society like "The Invincibles" being rampant in the country—a society he did not hesitate to say worse than that secret society which had existed in Pennsylvania—the Government had a perfectly legitimate right to take every care that the terrorism should not be continued after the prisoners were in custody.

Mr. PARNELL said, the right hon. Gentleman actually defended himself and the Irish Government for having made a Rule on the 7th of May, 1883, on the ground that the Rule was necessary in January in order to detect the Phoenix Park assassins, who were actually executed before the Rule was made at all. He really must ask the right hon. Gentleman to examine this question seriously. The argument of the right hon. Gentleman reminded him

very much of the action of a horse dealer of whom he once heard, who, when he was asked how old the horse he was endeavouring to sell was, and whether he would allow the would be purchaser to look at its mouth, brought that purchaser round and showed him what a splendid tail the animal had. The right hon. Gentleman showed them how well the Rule was adapted to the discovery of the Phoenix Park assassins, when the assassins were detected without the Rule at all. There were examples of prisoners awaiting trial in cases which the right hon. Gentleman had not mentioned, all of them being deprived of the privileges granted to them under the Act of 1877. The law said—

"Whereas it is expedient that a clear difference should be made between the treatment of prisoners unconvicted of crime, and in law presumably innocent, during the period of their detention in prison for safe custody only, and the treatment of persons convicted of crime."

According to this there were to be special Rules regulating the confinement of persons unconvicted of crime, so as to make the law as little as possible oppressive. The Act said—

"Therefore be it enacted that the Secretary of State shall make, and may from time to time repeal, alter, or add special Rules with respect to the communication between a prisoner, his solicitor, and friends, so as to secure to such prisoner as unrestricted a private communication between him, his solicitor, or friends, as may be possible, having regard only to the necessity of preventing any tampering with evidence, and any plans for escape, or other like considerations."

It was the Rules made under the provision of that section that the right hon. Gentleman allowed any Governor of an Irish prison to abrogate and disregard. The right hon. Gentleman admitted his (Mr. Parnell's) whole case. There was nothing in the Statute referring to the detection of crime; and, therefore, this was a new system introduced by the right hon. Gentleman and Lord Spencer. The privilege given to untried prisoners had been struck off from the list of Rules, and he (Mr. Parnell) and the Irish Members were bound to protest against it. The right hon. Gentleman said the Rules were necessary for the detection of the Phoenix Park assassins. Well, was it still necessary to keep the present Rules in existence for the purpose of these or any other crimes in

Ireland? If not, it was to be hoped the right hon. Gentleman would be able to announce that he would at once consult with the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland as to the advisability of repealing this most objectionable system.

Mr. HEALY said, that anything more farcical than the visits these unfortunate untried prisoners got now could not be imagined. If the Committee would imagine a door, perforated something like the outer door of the House leading into the Lobby, with a grating in front of it with the view going through a little box two feet long, with a warder at each end of it, the grating being so close that they could hardly pass a needle through it, they would have some idea of the aperture through which an untried prisoner communicated with his friends. As he had said, there was a warder waiting at each end for every word that was said. A prisoner could not see the person with whom he was conversing, or if he could see anything all that could meet his gaze would be the tip of his friend's nose, and it required the greatest effort to make oneself heard; they had to screech through two squares of metal grating. He was astonished that even an Irish Secretary should display such an amount of ignorance upon a subject of this kind as had been exhibited by the right hon. Gentleman. How an unfortunate man could be supposed to transfer plans and materials of conspiracy through a grating, into which they could not insert a needle, with two warders watching his actions, was more than he could imagine. The right hon. Gentleman might have been told that this sort of thing was the case; but he ought to know perfectly well that such statements were only for the House of Commons. The right hon. Gentleman knew, in his own mind, that it was very easy to deceive hon. Members like the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Cambridge; but he should not attempt to make "the worse appear the better reason," and muddle people of sense; he could not fool the Irish Members in this matter; he could deceive hon. Gentlemen behind him, but not the Irish Members. He was quite sure that the whole subject of prison visits was a difficult one, and that there were abuses in many cases. He had seen prisoners visited by a class of per-

sons who should scarcely be allowed to visit them; but it was one thing to keep out such a class of persons as those, and quite another to refuse to allow the prisoners to be visited by their fathers, their mothers, their wives, or their children. This was a matter which really placed the prisoners at the mercy of the Governor. The Rule ought not to be of general application; it should not apply to the presence of members of the prisoner's own family. Surely the right hon. Gentleman would not contend that a man's wife or his little children were parties to these dreadful murders. It was one thing to make the Rule applicable to outside parties, and quite another to use it in this way. The Mayo prisoners had been put into gaol, and papers addressed to them which contained certain facts had had those facts cut out. Who did that, he would ask, and why was it done? Did the right hon. Gentleman defend it, or say it was necessary for the prevention of crime? He wanted an answer to that question from the right hon. Gentleman. A paper sent to those prisoners, and simply containing a letter from one of them in self-defence, was prevented from reaching the other prisoners. Had the right hon. Gentleman any explanation of that fact to offer?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, in reference to that question he had no information whatever. He had no control over the prison authorities. [Mr. HEALY: Who has?] As to the legality of what had taken place he could express no opinion. The authority and the responsibility rested with the Governor of the prison, under Rules which he administered under the superintendence of the Prisons Board. He (the Attorney General for Ireland) supposed the Governor had a warrant for what he did, and acted under authority. Beyond that he (the Attorney General for Ireland) had no knowledge whatever of the matter. With regard to the suggestion made as to the treatment of the prisoners and the visits of persons from outside, he would say that the prisoners had always been allowed to hold unrestricted communication with their legal advisers at all times.

Mr. HEALY: It was absolutely stopped for some days. They would allow no one to visit.

Mr. Parnell

MR. PARNELL: Under this Rule has the Governor power, of his own option, to keep people out?

MR. O'KELLY: Is there anybody over the Prisons Board?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER): I am not aware of the circumstances of the case mentioned by the hon. Member for Monaghan.

MR. HEALY: Of course not.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) said, it was impossible for him to keep up the discussion if he was to be continually interrupted. His right hon. Friend had already stated that what had been done under the new Rule would have been perfectly legal under the Rule as it stood before; and the point of this would be clearly seen if a comparison of the two Rules was made. However, it had been thought right to put the matter at rest, and therefore the new Rule had been provided to prevent any appearance of the straining of the law. The restriction of the Rule should not be applied except in cases of absolute necessity. It was only applicable in very exceptional cases, and for reasons which were very strong indeed, and anything done under these Rules must be within the provisions of the Act of Parliament; and one of those provisions, which had been referred to by the hon. Member for the City of Cork (MR. PARNELL), was with respect to communications between the prisoner and his solicitor, under which regard was only to be had in imposing restrictions to the necessity of preventing any tampering with letters, or plans of escape, &c.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR said, this was a case in which his hon. Friend the Member for the City of Cork (MR. PARNELL) could confidently call for the support of the Committee generally, upon all sides of the House, against the action of the Irish authorities, and if there was one Member who ought to be called upon more than any other it was the Home Secretary. He (MR. O'CONNOR) always found himself in a very great difficulty when he rose to criticize the action of the Administration in Ireland, because the Chief Secretary for Ireland always got up, and—no doubt, unintentionally—confused in the mind of the House two very distinct issues. It was one thing to uphold, or to defend, or to

exonerate, crime, and it was quite another thing to criticize the administration of an Executive in regard to their action towards persons who were accused or suspected of crime; and the Irish Members were just as much in their right in criticizing the action of the Executive, even in dealing with atrocious crime, as Englishmen would be in criticizing the action of Russia in dealing with the case even of the Nihilists. Not one word had ever escaped from him in that House, or elsewhere, in palliation or extenuation of crime; but no horror at the crime would permit him to keep silence in that House when he thought the Executive were employing means which were against the Statute Law of the land, and against the manners and customs of civilized nations. His charge against the Government was—first, that they had broken the law; and, secondly, that they had employed, and were employing, a system with regard to persons accused of crime which amounted to what was practically torture. With regard to the charge of breaking the law, he would read to the Committee again—he was sorry to have to trouble them with it, but this was really a most important and serious matter—he would read the distinct language of the Act of Parliament which the late Home Secretary got passed through this House with the sanction of every Party—

"Whereas it is expedient that a clear difference should be made between the treatment of persons unconvicted of crime, and in law presumably innocent, during the period of their detention in prison for safe custody only, and the treatment of persons convicted of crime,"

and so on. As he had said before in discussing this section of the Act, here was an extraordinary instance of what was practically the Preamble to an Act of Parliament introduced and wedged in in the 39th clause; and, therefore, he had a right to argue that the distinctness of this difference of treatment was laid down in the most solemn manner—in a manner the solemnity of which had no precedent in any other Act. What did the Act go on to say?—

"Therefore be it enacted that the Secretary of State shall make, and, when made, may from time to time repeal, alter, or add special Rules with respect to communications between a prisoner, his solicitor, and friends, so as to secure at such trial as unrestricted and private communication between them as may be possible,

having regard only to the necessity of preventing any tampering with evidence, and any plans for escape, or such like consideration."

In other words, that section was a mandatory enabling section—a direct command to the prison authorities that they should make provision for the purpose, not of destroying, but of ensuring and facilitating the access between the prisoner and his friends. He said it was an enabling section; but this Rule of the Lord Lieutenant's was a disabling Rule—

"In pursuance of the General Prisons (Ireland) Act (1877), the General Prisons Board hereby order that the Rule shall be added to as follows:—Provided always, that the Visiting Committee or Governor may suspend and withdraw the permission hereby granted in any case when he or they consider it necessary so to do, for the purpose of maintaining good order, or for the purpose of preventing tampering with evidence," &c.

In other words, that Order took away from the prisoners a privilege which the Act of Parliament conferred upon them. He took it for granted that the views of the Home Secretary were somewhat the same as those of the Irish authorities. He did not wish to say anything unpleasant; but he would recall this fact to the mind of the Committee—that when there were in this country a number of prisoners in custody charged with an offence even more atrocious than the Phoenix Park murders, and the Home Secretary was asked whether he would carry out the law as laid down by the Statute, and whether the prisoners would be allowed to have that unrestricted access with their legal advisers and their friends which the Statute conferred on them, the right hon. and learned Gentleman replied that they would have it in such manner as he thought right. The right hon. and learned Gentleman seemed to imply that he intended to suspend for a time the privileges of the prisoners in view of the public safety. But what happened? Within one or two days—such was the pressure which the unanimous opinion of this country, as expressed in the newspapers, brought upon him—he had to give back those privileges of which he had intended for a time to deprive them. If illegality were justifiable in any case it was in that, because the right hon. and learned Gentleman had to deal with a conspiracy, the atrocity and wideness of which were almost beyond anything in the world—

Mr. T. P. O'Connor

certainly beyond anything that the Phoenix Park murderers did. But the Home Secretary was not permitted by public opinion to do what he intended, even when the lives of thousands of citizens were placed, as he supposed, in jeopardy. What excuse, then, had the Government for resorting to similar illegalities when dealing with a far less formidable danger? The Chief Secretary for Ireland gave as his reason for breaking the law that it was necessary to prevent the prisoners from having communication with people outside which might be used for purposes of assassination. He (Mr. O'Connor) would not express any doubt whatever that that was the right hon. Gentleman's opinion; but he would tell the Committee what was the opinion held in Ireland on the action of the Government. It was that the Government were not afraid of these men communicating with persons outside; but they wanted to keep them in solitary confinement, so that they might be induced, by the horrors of such imprisonment, to turn informers. He would not comment on an unfortunate necessity; but it was the unfortunate necessity of Governments to have to employ informers for the purpose of tracing out atrocious crimes, and bringing atrocious criminals to justice. But the public opinion of this country would not permit, and the public opinion of no civilized country in the world would permit, the Government to use the horrors of solitary confinement on unconvicted prisoners—no Government could be permitted to use torture for the purpose of bringing its prisoners to be informers. This was his charge against the Government, and this was a matter which did not have reference to things that were past and gone—to men like the Phoenix Park murderers, who, as the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) had said, were in their graves—it related to prisoners who were now in prison in Ireland, and who, before their trial, were being treated illegally, and deprived of visits which the Act of Parliament intended to confer upon them. They were being tortured in that way in the hope, on the part of the Government, that they would turn informers, and give evidence which might be true or false. What he wanted from the Government, and what he hoped the Committee would support him in demanding, was a pledge that these pri-

villeges should be restored to the prisoners. There should be no more of this torture upon the unfortunate prisoners, who ought to be allowed to have those visits from their friends which the Act of Parliament intended.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, he thought it right that he should say a few words, as he had been referred to in the course of the discussion. The view he had taken, and which he had acted upon, and for which he held himself responsible in respect of this matter, was this—he need not say that he entirely approved of the principle of the clause that, as a general rule, untried prisoners should be placed upon a generous footing; but he could not assent to the proposition laid down by the hon. Member for Galway (Mr. T. P. O'Connor) as to the effect of this clause. He had understood the hon. Gentleman to say that the clause gave to all untried prisoners, under all circumstances whatever, a right to visits from their solicitor and from their friends—that that was a right which was given to them by statute, and one which no one had a right, under any circumstances, to take from them.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR said, he had no wish to deny that there was a right to surround these visits with safeguards, and to carry out certain precautions. But he maintained that the prisoners had a right to these visits under all circumstances.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, that was a proposition from which he entirely differed, and anyone who read the clause could not doubt how the matter really lay. The clause laid it down that Rules were to be made with respect to communications, so as to secure to the prisoner—

“As unrestricted communication between him and his solicitor and friends as may be possible, having regard only to the necessity of preventing any tampering with evidence, and any plans for escape, or other like consideration.”

Those words, he maintained, covered the whole of this matter, and the responsibility rested with those who were responsible for the safe custody of prisoners in respect of

“Preventing any tampering with evidence, or any plans for escape, or other like consideration.”

He would give an illustration which he

thought was a fair one. He had reason to know, and in fact he might say that he did know, that the explosion at Clerkenwell was brought about by a communication which took place through a visit of this description. If the hon. Member's proposition was correct, then those who were responsible for the safe custody of the prisoners who were in Clerkenwell Gaol had no right and no power to prevent such communications. He maintained that to hold such a proposition as that was to say that the Statute was totally inconsistent with the public safety. [MR. PARNELL: Then repeal the section.] He did not think the right hon. Gentleman opposite (Sir R. Assheton Cross), who passed the Bill, would differ from him in that view. There was a special Rule with reference to communications with prisoners. It was, in his opinion, a proper view of the section that, as a general rule, communications were to be permitted; but it was obvious that those who were responsible for the safe custody of the prisoners must, upon their responsibility, judge how far these communications could be permitted at all, and in what manner they could be carried on consistently with that safe custody. That was the view he had acted upon; and, certainly, until he was corrected either by that House, or by the law, he should hold to that opinion. It must be proved, for instance, that it was within the knowledge of the Secretary of State or of the Lord Lieutenant.

MR. PARNELL: It is the Governor who has the right to suspend the Rule?

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, that the hon. Member for Galway was entirely mistaken when he represented that he (Sir William Harcourt) had first taken a particular course, and then had afterwards altered it. He had never altered it at all. The reason why, in the first instance, restrictions were placed upon the visits paid to the men connected with the nitro-glycerine conspiracy was because there was a difficulty at first in appointing a legal adviser. There was some misunderstanding about the matter; and until that was settled, and a regular legal adviser was appointed, he (Sir William Harcourt) did not feel justified in allowing unrestricted communication to take place. But as soon as he had satisfied himself

of the regularity of the appointment of the legal adviser those communications were permitted. He, therefore, begged to assure the hon. Member for Galway that the idea that he had taken some course or other under the Statute, and was afterwards driven from it by the pressure of public opinion, was an entire misapprehension. It would be impossible to secure public safety without all these precautions. Of course, particular instances must arise in which exceptions must be made; but how often that could be done must rest upon the responsibility of those who had to carry out the law. Of course, if the Governor, or the Secretary of State, or the Lord Lieutenant had reason to think that, in the case of any particular prisoner, there was a danger of tampering with the evidence—

MR. PARNELL: There is a warder listening.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: Or a danger of planning some desperate means of escape, it was contrary to common sense to suppose that any special Rule which had been laid on the Table of Parliament was to preclude the Secretary of State or the Governor from taking those measures which would be instantly required. [*Cheers.*] He was very glad to hear that hon. Members took that view of the matter. The person immediately responsible must, of course, be the Governor of the gaol. He was the man who must have the best means of judging of the circumstances and necessities which arose in each particular case; but, of course, the Governor only acted under the authority of those who were placed over him. He (Sir William Harcourt) hoped that he had now satisfied the Committee as to the view he took of the principles of this clause, and as to the manner in which he had acted upon it. His view had always been perfectly clear, and his action upon it had been quite consistent. He had never attempted to do what the hon. Member had suggested was an illegality; but in a particular case, where he thought it unsafe to give the general liberty which was usually given, and which ought usually to be given, to untried prisoners, he had had regard to the powers conferred by the section, which powers gave him the right, and imposed on him the duty, of compelling the observance of certain restrictions

wherever they might be found to be necessary.

MR. PARNELL said, the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Home Secretary did not make the statement with which he had now favoured the Committee in reply to the Question which he (Mr. Parnell) put to him some months ago, in reference to these untried prisoners. He (Mr. Parnell) asked him distinctly on that occasion whether he would permit those prisoners to see their legal advisers, as the law required, and the right hon. and learned Gentleman refused to say that he would. He (Mr. Parnell) repeated the Question several times over; but he failed to get any other reply from the right hon. and learned Gentleman, which clearly indicated that the right hon. and learned Gentleman had in his mind an intention, so far as he had then gone, of refusing to allow the prisoners to see their legal adviser, except in the presence of the prison warders. But that course was departed from the very next day, in consequence, as he (Mr. Parnell) believed at the time, of representations that were made to the Home Office by the United States Consul or Minister.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: Let me correct the hon. Gentleman on that point, though it is very immaterial. No such representations or communications, either directly or indirectly, were made.

MR. PARNELL said, he was given to understand that representations were made to the American Government in favour of these prisoners, and with the view of obtaining for them treatment under the same regulations as those which would affect an English prisoner; and he was justified in inferring that the right hon. and learned Gentleman did act upon representations from them. But, at all events, the rights which were suspended were restored to the prisoners on the very day following the Question which he (Mr. Parnell) put to the Home Secretary. As to the particular point now before the Committee, he denied that the view of the law which the right hon. and learned Gentleman had given was correct; and he maintained that the words of the Statute incontestably proved the position he had taken up. The Statute required the Home Secretary to make Rules with respect to certain matters relating to visits to prisons, and so forth. He had to make Rules with

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respect to communications between a prisoner, his solicitor, and his friends; but there was no power given to make a Rule under which the Governor of a prison might suspend any one of the Rules made. But that was what had practically been done in this case. If they had proceeded in a different way, and altered any of the Rules under the Statute, that would have been a different thing. If the Chairman of the Prisons Board, going over the Rules under the Act of 1877, had come upon any one of them which, as it stood, he thought was not framed so as to prevent any tampering with evidence, or to prevent any plans for escape, then he could imagine that the Chairman would have been entitled to re-frame the Rule, and would have so made it that prisoners, while having the right of receiving visits, would not be able to tamper with evidence, or make plans for escape, or other like consideration. But the right of a prisoner to receive visits was conferred by Statute; therefore, he contended that having made the Rules by Statute the Government were not entitled to pass one sweeping Rule giving power to any Governor of a prison to suspend in the case of any prisoner not only the Rules already made by the Chairman under the powers of the Statute, but actually the provisions of the Statute itself. The right hon. and learned Gentleman had just stated that he thought it should be in the power of the Chief Secretary or the Lord Lieutenant to give directions with regard to any particular prisoner; but that was not what had been done in this case. A wholesale Rule had been made giving power to the Governor of a prison or the Justices to do this. Governors of prisons, receiving salaries in many cases of £120 a-year, and unpaid Justices were very different officials from the Lord Lieutenant and the Chief Secretary; and he submitted that he had made a case for the remission and reconstruction of this Rule. He wished to ask whether it was intended to have this Rule as a permanent addition to the Prison Rules in Ireland; and, if not, he trusted that the right hon. Gentleman might see his way to express some hope that before Parliament met again and came to discuss this Vote this Rule would have been annulled and lost its force; and that, in the meanwhile, he would be able to say that the Rule should not be

put in force in respect to any prisoner except by the special direction of himself or the Lord Lieutenant.

MR. TREVELYAN said, he was bound to observe that the Government were immensely impressed with the necessity for this Rule in most serious cases; but on the only occasion, except that of the Phoenix Park murders, when it was brought to his own knowledge that this Rule, or the policy which this Rule represented, was being put in force, he interfered, and recommended the Government to stop it. He could assure the hon. Member that the use to which this Rule was put should be most narrowly watched. There were only extremely exceptional circumstances under which it ought to be put into force; and those circumstances existed in Dublin in January, and might very well exist again in Dublin. But those circumstances would be very exceptional. As to the question whether this power, in the last resort, could be placed in the hands of the Lord Lieutenant, he would carefully examine that. The debate had convinced him of the necessity of acting with extreme caution in putting the Rule in force, and of the danger of leaving it in the hands of the Governors, or even the Prisons Board; and if any means existed for placing it in the hands of the higher authorities that should be done. But the debate had not convinced him that the necessity for the Rule did not exist.

MR. DAWSON said, he could not see how, with the conditions which his hon. Friend (Mr. Healy) had described—gratings and warders between prisoners and their visitors—prisoners could tamper with evidence, or make plans for escape.

DR. COMMINS said, there was another matter in connection with this subject which had not been touched upon, and upon which he should like to have the opinion of the Chief Secretary. Whether it was legal or not, there was no doubt that the facilities for intercourse between untried prisoners and their friends or legal advisers had been very much restricted. From the point of view of the Chief Secretary, no doubt it was proper to restrict these facilities under certain circumstances; but he would ask whether, while intercourse between prisoners and their friends and advisers had been restricted, the police

officers in charge of prisoners had not had unlimited access at all times to these prisoners for the purpose, as one of them had very naïvely said the other day, of trying whether any one of them could assist the prosecution? That was, he thought, a still more objectionable course than the restriction of intercourse. He did not object to all legitimate means being employed to put down crime; but to incarcerate under suspicion men who might be perfectly innocent, and then to place such restrictions upon them as to practically forbid all intercourse with friends, and then to subject them in their cells at all hours to visits by the police for the purpose of pumping and worrying them, and so manufacturing informers, was a process deserving the most serious condemnation. He should like to ask the Chief Secretary whether these visits by the police were not allowed and facilitated in proportion as the visits of friends were restricted?

MR. T. D. SULLIVAN said, he hoped the Committee would bear in mind the absolute truth of the description which had been given of the arrangements for these visits to prisoners. He had seen these arrangements himself, and he could assure the Committee that it was simply impossible for anything to pass between a prisoner and his visitors except words. It was impossible for a letter, or document, or article of any sort, to be transmitted from one to the other. Nothing could pass but words, and warders were there to listen to words; and if those words contained any plan, or project, or intimation, warning was at once given to the Government. That would defeat the idea of any plan or project of escape, or any illegality whatever; for with a warder on each side the effect of any such intimation of a plan would be to give the Government warning that such a scheme was on foot. What was the use of pretending to this Committee that the deprivation of these visits was necessary to prevent plans of escape or illegalities. The plain truth of this matter was that the visits were forbidden for the purpose of torture. Why not go back to the thumb-screw?

MR. HARRINGTON said, that, the attention of the Committee having been drawn to the arrangements with regard to visits, he wished to bring to their

notice the treatment of tried and convicted prisoners in gaol. He did not hope, at that time of the Session, and at that hour, to get the Committee to take any very practical steps towards improving, to some extent, the condition of convicted prisoners, and to make it possible for the Government to do something towards their moral improvement while in prison, instead of devoting all its energy, and time, and money, to punishing and torturing them; but he wished to draw attention to the treatment of tried and convicted prisoners, and particularly in respect to the length of time they were kept on the plank bed. He regarded it as one of the greatest scandals of their prison system, and as one of the greatest disgraces to their civilization, that an unfortunate man, convicted of some small offence, should be subjected to the very same punishment—because, practically, it was the same—as a man who was convicted of some heinous offence—that for a month he had to lie on a plank bed with no protection between him and the plank. Under the Rules of the Prisons Board, every prisoner who was convicted of any offence was bound to lie on a plank bed for the first month of his imprisonment; so that the prisoner who was guilty of a serious offence, and had committed a grave crime against society, had only to suffer the same term on the plank bed as the man who was guilty of some small offence. If those who had framed the Prison Rules properly understood the subject to which they had devoted their attention, or had attempted to devote their attention, they would have known that if that punishment was to be deterrent and to improve a criminal, it should be resorted to at different periods of the imprisonment, so that the man guilty of a great offence should be punished more than the man who was guilty of a lighter offence. How did the system work at the present time? In Ireland men were arrested on very small pretexts, and he had particular reason to know that, for when the right hon. Gentleman thought it necessary to make an example of some formidable man in Ireland he was selected for the honour. During the first month of imprisonment a man got two hours a-day out of his cell; and for the rest of the day, unless he had the good fortune to be a hard labour prisoner,

and had to break stones, he was confined in a small cell 10 feet by 5 feet, and, without any means of getting exercise, he was engaged sitting down picking oakum, or chopping wood. He could get no exercise that would enable him to sleep at night upon his plank bed. During his own imprisonment the Governor of the prison wanted to impose upon him a rule which was not imposed in any other prison in Ireland. He did not wish to shock the Committee with the details now, or to recur to the subject, more than to say that when the matter came to be inquired into the Inspector of the Prisons Board found that he had been right, and that the Governor had been acting illegally. He wished to show what was the description of men to whom the Chief Secretary would entrust the working of these Rules. The Governor of that prison wanted to impose on him a menial duty, which no prisoner was bound by the Prison Rules to discharge, and to impose on him the performance of that duty in a public place where everybody in the prison would see him, and where all the Governor's visitors in his drawing room could inspect the performance of that duty. When he refused to comply with that order, he said it was no duty which a man was bound to perform, and asked the Governor to inflict some punishment. The Governor replied that it was no case of punishment; but he would compel him to do it, and he locked him for six days in a cell of 10 feet by 5 feet. During the whole of those six days he was not allowed out of the cell, and every night he had to sleep on a plank bed. What was a plank bed? He did not suppose that many hon. Members knew, when they were discussing this question, what this punishment was. A plank bed was three narrow deal boards nailed together, which stood up against the wall in the day, and at night were laid on the floor. He supposed the medical advisers of the Prisons Board recommended that, in order to facilitate the circulation of the blood, this bed should have a slant; and, consequently, it was four inches from the floor at the feet and eight inches at the head. With no mattress and no proper cover, and with his day clothes locked outside the door, the prisoner had to lie on that bed throughout the night. Such scant covering as he had was only about a yard wide, and it

was impossible for him to roll it round himself, and so protect himself from the cold. This was the sort of torture which was inflicted. If a man was imprisoned for a week or a fortnight he had this plank bed all the time; but if a man had committed a serious crime against society, and was sentenced to three months' imprisonment, he suffered this severity for the first month only; but after that the prison authorities improved his food and gave him a mattress, he was then comparatively a gentleman, and had charge of the other prisoners, simply because he had had the good fortune to commit a grave offence. In this Vote there was an Estimate of £490 for prisoners' bedding; but he found that the uniforms of the warders cost just double that amount. One suit of clothes to each of the warders, who were as 1 to 30 or 1 to 25 of the prisoners, cost twice as much as the entire amount of bedding, planks being very cheap. It was a disgrace and a scandal to civilization that such a state of things should be tolerated. It was a scandal that power should be given to Governors of prisons to punish men in that way without any appeal. In his case he was able to combat the Governor; but he would take the case of a less intelligent man. The Governor could do absolutely what he liked to him. What did the Governor do in his case? When he raised this dispute with him, although the Inspector decided that the Governor was wrong, and restored him to the exercise of which he had been deprived, and he was, by direction of the Lord Lieutenant, removed to another prison, the Governor deprived him of the marks to which he was entitled for industry while in prison. What was the effect of that? He remained six additional nights beyond the month on the plank bed. He would not trouble the Committee with further observations on this subject; but he thought it was a matter which the Committee ought to consider; and the more they studied it, and the more they looked at home to their own prison system, the less likely they would be to condemn foreign systems, whether under King Bomba or anybody else.

Mr. ARTHUR O'CONNOR said, he wished to ask a question with regard to the treatment of a man who had been sentenced to six months' imprisonment,

under the Prevention of Crime Act, for a very slight offence. He was sent to Mullingar Gaol on the 7th May, and was afterwards removed to Queen's County; and when, on the 10th of August, when he was entitled to receive visitors, a gentleman went to see him, he was not allowed to see the prisoner, on the ground that the time had not expired. Unquestionably he had not been in that gaol long enough; but he had spent more than three months in Mullingar Gaol. He had put the matter before the Chief Secretary, and he wished to know whether he had obtained any information with regard to it; and, if so, what was the character of it?

MR. TREVELYAN said, he had overlooked the hon. Gentleman's letter; but he would look up the case very carefully and make inquiry.

MR. HARRINGTON asked the Chief Secretary to consider whether it would not be advisable to make some such provision as would enable a prisoner, who was not allowed to write a letter or see his friends for three months, to at least have the consolation of knowing that if he were ill the Governor of the gaol would communicate with his friends; or, on the other hand, if his friends were ill or dying, he should be informed. An unfortunate man convicted of an offence could not receive a single visit or letter, or hear a single word from the world outside during the first three months, and then he might receive a visitor, and again be without a word from outside for another three months. He thought that was a state of things to which the Chief Secretary or the Home Secretary might turn attention. It was not at all inconsistent with the punishment of crime that this should be done; nor did he think it would in any way make a gaol more desirable.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, that though the provisions referred to by the hon. Members might appear severe they were based on the prison discipline of England; and he had no doubt that in Ireland they were also the result of very careful consideration by Commissions and Committees. No matter had been more carefully considered; and the result had been that in the case of short sentences, and in the early period, the severity of treatment was the greatest; while where the sentences were long, simply because they were

long, and were, consequently, more oppressive through their very length, the treatment was less severe. The result of experience was that that was the best way of dealing with prisoners. With regard to the suggestion as to prisoners being ill, it must be remembered that every prisoner had the right to present a Petition, in England to the Secretary of State, and in Ireland to the Lord Lieutenant or the Chief Secretary.

MR. HARRINGTON asked whether there was any such provision printed in the Rules where a prisoner could see it?

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT replied, that there was such a provision. Every prisoner had the right to present a Petition. If a prisoner's friends could not visit him, he (Sir William Harcourt) would take good care they were communicated with with reference to his condition of life. The hon. Member must be perfectly aware that if the condition of life was endangering life the prisoner was invariably released from gaol. Nothing could be more erroneous than the impression that a prisoner suffering from ill-health was not treated with every consideration.

MR. HARRINGTON pointed out that it was not set forth in the Prison Rules that a prisoner had the power of presenting a Petition. He (Mr. Harrington) had been a prisoner; he had studied the Rules; and he did not find amongst them any such Rule as the one the right hon. and learned Gentleman had spoken of. He knew that prisoners believed that they had not the power of presenting a petition in case of sickness; and he had never heard of a case where a prisoner's friends had been communicated with in case of his illness. He (Mr. Harrington) had made one omission with regard to the exceptional severity of the punishment of a prisoner during the first term of imprisonment. Not only was a prisoner required to lie upon a plank bed, but the food he was given was scarcely sufficient to sustain nature. In the Irish prisons the dietary was simply shameful; in English prisons there was an improved dietary. In Ireland the prisoner received, in the morning, 5 ozs. of bread, with half-a-pint of cocoa — untastable cocoa. For dinner he was given 5 ozs. of bread, and nothing else, except on three days a week, when he was given

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half-a-pint of soup. For supper he got 5 ozs. of bread and half-a-pint of cocoa. The cocoa was sweetened with molasses, and contained no milk. A prisoner, therefore, had to live on 15 ozs. of brown bread a-day and a little cocoa, and that was his programme for the whole of the first month of his imprisonment. It was only during the second month of his imprisonment that he received 3 ozs. of meat in the week. The dietary at breakfast and supper was slightly improved; and, therefore, an habitual prisoner preferred to be committed for a couple of months—in fact, a premium was held out to him to commit a serious offence.

Vote agreed to.

CLASS IV.—EDUCATION, SCIENCE, AND ART.

(5.) £96,019, to complete the sum for the British Museum.

SIR JOHN LUBBOCK said, he would best consult the feelings of the Committee if he made but few observations upon this Vote. Mr. Walpole, whose absence from the House they all regretted, in moving this Vote last year, stated to the Committee that the transference of the Natural History Collection to South Kensington had made considerable progress. It was now on the eve of conclusion. The minerals, fossils, and plants were already installed in the new Museum; while the last and most considerable of the Biological Departments, that of zoology, was in course of removal, and would be established in its new abode during the autumn. In the great Entry Hall of the new Natural History Museum it was proposed to place a number of the largest and most interesting specimens. Round the Hall were 12 bays, which it was proposed to appropriate to a type or index Collection, illustrated by diagrams, and which it was hoped would prove interesting to visitors, and serve as an introduction to the general Collection. The Northern Hall would be devoted to a Collection of British animals. It was proposed to extend the system of labelling, so that, as far as possible, each of the more interesting specimens might tell its own tale. Small maps were also largely used, coloured in such a manner as to show the distribution of some of the more interesting forms in space and

time. He thought that those hon. Members who had seen these maps would agree that they were most interesting and instructive. The new Sculpture Gallery, erected from the fund bequeathed by the late Mr. William White, had been completed, and the friezes from the tomb of Mausolus were being removed into it. The Committee was aware that the Museum contained a very large number of specimens preserved in alcohol. These had long been a source of anxiety to the Trustees; but he was happy to say that, the Government having at length consented to find the necessary funds, these specimens were now being transferred to a separate building. The principal additions to the Collection had been the Stowe Manuscripts—996 in number—purchased from Lord Ashburnham, with the consent of the Treasury, and subject to the Vote of Parliament. The Trustees regretted that Her Majesty's Government did not see their way to purchase the whole Ashburnham Collection. The Stowe portion comprised a large number of volumes relating to English history, comprising over 42 Anglo-Saxon Charters, dating from A.D. 693 to the 11th century; wardrobe-book of Edward II.; wardrobe and jewel accounts of Queen Elizabeth; correspondence of Sir Thomas Edmondes, Ambassador in France and the Low Countries, *temp.* Elizabeth and James I., 12 vols.; correspondence of Arthur Capel, Earl of Essex, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, 1677, 16 vols.; distribution of forfeited lands in Ireland, 1677, 16 vols.; letters of the Duke and Duchess of Marlborough to Secretary Craggs; various diplomatic and literary correspondence; an original Privy Council book, 1660-1670; and several separate documents and letters of interest—*e. g.* letter of the Earl of Derby, afterwards Henry IV.; an original warrant for levy of ship money, County Bucks, with return of defaulters, headed by the name of John Hampden; secret Treaty between Cromwell and France, 1654, &c.; English literature and topography:—Psalter with Anglo-Saxon glasses; register of Hyde Abbey, with 220 drawings, 11th century; English homilies, end of 12th century; a Gower, a Nassyngton, and a Hampole, several chartularies of English monasteries; 12th and 15th centuries, including the Boldon Book of Durham; a register

of St. Thomas in Southwark; and a Corporation register of Winchester. Heraldic MSS., comprising the Collections of Anstis, Garter and various county visitations; the Irish Collection of Dr. O'Connor, being early MSS. of the 13th and 15th centuries, including a manuscript of the Brehon Laws; a volume of the Annals of the Four Masters; a large number of autograph letters, beginning with one from Henry IV., and many other (over 900) very interesting documents. In the department of Oriental Antiquities one of the most interesting acquisitions had been an inscribed cylinder of the 5th century B.C. The inscription began with the name, title, and genealogy of Nabonidus, then King of Babylon. Then followed a description of a restoration of an ancient monument, the Shrine of the Sun God at Sippira. In ancient times it was the custom to place in the foundations of any considerable building a record of its creation, and Nabonidus was very anxious to find that belonging to the Temple at Sippira. After much labour, he succeeded in doing so, and described his discovery of the record of Naram-Sin, son of Sargon the First, whose date he gave as no less than 3,200 years before his time—that was, 3,700 B.C. At the conclusion he called on any Prince who might come after him to restore the Temple, and preserve the record of his name. The former wish was beyond his (Sir John Lubbock's) power; the latter he now endeavour to fulfil. In addition to the objects purchased, the Museum had received during the year a considerable number of donations, including a very interesting series of groups of British birds with their nests and eggs, or young, preserved by Lord Walsingham, Lord Lovat, and Mr. Powell; a very beautiful Collection of 165 drawings, by Thomas Bewick, presented by his daughter. Several new publications had been issued during the year, including catalogues of Greek and Oriental coins, guides to the Exhibition Galleries in the Natural History Museum, and an autotype copy of the Magna Charta, &c. The Reading Room had been kept open from the beginning of September until 9 P.M., by means of the electric light. Desires had more than once been expressed in this Committee that duplicates should be distributed to local Collections. The Trustees

Sir John Lubbock

had been most anxious to carry out the wishes of the Committee in this, as, indeed, in all other respects. In the course of the last year more than 13,000 duplicate specimens had been distributed among eight institutions—namely, the Museums of Edinburgh, Nottingham, Owen's College, Manchester; Marlborough College, Carlisle; Halifax, the Somersetshire Natural History Society, and the Haberdashers' Company. The Museum publications had also been presented to various Free Libraries. In an old Institution like the British Museum they could not, of course, expect a large increase in the numbers of visitors every year. In 1881, moreover, there was a sudden bound in consequence of the opening of the new Natural History Museum. Nevertheless, last year there was a further increase of 50,000, bringing the numbers up to nearly 1,250,000. It was also a satisfactory feature that the number of students rapidly increased, having in the Zoological Department alone more than trebled in the last 10 years; while, if they compared the total number of visitors, they would find that in five years they had risen from 700,000 to over 1,200,000. In this case, however, allowance must be made for the opening of the New Museum at South Kensington. A strong desire had been expressed that portions of the Museum should be open to the public during the evening, and he could assure the Committee that the Trustees fully sympathized with that wish. He had recently the opportunity of stating to the House, in reply to the hon. Member for Marylebone (Mr. D. Grant), the views of the Trustees. They hoped that, ere long, a system of electric lighting for the district would be brought into operation, and they would then apply to Government to enable them to open certain departments in the evening. He could assure the Committee that it was the earnest desire of the Trustees to render our great National Collections not only as interesting and instructive, but also as accessible as possible.

Mr. LABOUCHERE said, he had listened with pleasure to the statement of the hon. Baronet; but it seemed to him that it was extremely desirable that there should be greater unity of administration between the British Museum and the South Kensington Museum. He called attention to the fact the other

night when another Vote was under discussion. If the British Museum were to send to the South Kensington Museum all their patterns, enamels, and minor articles, a good collection might be formed there; as it was, these articles were distributed between the two Museums; and he suggested to the hon. Baronet and his co-Trustees the desirability of planning some general administration of the two Museums. In that way he believed that a good deal of money might be saved, and the rivalry between the two establishments would be avoided.

MR. BERESFORD HOPE said, the hon. Member for Northampton (Mr. Labouchere) had recommended a fusion of the two Museums. Now, between 2 and 3 o'clock in the morning was a strange hour to deal with a question of this importance; but he must point out that if there was to be any fusion, the younger and the weaker Museum should fly to the larger, and greater, and stronger Museum. There were many points in which his hon. Friend the Member for the University of London (Sir John Lubbock) touched with great ability; but there was only one of those points upon which he (Mr. Beresford Hope) desired to say a word. He wished to express the profound disappointment which was felt in many quarters, that Her Majesty's Government did not extend their bounty, and that when, out of the Ashburnham Collection they purchased the Stowe Collection of MSS., they did not also buy the other Collection of MSS. called the Appendix. It seemed a strange argument which deterred the Government from purchasing the two Collections.

MR. COURTNEY pointed out that there was a special Vote for the Ashburnham Collection, under which the observations of the right hon. Gentleman would be more appropriate.

MR. BERESFORD HOPE said, that, inasmuch as that was so, he would defer any remarks he had to make.

MR. TOMLINSON remarked, that the Reading Room of the British Museum was very defective in the matter of ventilation. He trusted that the hon. Baronet would turn his attention to the subject.

SIR JOHN LUBBOCK said, he would make inquiries into the question raised by the hon. Member for Preston (Mr.

Tomlinson). The subject introduced by the hon. Member for Northampton (Mr. Labouchere) was too large a one to discuss at that hour of the morning. He thought it right, however, to point out that the authorities of the two Museums had taken steps to avoid any competition.

Vote agreed to.

(6.) Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That a sum, not exceeding £45,000, be granted to Her Majesty, to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the purchase of certain Manuscripts from the Collection of the Earl of Ashburnham."

MR. BERESFORD HOPE said, he was sorry this Vote was not a larger one, because if it had been larger they would have been able to have bought those other and valuable MSS. known as the Appendix. He need not trouble the Committee by going over the whole ground. The Committee knew well enough that Lord Ashburnham's Collection comprised four parts, of which three were bought *en bloc*; but to a certain portion of two of them the French Government laid a claim, and this Government, he was sorry to say, while they allowed the claim, rejected the residue. The distinguishing features of the Stowe Collection were the historical Collections of letters of Diplomats of the last century, and of other valuable historical documents, including a very curious Irish series. The Appendix, on the other hand, which he extremely regretted they had not obtained, was extremely valuable in an artistic aspect. One of these MSS., for instance, was a small Book of Hours, comprising miniatures, one of which bore the name of Pietro Perugino, while others were of the most exquisite perfection. The Committee knew, of course, that a collection of MSS. was a thing in which each item had its distinctive value. It was not like a consecutively-numbered volume; and as, in one word, this Appendix Collection was a unique gem for any nation to possess, it was no reason for refusing it that the distinctive Stowe Collection was to be bought, while even this was to be tabled for the benefit of Ireland. They allowed the Hamilton MSS. to be sold last year, and now they had also allowed a far more valuable and inte-

resting Collection to escape their hands. He must note that only an additional £45,000 would be involved in the matter, because that amount would have purchased the Appendix. Had they been building an iron-clad, nothing would have been thought of so small a sum. In this case the Committee should also know that the Museum offered to make up £25,000 by the sacrifice, at much inconvenience, of so much of its annual grant, in order to contribute, out of its own resources, to the purchase money; but the Government refused to entertain the offer. That was a Collection that ought not to have been lost; and in the name of the British Museum, in the name of Art, in the name of this country, which in these matters ought to hold its own, he protested against the ill-judged economy displayed in this proceeding.

MR. LABOUCHERE said, he simply regretted that he did not move the reduction of the last Vote by £20,000. It appeared, from what the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. Beresford Hope) said, that if the Government had been willing to give some more money for the Ashburnham Collection, the British Museum would have given £20,000. It was evident, therefore, that the Trustees had £20,000 to spare; and he would, therefore, move the reduction of the Vote by £10,000. He did not suppose all these valuable old MSS. would be destroyed if the State did not become possessed of them; somebody would buy them, and somebody would preserve them, so that those who wished to go and see the Collection could do so. There could not be the slightest object in our having the MSS.; let other people have them if they wished; we should save our £40,000, and those interested in the MSS. could still go and see them, or, as an hon. Friend suggested, by means of photographs we could get all we wanted out of them. He would venture to say not 100 people in the year went to see the MSS. in the British Museum; and he doubted if 50 would be sufficiently interested to go and see the Ashburnham Collection. Why, therefore, was the nation to spend £45,000 for the 'fads' of a few individuals? It seemed to him that £35,000 was quite enough to hand over to the Trustees of the British Museum to buy what was worth buying from the Collection.

Mr. Beresford Hope

Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That a sum, not exceeding £35,000, be granted to Her Majesty, to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the purchase of certain Manuscripts from the Collection of the Earl of Ashburnham."—*(Mr. Labouchere.)*

MR. COURTNEY said, he thought his hon. Friend, on a little reflection, would see that this was scarcely the way to meet the Vote. The proposal was to buy the Collection, subject to the sanction of Parliament, for £45,000; but the purchase must be made of that particular part of the Collection as it stood in one transaction, subject to Parliamentary approval, between Lord Ashburnham and the Trustees of the British Museum. If the hon. Member wished to negative the transaction altogether, he should move the rejection of the Vote. He must either take the Collection or reject the bargain—a mere reduction of the Vote would not meet his object.

MR. J. G. TALBOT said, he could confirm all that had been said by his right hon. Friend (Mr. Beresford Hope) in reference to this Collection. It was unfortunate that the Government had not resolved upon the purchase of the Collection in its entirety for the country. Though the hon. Member for Northampton (Mr. Labouchere) spoke sneeringly of it, it was one of those things of which anyone knowing anything about it would feel proud that his country should be the possessor. He had had an opportunity, by the courtesy of the Trustees, of seeing some of the MSS. in the Collection; and he was fairly astonished at the beauty, the rarity, the matchlessness, he might say, of the Collection. There were things there that if any Gentleman saw them in a foreign country he would say they were worth going any number of miles to see. There was a chance not quite gone of securing the whole; the Government had given no pledge that they would not ask for more money next year; and there was the probability of their further considering the matter in the Recess. This discussion, short and inadequate as it must be, would tend to awaken interest in the minds of hon. Members; and if Gentlemen would take the opportunity, during the Recess, of looking at the Collection—which he was informed was

to remain at the British Museum for a certain time, Lord Ashburnham not intending to dispose of it immediately—he was sure hon. Members would see it was an opportunity not lightly to be parted with. As to what the hon. Member said, that it did not matter by whom the Collection was bought, of course the MSS. would not be destroyed; they would be bought by some connoisseur, if not by some foreign nation; but anyone with feelings of patriotism would be extremely anxious that the British Government should be the custodians of these treasures. There was one particular volume which he would venture to say would be acknowledged to be in itself almost worth the £45,000, with illuminations by some of the Old Masters of the schools, of a beauty and rarity past all description. This country would be doing a short-sighted and foolish act if it did not secure, while it could, the whole of the Collection.

SIR JOHN LUBBOCK said, he had already expressed his regret that the Trustees would not be enabled to purchase the further part of the Collection, and he would not refer to that again. He concurred in all that had fallen from the right hon. Member for Cambridge University (Mr. Beresford Hope). It should be said, in reference to what had been said by the hon. Member for Northampton (Mr. Labouchere), that Lord Ashburnham wished to dispose of the whole Collection, and was not willing to break it up, so in regard to the present proposal it was a question between taking all or none. If the hon. Member would go to the British Museum and examine for himself, he would see that this was not a question of anybody's "fads," but that this was a Collection of the most interesting documents, throwing a great light on history. He hoped the hon. Member would see his way to withdrawing his opposition.

MR. DAWSON said, he hoped the hon. Member would not go to a Division. Much interest was felt in Ireland in the Ashburnham Collection; and it was the intention of the Government to give that portion dealing with Celtic literature to the Royal Irish Academy. The Irish MSS. would become the property of the Irish nation; and he felt sure the hon. Member, who had often expressed his sympathy with

Ireland, would, for that reason, not press a Division.

MR. CALLAN said, he should like to know from the Secretary to the Treasury whether the Celtic portion of the Collection would really be given to Ireland, or whether a selection would be made by the authorities of the British Museum, and only the refuse sent to Ireland? He certainly should vote with the hon. Member for Northampton unless a specific pledge were given that the Irish portion should be relegated to Ireland? It would be satisfactory, as satisfying all doubt, if the Secretary to the Treasury would state distinctly whether the portion which appertained to Ireland would be sent to Ireland in its entirety?

MR. COURTNEY said, it was fully explained by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, when the purchase was sanctioned by the Treasury, that Mr. Bond, the Librarian of the British Museum, and Sir Samuel Ferguson, President of the Royal Irish Academy, were united jointly to make the selection. They met and decided how the division should be made—which MSS. should go to Ireland, and which to the British Museum. No difficulty arose in settling the matter.

Question put.

The Committee *divided*:—Ayes 11; Noes 84: Majority 73.—(Div. List, No. 295.)

Original Question put, and *agreed to*.

(7.) Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That a sum, not exceeding £8,530, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the Salaries and Expenses of the National Gallery."

MR. CAVENDISH BENTINCK said, they had heard not long ago something said about the farce of voting money at such an hour in the morning; and he might be justified in a Motion to report Progress. But, as he probably would not succeed in carrying that Motion, he would not put the Committee to the trouble of a Division; but he would point out to the Secretary to the Treasury that it was impossible for him to give the reasons he proposed to assign for moving the reduction of the Vote pursuant to the Notice which stood in

his name on the Paper; but he would state, very shortly, why he gave Notice of that Amendment, and he hoped at a future time to be able to place before the Committee a very important matter, one which concerned the administration of the National Gallery, and in which he considered the administration had erred, whereby the taxpayers of this country were compelled to pay a much larger sum than ought to be demanded at their hands. His Amendment had to do with the travelling expenses of the Director, and this was a question in which the present Chairman (Sir Arthur Otway) ought to take peculiar interest. The Chairman would recollect that during the Directorate of Sir Charles Eastlake there was every year on the Estimates for the National Gallery an item for the expenses of the travelling agent of the Gallery; and the present Chairman of Committees led a movement which, after several years of contention, was successful in removing this item from the Estimates. The reasons given for doing away with that expenditure were that it was a fact that pictures could be much more cheaply purchased in England than on the Continent, and that, if purchased on the Continent, it was far better that purchases on behalf of the Gallery should be effected by private individuals rather than by a representative of the British Government, whose appearance at once excited the cupidity of dealers abroad, and sent up the prices of pictures. But the unfortunate practice was kept up yet. In this Vote was included an item of £150 for the travelling expenses of the Director, and there was a larger sum last year. Any one acquainted with Italian picture sales would be aware that the moment it was known that the National Gallery was in the market pictures would not be parted with except at a very high price; but he did not see why the national purchases should not be conducted on the same principle as those of private individuals. Nations, like individuals, should buy in the cheapest market. Then, also, in England the auction sales were not sufficiently well watched; and he could recall several occasions within recent years where admirable pictures had been sold in London, and which ought to have been purchased by the National Gallery. To illustrate that he would give one instance, that of a picture

known to be a Paul Veronese, "The Vision of St. Helena," one of the most beautiful works of the Master in the National Collection. That picture was sold at Christie's 15 years ago. At the time he admired the picture very much; and, not being sufficiently in funds himself, he persuaded a friend of his—now no more—to become the purchaser. That gentleman—his name would be known to many in the House, the late Mr. Munroe—was at first unwilling to buy it; but eventually allowed himself to be persuaded to buy it for £300. Some years afterwards, upon the death of Mr. Munroe, that picture came again into the market, and was sold at the same auction rooms under similar conditions, and then it was bought for the nation at the price of £3,455. Now, he wanted to know, why did not the Director of the National Gallery attend at the first sale and buy the picture, thus saving over £3,000 to the nation? He could name several other similar instances. And in the administration of the National Gallery he would submit that the Trustees of the Gallery had not sufficient power—they were, to all intents and purposes, absolute dummies. They could give an opinion, and that was all; all power was vested in the Director, and the Trustees could not control him at all. There was also in his Notice a reference to the glazing of the pictures in the Gallery; but at that time in the morning he must pass that by, owing to the position in which the Committee found themselves. In November last the House was engaged in discussing New Rules, projected, they were told, so that Members could resort to their original right and power of criticizing the Estimates; but, like too many things said in the same quarter, "they kept the word of promise to the ear to break it to the hope." In reference to the glazing, he would only say that a great portion of the pictures were nothing more than looking-glasses; it was impossible to examine them, even in summer time. It was quite a moot point whether the glazing was right or wrong, some experts said the glass was injurious. But, in any case, he saw no reason why, in the summer months, the glass should not be removed, in order that the public might then have a chance of seeing the works. He did not know whether the

Mr. Cavendish Bentinck

hon. Member for South-East Lancashire (Mr. Agnew) was in the House; he was in hope that he would have given the Committee the benefit of his experience on the point; but, doubtless, he was tired out with the proceedings of Her Majesty's Government and had gone to bed, and he did not blame him for it. He should content himself with moving the reduction of the Vote by £150, the travelling expenses of the Director of the Gallery.

Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That a sum, not exceeding £8,380, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the Salaries and Expenses of the National Gallery."—(Mr. Cavendish Bentinck.)

MR. LABOUCHERE said, he did not know exactly who was present to defend the National Gallery, or who was going to give the Committee an essay on Art. He presumed it was the Secretary to the Treasury; if so, he would ask him to explain who it was decided on the purchases of pictures? Was it the Trustees, or was it the Director of the National Gallery? He presumed it was the latter. That gentleman, he had no doubt, was a very able man in his way; but he did not think he was quite fitted for the performance of this function. He seemed to have shown himself greatly mistaken. The National Gallery ought to contain examples of our best English artists; but where, for instance, was the work of Frederick Walker? Happening to be in the Gallery the other day, he found there was no picture of this painter's there; but he found there was a free indulgence of the "fad" for early Italian painters. The Secretary to the Treasury was, no doubt, aware that there were fine specimens of Andrea Mantegna at Hampton Court; but what happened at the Duke of Hamilton's sale? An Andrea Mantegna was bought, a small and comparatively worthless one; it was forgotten, he presumed, that they had a large collection of Andrea Mantegnas at Hampton Court. Then at the Duke of Marlborough's sale another Andrea Mantegna was bought for £2,500, and he was given to understand there were grave doubts as to whether it was an Andrea Mantegna or not; but, whether it was or not, the nation had enough of

these before; and why on earth should the nation be forced to buy one at the Hamilton sale, and then another which might be genuine or not, probably was not; but in any case it was a poor specimen, and give 2,000 guineas for it? He would ask the Secretary to the Treasury, who understood Art, as he did every other question, to give his opinion as to the merits of the Director of the National Gallery in regard to the purchase of pictures, whether he approved of the selections, or whether he did not agree that it was desirable there should be some sort of authority to decide what should or should not be bought? Without such control the whole of the money that could possibly be so used would be expended in the purchase of early Italian pictures, simply because the Director had a "fad" for it.

MR. COURTNEY said, the purchases of pictures were made by the Trustees. The Director, no doubt, constantly advised them, and his advice and judgment were valuable; but it rested with the Trustees to make the purchase, the Trustees taking a personal interest in the matter, and examining the pictures before the purchase. With regard to what the hon. Member said as to the preponderance of Andrea Mantegna's, he could only say it was obvious that the Government having appointed certain Trustees to make the purchases for the National Gallery, must have confidence in them, and accept their advice. As to the travelling expenses and other points raised by the right hon. and learned Member for Whitehaven (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck), it was to be observed that this was a very small Vote, covering the expenses of only one journey a-year by the Director to the Continent, and very different to the Vote allowed for a travelling agent. The right hon. and learned Gentleman gave an interesting personal recollection in reference to a picture which the Gallery failed to purchase, and which Mr. Munroe secured 15 years ago. Well, he could not explain why it was not done 15 years ago; it was to be regretted, of course, that the picture was not bought when it would have cost a much smaller sum than the nation eventually gave for it; but the moral attaching to it was the request that the right hon. and learned Gentleman should use his influence with the Trustees when again he saw anything of the kind in

the market to save a repetition of the error. The right hon. and learned Gentleman did not move the reduction of the Vote by the amount of the expenses for glazing. He was told, as a matter of fact, that the unglazed pictures were much injured; that the glass was a nuisance, and interfered with a proper view, there could be no doubt; but pictures suffered great damage without it. But, however, this was a point he would not argue now.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, the Committee ought to know, at such an hour of the morning as had now been reached (3 o'clock), how much longer they were to go on. It was nothing but a perfect scandal to go on in this way; and if they were to go on with Bills after Supply, he would move that Progress be reported.

MR. COURTNEY said, there was really no discussion upon this Vote. He hoped the Committee would allow it to be taken.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, his observation related to the Business to be taken afterwards. If any other Business was to be taken, Progress ought to be reported now.

MR. CAVENDISH BENTINCK said, the Government were quite wrong in what they had said. The Trustees of the National Gallery had no power at all; the whole power resided in the Director of the National Gallery. If the hon. Gentleman would make inquiries of any of the Trustees, he would find that that was so. He (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) had had some experience in these matters, and he knew perfectly well that the Director was the sole person who had the power of deciding. But he did not want to go into the controversy about the glazing, further than to say that he stuck to his point; and he would refer the hon. Gentleman to some of the very best experts in London, who would agree with him (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck). It was absolutely scandalous that the Committee should vote away these large sums of money without any power on the part of hon. Members to criticize the Estimates. He should have been glad to have pointed out how much money had been wasted by buying questionable pictures which ought not to appear in the National Gallery at all; but there was really no time for it. The principle he had always

maintained was that their National Gallery ought to have no pictures except well-authenticated works of the highest class; but instead of these, whenever there was a sensational sale, like the Hamilton sale, the Director rushed in and bought pictures, some of which had afterwards to be re-christened. No less than five pictures bought under certain names had had to be re-christened, and now had to make their appearance in the catalogue of the National Gallery under different names, or under no names at all. However, he would say no more—he could only protest against the Vote being taken at a time when there was no real opportunity to discuss it.

Question put, and *negatived*.

Original Question put, and *agreed to*.

(8.) £1,277, to complete the sum for the National Portrait Gallery.

Motion made, and Question, "That the Chairman do report Progress, and ask leave to sit again,"—(*Sir R. Assheton Cross*),—put, and *agreed to*.

Resolutions to be reported *To-morrow*, at Two of the clock.

Committee to sit again *To-morrow*.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD (SCOTLAND) BILL.—[BILL 251.]

(*Secretary Sir William Harcourt, The Lord Advocate.*)

COMMITTEE. [*Progress 15th August.*]

Bill *considered* in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 6 (Reservation of rights of Lord Advocate).

MR. A. GRANT moved an Amendment to leave out the concluding words "or custom." The one recommendation which attached to the Bill, as he understood it, and as he was quite sure the people of Scotland understood it, was that it gave to the Scotch people an Officer who was to have charge of the administrative Business of Scotland, without being interfered with, or hampered by any competing or overruling authority. But what would become of that unity of administration if the clause was passed in its present form? The clause reserved to the Lord Advocate all the rights, duties, powers, and privileges which had hitherto belonged to

Mr. Courtney

his Office. He knew that this was rather a delicate subject; but, with all due respect to the Lord Advocate, and to his Office, and with no desire to detract from its importance or its dignity, he must say that it seemed to him that the reservation made by this clause was altogether incompatible with the proper working of the new arrangements. He would take, for example, the part which the Lord Advocate had hitherto played in the matter of patronage, with regard to Government appointments in Scotland, or the part which the Lord Advocate had played in taking the initiative in Government legislation for Scotland; and there were many other functions which the Lord Advocate had hitherto performed in his capacity as political Representative of the Government of Scotland. Now, all these duties and functions had hitherto belonged to the Lord Advocate by custom; but by the 5th clause they had already provided that a large number of these functions were henceforth to devolve on the new Minister. If in the future the Lord Advocate was to occupy a position somewhat analogous to that of the chief Law Officers of the Crown in England and Ireland, that ought to be clearly indicated in the Bill. But if, on the other hand, the Bill meant what it said, and the Lord Advocate was in future to perform all these functions which he had hitherto discharged under statute or by custom, then he (Mr. Grant) greatly feared that the result would be that they would find themselves landed in all those difficulties and all those inconveniences which were certain to arise from having two ill-defined and overlapping authorities; and he had no doubt that that would detract to a very great extent from the benefit which they might otherwise derive from the new arrangements proposed in the Bill. His object in moving the Amendment was only to endeavour more clearly to define the relative positions of the two officials. It might be that the Government would not find themselves able to accept his Amendment; but, if that should be the case, he trusted that they would, at all events, find themselves able to explain more clearly than the Bill did as it stood what were to be the relations between the Lord Advocate and the new Minister, and what was the real line which was to divide the duties of the one from the

duties of the other. It was possible that if they could not see their way to accept his Amendment, they might see their way to re-cast the clause, and to make it run in this form—

"Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Lord Advocate shall continue to exercise all the rights and privileges," &c.

He thought that would be an improvement on the clause as it stood at present, and that it would be accepted as an improvement by the people of Scotland.

Amendment proposed, in page 2, line 42, to leave out the words "or custom." (*Mr. A. Grant.*)

Question proposed, "That the words 'or custom' stand part of the Clause."

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, he thought the hon. Member was under some misapprehension as to what the Bill proposed to do. The hon. Gentleman seemed to suppose that the Bill took away from the Lord Advocate something which he at present possessed; but, as a matter of fact, it took away nothing at all from him—not a hair's breadth. Anyone who read the Schedule would find that it did not transfer any authority, property, or privilege which the Lord Advocate now had. The hon. Gentleman objected to the words "by custom;" but the words were used rather in a colloquial than a statutable sense. The power of the Lord Advocate existed by custom rather than by Act of Parliament. It was an old customary Office; but the Lord Advocate would still retain all the dignity, privileges, power, and authority that he ever possessed, and there was nothing in this Bill to create the smallest conflict between the Lord Advocate and the new Official. The powers to be exercised by the new Official were not the powers of the Lord Advocate at all, but were powers taken solely and entirely out of the Office and functions of the Secretary of State. The hon. Gentleman really confounded two very different things. There might be many things in which the Lord Advocate advised the Secretary of State; but they were not a part of his duties. Indeed, it might just as well be said that other officials from whom the Secretary of State took advice had those powers. The Secretary of State, if he were wise, naturally took the advice of people who understood things better than himself. That was

part of the duties and functions of the Secretary of State; and there was not any foundation for supposing that there was anything in this Bill which at all impaired, in the smallest degree, the authority possessed by the Lord Advocate, either by statute or by custom.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he was glad that the words proposed to be left out were to be retained, for this new Officer who was to be created seemed to be neither flesh nor fowl, and no one knew what he was to do. He was to carve out his own business, and he would be looked upon in Scotland as the Officer, and the Lord Advocate would be entirely subordinate. They had not heard any warm speech from the Lord Advocate in support of the Bill—indeed, he (Sir R. Assheton Cross) would like immensely to know how the learned Lord could possibly support a Bill of this kind? He knew perfectly well what was the opinion of the whole Scottish Bar three or four years ago.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: Three or four years ago they had not got this Bill.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he should be glad if the right hon. and learned Gentleman would give him time to finish his sentence. A proposal was made; but the whole Bar rose in opposition to it, and a great deputation came up from the Scottish Bar to see him on the subject, because they maintained that the proposal then made would destroy the dignity of the Lord Advocate. What might be the arguments, political or otherwise, or the motives which had induced the Scottish Bar to take a different line of action now to that which they took before he did not know; but nothing could have been stronger than the line they took on the occasion, three or four years ago, that he referred to. If the Scottish Bar were now so enthusiastic in support of this Bill, why did not the Lord Advocate rise and support it? What had he got to say for it? He (Sir R. Assheton Cross) wanted to know now from him what his opinion was as to whether the new Officer would appropriate any of his duties; and whether his position would in any way be changed? Was he to be merely a Legal Adviser to the new Official? If so, he would no longer be Lord Advocate in the real sense of the word—he would sink into a Law Officer, and re-

main that and nothing more; and that was a totally different thing from the position which the Lord Advocate in Scotland had hitherto held. The Law Officers of England had never occupied the position held by the Lord Advocate in Scotland; and if there were to be these duties at all, he would much rather have seen the Lord Advocate entrusted with them. Even if it involved the result, that the Lord Advocate should not necessarily be a lawyer, and should have to depend on the Solicitor General for Scotland to assist him in legal matters, he would like to know from the learned Lord Advocate what he apprehended his duties would be when this Bill was passed, if it ever was passed, as he (Sir R. Assheton Cross) certainly hoped it would not be, and how far the Lord Advocate's duties would be changed by it? It was quite clear that the more the Bill was seen by the Scotch Members the less it was liked; and he did not believe that the people of Scotland cared two straws whether it was passed or not. He was certain that unless great care was taken of the position of the Lord Advocate the learned Lord would entirely sink from the possession of ancient duties which he so worthily fulfilled; and he (Sir R. Assheton Cross) would be very sorry if that should prove to be the case.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, he was very glad to have heard the expression with which the right hon. Gentleman concluded; but he wished, in a very few words, to answer his questions in the order in which he had put them. The right hon. Gentleman had first asked as to the position taken up by the Faculty of Advocates with respect to this Bill, and had referred to the position which they took up when his own Bill was before Parliament in 1878, when they raised a strong opposition against it. But that was not their position with respect to the present Bill at all; on the contrary, by a majority, they had passed a Resolution favourable to it. That Resolution, when contrasted with the position which the Faculty took up in 1878, would show that the estimate which the right hon. Gentleman had formed of the respective characters of the two measures, and of the relative effect of them upon the Office of the Lord Advocate, was by no means the same as that of those who

Sir William Harcourt

understood the Office, perhaps, better than the right hon. Gentleman himself did. It was an exceedingly significant fact that there was a different position taken up upon this Bill; and he entirely agreed with the Body to which he belonged in the opinion that the right hon. Gentleman's own Bill would have been greatly injurious to the position of the Lord Advocate than this Bill would be. It would require very few words to explain how that was so. He would not repeat what had been said more than once in reference to this Bill by the Home Secretary. It would be superfluous to do so, as they really wished to get on with the Bill. He did not think he had seen the right hon. Gentleman (Sir R. Assheton Cross) in his place yesterday, otherwise he might have heard some of the explanations that were given in regard to the various points raised. It was quite plain, from the exposition already given, that there was no function or duty of the Lord Advocate which would devolve upon the new Officer at all. The right hon. Gentleman further asked, what would be the relations of the Lord Advocate to the new Officer? He thought he might say that they would be the same, and necessarily the same, as the relations at present existing between the Lord Advocate and the Secretary of State, or any other Public Department. The Secretary of State performed certain duties, and when he thought fit he advised with the Lord Advocate, as he did with other Departments, and generally acted upon the advice thus received. He saw no reason to doubt that the existing relations between the Secretary of State and the Lord Advocate would be repeated in the future relations between the Lord Advocate and the new functionary. He (the Lord Advocate) would be the very last person to be a party to anything which, in his judgment, would directly or indirectly tend to lower the dignity of his Office, or even have a semblance of doing so; but he thought the right hon. Gentleman opposite might make his mind comparatively easy after the line which had been taken by the Faculty of Advocates on this subject.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL said, it seemed to him some explanation was required of the words "by custom." The Home Secretary had referred to

legal custom and colloquial custom. If it was the case, as stated by the Lord Advocate, that the Secretary of State had conceded in many things sometimes more and sometimes less to the Lord Advocate, then the Committee should understand what were the duties of the Lord Advocate's Office by legal custom. The hon. Member for Leith (Mr. A. Grant) had referred to various matters—the conduct of legal business, the bringing in of Bills, and the conduct of Parliamentary Business, and patronage had also been referred to; was that a legal or a colloquial custom? Another matter he wished to refer to was in regard to statistics, statistics of local taxation. Up to a few Sessions ago Members were referred to the Lord Advocate as being responsible for these statistics. Would this subject rest with the Lord Advocate, or would it be conveyed to the new Office? He disagreed with the hon. Member for Leith when he said the effect of the creation of this new Office would be to reduce the Lord Advocate to the position of an English or an Irish Attorney General; the Office of Lord Advocate would remain in an infinitely higher position. Not only was he the Attorney General for Scotland, but he was the Minister of Justice for Scotland, and he performed great and high functions, which did not appertain to the Office of Attorney General. The Lord Advocate would still maintain that high and dignified position, though he must convey much of the minor functions that had devolved upon him from the Secretary of State to the new Officer. Before the Bill was disposed of, however, they ought to know what were the duties of a legal character remaining with the Lord Advocate.

MR. A. GRANT said, the hon. Member who had just spoken seemed to think that he had expressed a wish that the Lord Advocate should become a mere Legal Officer. He had expressed no such wish. On the contrary, he had said he had no such wish. What he did was to ask the Home Secretary whether that would be the effect of the Bill or not?

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, he wished to remind the Committee—"Oh!"—if the Committee wished to go to bed, he should move to report Progress. The Home Secretary told

the House yesterday that the whole thing was of an experimental character, and that it could not be expected that the Lord Advocate, or any other Minister, could say distinctly what duties would fall within the sphere of the new Office.

MR. WARTON said, they were always delighted to hear the Lord Advocate; but he wished to call attention to one observation that had fallen from him. He had told the Committee that the Bill did not detract from the dignity and position of his Office; but he could not have studied the 2nd clause, which really put the Lord Advocate at the bottom of the Board.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL said, he should like an answer to the question he had put. If no further explanation was to be given, he hoped his hon. Friend (Mr. A. Grant) would divide the Committee.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, he should like to save the Committee the trouble of a Division by arriving at a decision by a shorter process. The hon. Member for Kirkcaldy asked a question which had been answered 50 times. Over and over again had he repeated it; but he would give the answer once more. The Government had no intention whatever of taking anything from the Lord Advocate that belonged or had belonged to the Office; and for the further satisfaction of the hon. Member he would say the Government had no intention of degrading the Lord Advocate to the unhappy position of the Attorney General or Solicitor General for England.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL said, the right hon. and learned Gentleman had given no information as to who would be responsible for the statistics of local taxation.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, he could only give this answer—that it was a great subject, but one upon which he was entirely ignorant. If the Lord Advocate had been responsible before he would be so hereafter; if the Secretary of State was responsible, then the new Minister would be responsible for it hereafter.

MR. A. GRANT said, as they were assured by the Home Secretary that not a single hair's breadth of the functions of the Lord Advocate would be touched by the Bill, he could only express his

wonder that the clause was put into the Bill at all. No doubt the right hon. and learned Gentleman, with the views he had expressed, would be prepared to accept an Amendment, which was to be proposed by some other Member, for expunging the clause altogether. He, therefore, asked leave to withdraw his Amendment.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

SIR JOHN HAY said, he quite agreed with the hon. Member for Leith (Mr. A. Grant). That hon. Member's Amendment not being accepted, and having no particular desire that it should be, he was glad to hear that the hon. Member agreed with himself in thinking that the whole clause should be omitted. He rose, therefore, to make the Motion of which he and several other Members had given Notice, the omission of the clause from the Bill; and he ventured to say he could show good cause why it should be so omitted. *Qui s'excuse s'accuse*. Nothing would prejudice or interfere with any rights, privileges, or duties attaching to the Office of Lord Advocate, such was the assurance of the Lord Advocate, and that was the belief of the Faculty of Advocates. There was also the assurance of the Home Secretary that there was nothing in the intention of the Bill to interfere with or prejudice the Office of Lord Advocate, or the rights and duties that had devolved upon it by Acts of Parliament or by custom. The Committee had had these assurances from those who introduced the Bill, and should understand its merits and intention. Why, then, should the Committee sanction the introduction of a clause to do that, or endeavour to do that, which they were assured would be carried out by the Act itself? Either it was a superfluous clause, or there was something in the Bill which the Committee had not seen which would interfere with the duties, the rights, or the privileges of the Lord Advocate. For these reasons, not wishing to detain the Committee longer at that hour of the morning, he moved the Amendment which stood in his name, and should certainly take a Division upon it.

Amendment proposed, to leave out the Clause.—(Sir John Hay.)

Question proposed, "That the Clause stand part of the Bill."

Sir Alexander Gordon

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, he thought the very fact that the question had over and over again been raised and discussed was ample justification for the clause. What has passed had shown that there was in some minds a fear that the functions of the Office he had the honour to hold would be interfered with. An assurance to the contrary had been given; but was it not better to have that assurance in an explicit and authentic form in the Bill? If there was any doubt about the assurances given, this was the more authoritative way of removing the doubt. In addition to that, there must be understood to be this general reason—to prevent the possibility of misapprehension as to whether the transfer to the new Officer of duties under the Bill might or might not interfere with the specific statutory powers which, under some Acts of Parliament, the Lord Advocate possessed. There was a possibility of that, and it was better to have no doubt about it. He referred to the power of suing, for instance, and there were other powers which he need not go into, and which would be familiar to many hon. Members. It was best to make it clear that there was no such purpose as was apprehended by some; and the clause made it perfectly clear that any duties or powers now laid by statute on the Lord Advocate and inherent in his Office would remain intact. The criticisms which had been pressed to this clause might be applied with equal appropriateness to every saving clause.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, there was a large amount of Scotch patronage. With whom did it rest at the present moment?

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: With a few exceptions with the Secretary of State.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, he asked the question because he was informed that a Mr. F. Richardson was promoted to a clerkship in Edinburgh, at £400 or £700 a-year, over several seniors, and his sole recommendation seemed to be that he had acted for the Prime Minister in the management of the Mid Lothian campaign of 1880. Were the different appointments in the gift of the Lord Advocate or the Secretary of State? He did not quite see whether in the clause the patronage of

the Lord Advocate was safeguarded; the wording of the clause did not say anything about patronage. If the clause was not rejected, would it not be better to insert "patronage," so that this might not lapse into the hands of the new Officer?

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, the whole of the patronage of Scotland was in the hands of the Secretary of State. That was a matter of elementary knowledge in Constitutional Scottish history. In these matters the Secretary of State almost always took the advice of the Lord Advocate; but the patronage was the patronage of the Secretary of State, for which he was responsible. His learned Friend told him that the Crown agents were appointed by the Lord Advocate; but they were agents and deputies of the Lord Advocate. As to the particular appointment to which the hon. Member referred, he was sorry to say he could not give any information.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, he thought this was an important statement, and explained what he was looking for—that the whole of the patronage would be in the hands of the Minister of State, and in the Schedule would be transferred to the new Minister. The hon. Member for Portsmouth, some Sitings since, made some remarks about patronage, and he really began to think there was something in the view he took. By the Acts quoted in the Schedule the Secretary of State had the power of appointing and removing all the officers of those large Boards in Scotland. This opened up quite a new view of the case.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, an answer was really required. There was no doubt that a great deal of the patronage would pass to the new Officer; but the Secretary of State said it was all vested in him.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: I said at present.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, the question was asked, and the Committee were given to understand that all patronage would be vested in the Secretary of State; now it appeared that his portion would pass to someone else. It would be better to have it all explained; and as the point had been raised, perhaps the right hon. and learned Gentleman would give an answer.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, it was a little hard that the right hon. Gentleman should go away during the best part of the discussion, and then complain of the want of explanation.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he was present the whole time the Home Secretary was speaking.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, there had been long discussions during which the right hon. Gentleman was absent. But, passing away from that, he was answering a question as to the existing state of things, whether the patronage was in the hands of the Secretary of State or the Lord Advocate? No doubt the patronage which belonged to the Office under the Statutes which would be transferred would be in the hands of the new Officer. That was always intended to be done, and that would leave the legal patronage exactly where it was before, still remaining with the Secretary of State, acting on the advice of the Lord Advocate. The appointments to the Fishery and other Boards would be made by the new Official. From first to last this had always been stated; and it seemed to him an extraordinary thing that the hon. and gallant Member for East Aberdeenshire (Sir Alexander Gordon) had been trying to find out what had been said half-a-dozen times during the discussion. He would say, again, the patronage would go with the arrangement of the powers to be transferred to the new Official. What was not transferred would remain with the Secretary of State, and continue to be exercised by him as before.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL said, he should vote for expunging the clause, with the object of saving the dignity of the position of Lord Advocate. It seemed to him that under a good many Acts the Lord Advocate had acted as the subordinate to the Secretary of State, and when the transfer of duties to the new Officer took place the Lord Advocate would become his subordinate. To take an illustration—for some little time the Local Taxation Returns had been prepared in the Office of the Lord Advocate. If under the Bill the powers and duties of the Secretary of State in regard to these Taxation Returns were transferred to the new Officer, and as by custom, if not by law, the Lord Advocate had produced these Returns and submitted them

to the Secretary of State, the result would be that the Lord Advocate would become the subordinate of the new Officer. That, it seemed to him, would be bringing the Office of Lord Advocate into a humiliating position, and to relieve him from that the clause should be omitted.

SIR JOHN HAY said, as to the appointment of Sheriffs, Procurators Fiscal, and other persons connected with the law, as to which at present the Lord Advocate gave advice, though the appointments were made by the Secretary of State, would that fall to the new Officer? [SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: No.] Then the Lord Advocate would continue to advise the Home Secretary in some matters, but not in others? The appointment of Lord High Commissioner, with whom would that be vested? [SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: The Secretary of State.] When they came to the discussion of the 38 Acts mentioned in the Schedule they would learn more about it; but he anticipated that the discussion would occupy a considerable time.

MR. J. A. CAMPBELL said, he entirely agreed with his right hon. and gallant Friend in his opposition to the Bill; but he must himself say he did not feel able to support the Amendment, and he would explain why. Yesterday, when the clause was arrived at, though not formally put, an opinion was expressed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer that the proposed Amendment was something quite unreasonable. The opponents of the Bill, he said, had dwelt strongly on the danger they saw in the Bill to the position of Lord Advocate; and here was a clause to protect the Office and position of Lord Advocate, and he seemed to think it was inconsistent on the part of opponents of the Bill to propose such an Amendment as the Committee were now considering. But from what he had heard from his right hon. and gallant Friend, and others who had put the Notices on the Paper, he understood the motive was not to indicate any disapproval of the intention expressed in the clause for the protection of the position of Lord Advocate, but that they considered it an altogether wrong and insufficient way of attaining that end, that the mere insertion of a clause of this kind was no protection whatever to the position of Lord Advocate. But,

in his opinion, the clause had a value. It was important to have in the Bill itself an expression of the good intentions of the Government with respect to the position and functions of the Lord Advocate. And he thought this was more than an expression of an intention. This clause, which had, of course, been in the Bill from the beginning, and therefore was put in in anticipation of the probable objection — this clause amounted to an admission that there was a necessity for providing a protection of the kind, an admission that there was something in the Bill which placed the position of Lord Advocate in some danger. He looked upon it as an admission that there was some force in the objection many had felt to the Bill, and on that account he should be glad to see the clause retained.

MR. WILLIAMSON said, all the arguments that had been adduced in favour of omitting the clause went to prove the necessity of retaining it. He could not understand how a contrary impression could have been made on the mind of the hon. Member for Kirkcaldy (Sir George Campbell). In his opinion, it simply illustrated the peculiar conformation of the hon. Member's mind.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, he only wished to remark, in reference to what had fallen from the Home Secretary when he reproached his right hon. Friend (Sir R. Assheton Cross) with being absent from the discussions, that the Home Secretary himself was by no means a regular attendant. Why had the Committee heard nothing of the patronage before? The Home Secretary seemed to have but a hazy idea of what was to be retained. This seemed to be a Bill for gathering into the hands of one Official the patronage of Scotland; and he had better be called at once the Patronage Secretary for Scotland, instead of the President of the Local Government Board for Scotland.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON asked who would be the Adviser of the Sovereign under the first Act mentioned in the Schedule?

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, if among the duties of the Secretary of State which would be transferred to the new Officer was that of giving such advice, clearly it would devolve upon the new Officer.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, it was the first time the Committee had had that explanation.

SIR JOHN HAY said, he would withdraw his Motion to omit the clause.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

SIR HENRY FLETCHER said, he thought it was now time the Chairman reported Progress.

Motion made, and Question proposed. "That the Chairman do report Progress, and ask leave to sit again." — (*Sir Henry Fletcher*.)

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, he hoped the Motion would not be pressed, because, if it were carried, it simply meant adding another day to the Session. The Bill having gone the length it had gone, the Government could not allow it simply to be worried to death. But it was for hon. Members themselves to judge whether they would not try to get on with the Bill. He knew that it was very late, and that the Government were asking great sacrifices of the House; but they would be obliged to ask a greater sacrifice if they did not get on, because they would have to ask the House to sit another day. He hoped hon. Members would accept the lesser evil of the two, and try to go on with the Bill.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, the Prime Minister, when he gave out the order of Business, said the Bill would certainly be taken that afternoon, but, if not finished, would be put down as the second Order for to-morrow at 2 o'clock, and that was a fair understanding. He thought it was most unreasonable that they should be asked to sit up till 5 o'clock in the morning. That was not the way to get through with the work.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, the right hon. Gentleman was mistaken in what he supposed the Prime Minister said. It could not be done. He had placed the alternative fairly before the Committee, to go on now, or add another day to the Session.

MR. EDWARD CLARKE said, he thought it was rather unreasonable for the Home Secretary to talk in this way about the Bill being worried to death. There were English Members of the House who had taken no part in the discussion of this measure, preferring to leave it to Scotch Members, who, he was

bound to say, did not seem to care about the Bill. So far as he was concerned, he would rather add a day to the Session than have a Bill discussed in such a manner, and at such a time. It was clear that it was quite impossible to have a reasonable discussion of the Bill now. If a Scotch Member got up and asked a question, he was shouted at and "pooh pooh'd" from the Treasury Bench; there was not the semblance of a discussion. He had heard a good deal about the Bill, and had been present at most of the Sittings when it had been discussed; and, to his mind, nothing was clearer now than that they were going to create a Political Officer, who had no defined functions, no staff, and no assistants.

THE CHAIRMAN: The hon. and learned Member must speak on the Motion to report Progress.

MR. EDWARD CLARKE said, he thought he was strictly in Order in stating his reasons for supporting the Motion, which were in connection with the structure and importance of the Bill. He hoped a Division would be taken on the Motion.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL said, that no one was more strongly opposed than he was to legislating at that hour of the night (4 o'clock); but, at the same time, there was not much left to dispose of now, and he thought they might as well sit and finish the Bill. It was a very unusual thing for him to sit up so late at night; but there was only the Schedule left now to deal with, and he thought they might as well go on with it.

Question put, and *negatived*.

Clause *agreed to*.

SCHEDULE.

POWERS AND DUTIES OF SECRETARY OF STATE.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON moved that the words contained in the 4th line—"Poor Law, 8 & 9 Vict. c. 83"—be omitted. When Parliament was asked to make a great change they ought to have some reason afforded to them for making it. The Board of Supervision had been in existence for 38 years in Scotland, and every year it had gone on increasing in popularity and giving satisfaction. The Board now performed its duties to the entire satisfaction of the

country, and never a word was heard against it. But it was now proposed that this Board of Supervision should be itself supervised by the new Minister who was about to be appointed, and that was an interference with an efficient Board which was wholly unnecessary. He thought they had better leave the excellent arrangements as to Poor Law in Scotland to remain as they were at present in their entirety.

Amendment proposed, in page 3, line 4, to leave out the words "Poor Law, 8 & 9 Vict. c. 83."—(Sir Alexander Gordon.)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Schedule."

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, he could not accept the Amendment. He did not cast any reflection on the Board of Supervision, or in the least degree differ from the high estimate which the hon. and gallant Gentleman had formed of that body; but as a new functionary was to be substituted for the Secretary of State for the performance of certain duties, it was necessary that those duties should be transferred to him. At present, the Board of Supervision reported regularly to the Home Secretary. In future, they would report to the President of the Scottish Local Government Board; and the sanction to the rules and regulations of the Board of Supervision would, of course, be given in future by the new President. He hoped this Amendment would not lead to any long discussion.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, he was quite willing to withdraw the Amendment.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

SIR JOHN HAY moved that the words contained in the 12th line—"Marriage Notices, 41 & 42 Vict. c. 43"—be omitted from the Schedule. He himself had taken no part in the discussion as to who was to be the person who was to hold the new Office; but the noble Earl whose name had often been referred to (the Earl of Rosebery) was not likely, he understood, to be appointed as the first holder of the Office; and he understood that another noble Earl (the Earl of Dalhousie), who was an ornament to the Profession to which he (Sir John Hay) belonged, and who, he regretted,

Mr. Edward Clarke

was no longer a Member of that Profession, was likely to be the first holder. Now, though he had the greatest possible respect for that noble Earl, who, as a naval officer, had his esteem, he confessed that the noble Earl's peculiar views in reference to marriage were such that he (Sir John Hay) thought it impossible that the Marriage Laws of Scotland should be subject to his supervision, or they might all find themselves compelled to marry their deceased wives' sisters, whether their wives were deceased or not. If they were to back the blue-jacket rather than the primrose-jacket for this particular Office, he thought it would be a serious matter, so far as the Marriage Laws were concerned.

Amendment proposed, in page 3, line 12, to leave out the words "Marriage Notices, 41 & 42 Vict. c. 43."—(*Sir John Hay.*)

Amendment *negatived.*

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) moved to leave out "cclxxi," in line 23, in order to insert "cclxxiii."

Amendment *agreed to.*

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON moved to leave out the words contained in lines 27 and 28—"Food and Drugs, 38 & 39 Vict. c. 63; 42 & 43 Vict. c. 30." It was most important that what was done about adulteration should be done upon a uniform system; and the matter had no special relation to Scotland at all. The adulteration of food and drugs was a very important matter in Scotland as well as in England; and he found that one of these Acts—42 & 43 *Vict.*—began—

"Whereas conflicting decisions have been given in England and Scotland with regard to the administration of the Food and Drugs Act."

That showed how important it was, in the opinion of Parliament, that a uniform system should be adopted; and he thought it should be left, as now, within the control of the Secretary of State.

Amendment proposed, in page 3, line 27, to leave out the words "Food and Drugs, 38 & 39 Vict. c. 63, and 42 & 43 Vict. c. 30."—(*Sir Alexander Gordon.*)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Schedule."

SIR JOHN HAY agreed with the hon. and gallant Gentleman that these were lines which ought to be omitted. This was one of the matters which ought to remain in the Home Office.

Mr. WILLIAMSON said, he thought the argument used by the Mover of the Amendment was not quite to the point. The Act recited began with the words—

"Whereas conflicting judgments have been given in England and in Scotland;"

but that meant not conflicts between the two countries, but in each.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, he wished to give one word of explanation as to the nature of the function which was to be transferred, and which he thought was peculiarly fitted to be so transferred. One of the powers of the Secretary of State was to require local authorities to appoint an analyst. That was eminently a duty to be discharged by the new Official. Another matter dealt with was the appointment and removal of Inspectors subject to the Secretary of State. That was another matter which clearly appertained to local government.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, this was hardly a Bill for the appointment of Scottish Inspectors; but what would come of it evidently was that a number of local men should be going about influencing elections. It was plain what was the real object of the Government in the matter, and he hoped the Committee would divide on the Amendment.

Question put.

The Committee *divided*:—Ayes 48; Noes 16: Majority 32.—(Div. List, No. 296.)

Amendment proposed, in page 3, line 29, after "74," insert "Section 72."—(*The Lord Advocate.*)

Question proposed, "That 'Section 72' be there inserted."

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON asked whether Section 8 was not a very important one, which ought also to be included? It was the only one which gave the Secretary of State any duties.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, he would see about it on the Report.

MR. WARTON only wished to ask the learned Lord Advocate one question. Did he intend to go upon the principle of in-

serting different sections from these different Acts?—because he (Mr. Warton) was inclined to prefer the insertion of whole Acts rather than parts of them. It would certainly be safer. He would have liked to have moved himself, with regard to the Burial Grounds Act, that Sections 5 and 71 should have been omitted; and, indeed, if the learned Lord Advocate intended to persevere with this plan of proceeding by sections, he (Mr. Warton) should certainly move, on Report, that in the case of the Act 18 & 19 Vict. c. 68, only Sections 25 and 26 should be inserted, as they were the only ones which it was important to have in.

THE CHAIRMAN: There is no Question before the Committee.

MR. WARTON: I beg your pardon, Sir; there is.

THE CHAIRMAN: No. The Question has been determined.

MR. WARTON: I beg your pardon, Sir. I challenged you. I rise to Order.

THE CHAIRMAN: Order, order—Sir Alexander Gordon.

MR. WARTON: I rise to Order, Sir. I say it with respect; but I distinctly challenged you before you put it.

THE CHAIRMAN: The hon. and learned Member may have challenged; but I decided the Question that the Ayes have it, not having heard him.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF: I heard the hon. and learned Member's challenge before you decided, Sir Arthur Otway.

THE CHAIRMAN: I accept the hon. Gentleman's statement; but I decided before I heard his challenge.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF: I rise to Order. I heard him challenge before you decided, Sir.

THE CHAIRMAN: I have said that I accept his statement without any statement in confirmation, but that I decided before I heard his challenge; and the hon. Member for Portsmouth is not in a position to know whether I decided before I heard it. I alone know that.

Amendment proposed, in page 3, after line 29, in second column, insert "31 & 32 Vict. c. 130."—(*The Lord Advocate.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

SIR JOHN HAY said, it was very difficult to understand what was going on at the Table; indeed, it would be

right to ask that the Act which was being cut up and inserted in the Bill should be read out at the Table. The hon. and learned Member for Bridport (Mr. Warton), and other learned Members, might understand what was going on; but he (Sir John Hay) confessed that he did not. Here they were taking sections out of 38 different Acts of Parliament, and what was to become of the Bill afterwards he confessed he could not understand. Here they were, at 5 o'clock in the morning, taking bits out of Acts of Parliament, and putting them in anyhow; and then they were to pass the Bill, and send it to "another place," where, no doubt, it would be treated as it deserved. This was simply scrambling a Bill up to the last moment, and making it up of bits of Acts of all sorts. Nobody knew what all these Acts were; and he would undertake to say that there was not a Member present, learned or unlearned, who would know what it was that was being put into the Bill unless it should be read at the Table.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, he thought he could explain the matter in a single sentence. There were five Artizans' Dwellings Acts. Only two had been included in the Bill, and it was thought it was desirable, to make it complete, that another should be put in.

MR. WARTON said, the Home Secretary would, no doubt, remember how angry he was when he (Mr. Warton) talked the Bill out at a Morning Sitting on a previous occasion. He was endeavouring at the time to impress upon the House, and if possible upon the Liberal Party, that the Schedule was exceedingly badly drawn. His statements were received at the time with shouts of derision; but his view was now confirmed by the Lord Advocate.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, he thought they ought to have the Bill read at the Table.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, he did not think the hon. Member could seriously desire to treat any Bill in that way. Indeed, it would be impossible. Every Bill recited Acts of Parliament, and if it was to be said that the House were not to pass a Bill until every Act mentioned in it had been read at the Table, why that would not be discussing it all. If there were any difficulty about this particular point, he could under-

Mr. Warton

stand further explanations being asked for; but the Lord Advocate had already explained the matter amply enough. The Amendment amply incorporated the powers of the Artizans Dwellings Act, which it transferred. One of the Acts was accidentally omitted, and now it was proposed to supply it.

MR. EDWARD CLARKE said, the explanation, simple as it was, seemed a very odd one. He supposed that somebody who was acquainted with Acts of Parliament drafted the Bill, and selected the two which were to be put into the Schedule. It was now thought fit to put in others which were not in the first place. If the person who drafted the Bill intended to put in this Bill for Scotland all the Artizans Dwellings Acts, surely the book from which he took the one reference might have given him the other. It was such a singular way of doing business that an explanation ought to be forthcoming.

MR. J. G. TALBOT said, he could not help making another appeal to the Government. Was it really dignified to press on the Bill at such an hour? The Home Secretary said it was a common practice to refer to Acts in such a manner in a Bill; but was it a usual thing for the Government to put down Amendments of this kind, and ask the Committee to discuss them at such an hour? Imagine the Home Secretary sitting on the Front Opposition Bench; would he allow a Bill to be carried in such a manner? It would not be tolerated. He (Mr. Talbot) had never obstructed this Bill; he was not in the habit of obstructing Bills; but it was rather hard for Members who only took part in Business with which they were acquainted to be kept sitting all night. It would be an additional ground for the House of Lords to throw out the Bill that it was forced through Committee against numerous protests, at a time of the Session and at an hour in the morning when it could not be adequately discussed. If a Motion to report Progress were moved he should certainly support it.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, the matter was entirely in the hands of the Committee. Hon. Members had said something about what the House of Lords was going to do. He had nothing to do with that. The House of Lords would take care of itself, and the House of Commons must take care of

itself. The business of the Government was to obtain the judgment of the House of Commons on the Bill, and that was what they intended to do; and in what manner that should be done must depend upon the House, and he hoped the minority would consent to accept the decision of the majority. As he had said before, the Government could not consent to postpone the Bill; he had said that over and over again. The question was whether, having got to the Schedule, would the Committee conclude, or would they add another day to the Session, when the House of Lords would want another day added to that? This was the alternative. What hon. Members opposite wished was that the Government should drop the Bill; but this the Government did not intend to do. Would the Committee like to go on and finish the Schedule, or would they like to carry over the Session into another week?

SIR JOHN HAY said, he merely wished to remark, in reference to the right hon. and learned Gentleman's observation that "another place" would take care of itself and the House of Commons would take care of itself, that the House of Commons was not taking care of the legislation of the country in hurrying through a Bill obviously so imperfect that at the last moment the Lord Advocate put down nearly a whole page of Amendments to be inserted. The insertion of these might be an improvement of the Bill; the Bill required improvement; but certainly, as the Home Secretary said, the House of Commons could take care of itself; but he was sorry to say they were not taking care of the legislation of the country.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL remarked, that they had discussed this Bill as exhaustively as any Bill that was ever discussed in the House of Commons.

Amendment agreed to.

Amendment proposed, in page 3, after line 31, in second column, insert "42 and 43 Vict. c. 64."—(*The Lord Advocate.*)

Amendment agreed to.

Amendment proposed, in page 3, line 32, leave out "7," and insert "6."—(*The Lord Advocate.*)

MR. WARTON said, it was quite possible for a careless draftsman of a

Bill to forget three out of five Acts; but when it came to the insertion of a wrong chapter it showed the danger of proceeding with this frightful haste. As an alternative, he would rather add another day to the Session, and have the work done well.

Amendment agreed to.

Amendment proposed, in page 3, after line 32, in second column, insert "45 and 46 Vict. c. 54."—(*The Lord Advocate.*)

Amendment agreed to.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, he wished to omit the reference to the Alkali Act. This was another question that had nothing particularly to do with Scotland; and it was very important that the inspection, and all the regulations, should be on an uniform system, not depending on the various opinions of those who administered the Act. The hon. Member for South Shields (Mr. Stevenson) had put down a Notice, and intended to show how it would affect the English manufacturer. He had withdrawn that Notice; but he had told him (Sir Alexander Gordon) that he attached great importance to the Alkali Act being struck out, so that manufacturers should be under an uniform system. It would be found, on looking at the Alkali Act, that the Secretary of State had only an initial duty; and he believed he had never exercised it once during the whole time the Act had been in force.

Amendment proposed, in page 3, line 33, to leave out "Alkali, 44 and 45 Vict. c. 37."—(*Sir Alexander Gordon.*)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Schedule."

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, the hon. Member for South Shields (Mr. Stevenson) had withdrawn his Notice; and other hon. Members, he believed, were contented, so he did not think it could be said there was any real opposition to this proposal. There was no reason why the Alkali Act should not be brought under the cognizance of the Local Government Board in Scotland, just as it was under the Local Government Board in England.

Mr. Warton

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, so far from the hon. Member for South Shields having withdrawn his opposition he had telegraphed from Scotland, begging him to urge the omission of the Act.

Amendment negatived.

Amendment proposed,

In page 3, lines 36, 37, and 38, to leave out the words "Industrial Schools, 29 & 30 Vict. c. 118; 35 & 36 Vict. c. 62; Reformatories, 29 & 30 Vict. c. 117."—(*The Lord Advocate.*)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Schedule."

MR. BUCHANAN said, he hoped the Lord Advocate would say a word as to the import of this Amendment. He could not quite see why the omission was proposed.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, the truth was that the reformatories and industrial schools, though called schools, were really prisons, and children were committed there as to prison. There were no means of getting children out of industrial schools; that could only be done by the Secretary of State, as in the case of an adult prisoner. It was in consequence of that, and for the protection of industrial schools, that the Lord Advocate had thought it was not possible to make this transfer to the new Officer.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL said, then he found that prisons were transferred to the new Officer.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, there was not the same objection. The management of prisons did not deal with the release of prisoners.

SIR JOHN HAY said, he thought, in accepting this Amendment, it would be acknowledged that the point which the hon. Member for Bute (Mr. Dalrymple) and himself urged strongly on the second reading was just.

Amendment agreed to.

MR. WARTON said, having now got to the bottom of the first page of the Schedule, he would like to call attention to the phraseology—

"And any Acts amending the said Acts, and conferring powers on the said Secretary of State."

That rather pointed to the idea of the first Act granting the power; but the Lord Advocate would see there was a

prospect of an Act amending an Act which took away power from the Secretary of State. Would it not be better to add—

“Or any Act amending an Act which takes away power from the Secretary of State;”

for if it was necessary that the amended Act should confer power the Bill might destroy power already given. There might be an amending Act which, for the first time, granted the power.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, he would consider this against the Report stage.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, the Lord Advocate had adopted his Amendment to a great extent; but he must just object that it struck out the whole of the rest of the Public Health Act of Scotland. Now, if there was any Act that should be included under the supervision of the new Officer it ought to be this.

THE CHAIRMAN: That is abolished, and we now deal with Part III.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, his Amendment was not necessarily that.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, he could give an explanation. It would be observed that this Part related to the powers and duties of the Privy Council alone, and the powers of the Privy Council, in respect to the matter, would be brought in in Part III.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, if the Act were struck out of the Schedule it would not be in the Bill at all; and, therefore, the new Minister would not be able to exercise any of the powers. As the Act now stood, the Public Health Act of Scotland would not be under the supervision of the new Officer, and he did not think that was the intention of the Government.

Amendment proposed, in page 4, line 3, after “101,” to insert “Part III.”—*(The Lord Advocate.)*

Amendment agreed to.

MR. WARTON said, after line 4 he would move the same words as in line 26 of page 3, in reference to burial grounds. He had mentioned the point before; and if the 5th section was referred to it would be seen that a duty was imposed both on the Secretary of State and on the Privy Council. The Lord Advocate would see the force of this. According to his construction of the section there

was a duty imposed on both. He would only read a very short part of the section—

“It shall be lawful for Her Majesty from time to time, by Order in Council, on the representation of the Secretary of State;”

and then it went on to state what should be done. Now, these two duties were provided for on page 3, and the principal duty was imposed on the Privy Council to order something to be done, that something being the closing of burial grounds. Not only did the Amendment adopt the words, but it came very naturally under the question of public health.

Amendment proposed, in page 4, after line 4, insert “burial grounds, 18 & 19 Vict. c. 68.”—*(Mr. Warton.)*

Question proposed, “That those words be there inserted.”

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, he explained yesterday that the Secretary of State had the power to set in motion, or make representations to the Privy Council, and it was proposed to transfer that power to the new Officer; but he would like to consider this point, and he would do so on Report.

MR. WARTON said, there was a precedent in the Bill for the introduction of an Act in two places if the learned Lord Advocate would look at the Alkali Act.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn.*

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, it appeared to him that if there was any Act the new Minister ought to have under his control it was that which had reference to common lodging-houses, and other matters relating to local government. Did not the Lord Advocate wish to include this?

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, yes; he wished to consider whether it should be put in the first Schedule as well as the second.

Amendment proposed,

In page 4, after line 43, insert—“Wild Birds Protection, 43 and 44 Vict. c. 35, 44 and 45 Vict. c. 51; Anatomy, 2 and 3 Will. IV., c. 75, 34 and 35 Vict. c. 16.”—*(The Lord Advocate.)*

Question proposed, “That those words be there inserted.”

MR. WARTON wished to call the attention of the Lord Advocate to the

effect of the insertion of the words in this place. The effect would be that no power of any Act amending these Acts would have effect. But he presumed the Lord Advocate wished to include such? The Amendment ought to come in earlier, unless for some mysterious reason these amending Acts were to be excluded.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, it was true the Amendment should come in on page 3.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Schedule, as amended, *added* to the Bill.

Preamble *agreed to*.

Bill *reported*; as amended, to be considered *To-morrow*, at Two of the clock.

MR. J. G. TALBOT expressed a hope that the Bill would be re-printed with the Amendments, if only as a matter of decency and regularity in their proceedings.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, there had been no considerable alterations made in it—only one or two of an unimportant character.

SIR JOHN HAY said, that after they had discussed five pages of Amendments and six clauses there must have been some changes made in the Bill. He thought it ought to be re-printed, or they could not consider it properly on Report. [The LORD ADVOCATE dissented.] He observed his learned Friend the Lord Advocate shake his head; and as the learned Lord still possessed the dignity of Lord Advocate, he (Sir John Hay) would respect that shake, with all that it contained. But he did not think it possible that the Bill could be considered to-morrow on Report without being re-printed. They could not discuss it properly unless they knew what it contained.

MR. WARTON said, there had been two changes in the Bill, nine in the Schedule, and one in the Preamble, making 12 in all.

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE said, it was unusual to re-print a Bill of this kind at so late a period of the Session.

POST OFFICE (PROTECTION) BILL.

(Mr. Fawcett, Mr. Courtney.)

[BILL 266.] COMMITTEE.

Order for Committee read.

Mr. Warton

MR. WARTON objected to the Bill being taken at so late an hour (5 o'clock).

MR. SPEAKER said, it was not usual to object, as the Committee was only to be taken *pro forma*. The block against the Bill would still remain afterwards.

MR. WARTON said this was a great deal more than a *pro forma* stage, for some very important provisions were to be introduced—one especially dealing with forged telegrams.

Bill considered in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

On the Motion of Mr. FAWCETT, the following new Clauses were inserted:—
Page 1, after Clause 1, insert the following Clause:—

“This Act shall extend to the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, and the Royal Courts of the Channel Islands shall register the same accordingly.”

Page 4, after Clause 9, insert the following Clause:—

(Forgery of telegrams.)

“Every person who forges or wilfully and without due authority alters a telegram or utters a telegram knowing the same to be forged, or wilfully and without due authority altered, or who transmits by telegraph as a telegram, or utters as a telegram, any message or communication which he knows not to be a telegram, shall, whether he had or had not an intent to defraud, be guilty of a misdemeanour, and shall be liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding ten pounds, and, on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment with or without hard labour for a period not exceeding twelve months.

“For the purposes of this section the expression ‘telegram’ means a written or printed message or communication sent to or delivered at a Post Office, or the office of a Telegraph Company, for transmission by telegraph, or delivered by the Post Office or a Telegraph Company as a message or communication transmitted by telegraph.

“The expression ‘Telegraph Company’ means any Company or persons working any telegraph.

“The expression ‘telegraph’ has the same meaning as in ‘The Telegraph Act, 1869,’ and the Acts amending the same.”

Page 6, after Clause 12, insert the following Clause:—

(Execution of instruments of the Postmaster General in substitution for s. 7 of 44 and 45 Vic. c. 20.)

“Any instrument requiring to be executed by the Postmaster General, or to which he is a party, may be executed by any of the secretaries or assistant secretaries of the Post Office in the name of the Postmaster General, and,

if so executed, shall be deemed to have been executed by the Postmaster General, and shall have effect accordingly.

"Any instrument purporting to be executed by any of the secretaries or assistant secretaries of the Post Office in the name of the Postmaster General shall, until the contrary is proved, be deemed to have been so executed without proof of the official character of the person appearing to have executed the same."

Page 6, after Clause 13, insert the following:—

(Substitution of 32 and 33 Vic. c. 18, s. 1, for repealed section 33 of 31 and 32 Vic. c. 119, in the Telegraph Act, 1878.)

"Whereas, by sections four and five of 'The Telegraph Act, 1878,' section thirty-three of 'The Regulation of Railways Act, 1868,' is, together with other sections of that Act, applied to the differences therein mentioned:

(32 and 33 Vic. c. 18.)

"And whereas the said section thirty-three was repealed, and another section in lieu thereof enacted by 'The Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1869,' and it is expedient to substitute a reference to the last-mentioned section for the reference to the repealed section: Be it therefore enacted as follows:—

(41 and 42 Vic. c. 76, 31 and 32 Vic. c. 119, 32 and 33 Vic. c. 18.)

"Any reference in 'The Telegraph Act, 1878,' to section thirty-three of 'The Regulation of Railways Act, 1868,' shall be construed to refer to section one of 'The Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1869.'"

Schedule, page 9, line 55, column 3, before "section 11," insert "section seven and."

Bill reported; to be printed, as amended [Bill 298]; re-committed for To-morrow, at Two of the clock.

STATUTE LAW REVISION AND CIVIL PROCEDURE BILL. [Lords.] [BILL 290.]

(Mr. Attorney General.)

SECOND READING.

Order for Second Reading read.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a second time."—(Mr. Attorney General.)

MR. EDWARD CLARKE asked whether it was to be read a second time without a single word of explanation?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, he was sure his hon. and learned Friend had read the Bill, which was only rendered necessary in consequence of other Acts being passed to alter certain forms. It was a usual annual Bill.

Motion agreed to.

Bill read a second time, and committed for To-morrow, at Two of the clock.

TRIAL OF LUNATICS BILL. [Lords.]

(Mr. Attorney General.)

[BILL 292.] SECOND READING.

Order for Second Reading read.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a second time."—(Mr. Attorney General.)

MR. EDWARD CLARKE said, this was surely not a measure of the same class as the one which had just been read a second time.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, it was not; but it had been thought advisable that some change should be made in the law with respect to the conviction of lunatics. As the law stood at present, lunatics charged with crime were found not guilty on the ground of insanity; and it had been wisely thought that people who were only partially mad at the time they found the resolution to commit a crime would be more deterred from so doing if the verdict was one of guilty of committing the act charged. The result would be entirely the same after the verdict had been taken; because insane prisoners would be detained at the pleasure of the Crown, as now. It had been thought better that this alteration of the law should be made, and there was no reason against it.

Motion agreed to.

Bill read a second time, and committed for To-morrow, at Two of the clock.

MEDALS BILL.—[BILL 188.]

(Mr. Courtney, Secretary Sir William Harcourt, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer.)

COMMITTEE. [Progress 13th August.]

Bill considered in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

MR. WARTON moved that Progress be reported, as two hon. Members who had placed Amendments on the Paper were not there, and could not be expected to be there at that hour of the morning.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Chairman do report Progress, and ask leave to sit again."—(Mr. Warton.)

MR. R. N. FOWLER said, the Bill could be disposed of in less than three minutes.

MR. WARTON said, he would not press his Motion.

Motion, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause 1 (Short title of Act).

MR. WARTON (for Mr. COCHRAN-PATRICK) moved to insert the word "counterfeit" before "Medal," in page 1, line 5. It seemed to be the impression of the Government that there could be no such thing as a duplicate medal. There were medals given as rewards in schools; some of a more honourable description were medals won on the field of battle in open war or in military operations, as the case might be. But there was a difference between genuine duplicate medals and counterfeit medals.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 5, before the word "Medal," to insert the word "counterfeit."—(*Mr. Warton.*)

Amendment *agreed to*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 2 (Punishment for selling medals resembling current coin).

MR. WARTON (for Mr. COCHRAN-PATRICK) moved the insertion of the words "with intention to defraud," after the word "sells," in page 1, line 10. There might be medals which were properly sold. They all knew that there were large collections of very great interest which might properly be sold, and the element of evil intention should come into play to constitute crime. There was no crime without evil intention.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 10, after the word "sells," to insert the words "with intention to defraud."—(*Mr. Warton.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. COURTNEY said, the proposal now made would destroy the value of the Bill. The Bill was framed on an analogy with the law, which made it not only a misdemeanour, but an actual felony, to possess paper capable of being used as Bank of England paper. It was not necessary to prove the intention to defraud.

Amendment *negatived*.

Clause *agreed to*.

Clause 3 (Interpretation).

MR. COURTNEY moved to insert the words "or for," after "in," in page 1, line 25.

Amendment *agreed to*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Bill *reported*; as amended, to be considered *To-morrow*, at Two of the clock.

PUBLIC WORKS LOANS BILL.

Resolutions [August 13] *reported*, and *agreed to*:—Bill *ordered* to be brought in by Mr. COURTNEY and Mr. TREVELYAN.

Bill *presented*, and read the first time. [Bill 295.]

MOTIONS.

MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS (BOROUGH CONSTABLES) BILL.

LEAVE. FIRST READING.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF moved for leave to bring in a Bill to explain the effect of section one hundred and ninety-five of "The Municipal Corporations Act, 1882." He said, it was merely to make a small alteration, as some doubt had arisen as to whether municipal magistrates could sentence to fine and imprisonment for making assaults upon the police.

Motion *agreed to*.

Bill to explain the effect of section one hundred and ninety-five of "The Municipal Corporations Act, 1882," *ordered* to be brought in by Sir H. DRUMMOND WOLFF, Sir HENRY HOLLAND, Mr. DODDS, and Mr. HENRY H. FOWLER.

Bill *presented*, and read the first time. [Bill 296.]

SOLDIERS PENSIONS AND YEOMANRY

PAY BILL.

On Motion of The Marquess of HARTINGTON, Bill to make provision with regard to the granting of Pensions and Allowances to Disabled, Invalid, and Discharged Soldiers, and with regard to the granting of Pay, Pensions, and Allowances to the Yeomanry, *ordered* to be brought in by The Marquess of HARTINGTON and Sir ARTHUR HATTER.

Bill *presented*, and read the first time. [Bill 297.]

EAST INDIA REVENUE ACCOUNTS.

Ordered, That the several Accounts and Papers which have been presented to the House in this Session of Parliament be referred to the consideration of a Committee of the whole House.—(*Mr. J. K. Cross.*)

Committee thereupon upon *Monday next*.

PARLIAMENT—ADJOURNMENT.

Motion made, and Question proposed,
 "That this House do now adjourn."—
 (Sir Arthur Hayter.)

SIR HENRY FLETCHER asked whether the Army Estimates would be taken at the Evening Sitting on Friday?

SIR ARTHUR HAYTER: If we come to the Army Estimates we shall be obliged to take them; but I think it is hardly probable. If not, we should take them on Saturday.

Motion agreed to.

House adjourned at half after Five o'clock in the morning.

HOUSE OF LORDS,

Friday, 17th August, 1883.

MINUTES.]—PUBLIC BILLS.—*Second Reading*—*Labourers (Ireland) (183)*; *Cruelty to Animals Acts Amendment (182)*, *negatived*; *Bankruptcy (195)*; *Isle of Wight Highways* (191)*; *National Debt* (196)*.

Committee—*Local Government Provisional Order (No. 2)* (87-203)*; *Cholera Hospitals (Ireland)* (193)*.

Report—*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 1)* (157)*; *Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 6)* (159)*; *Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 7)* (160)*; *Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 5)* (173)*; *Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 8)* (174)*.

Third Reading—*Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) (200)*; *Friendly, &c. Societies (Nominations)* (166)*, *now Provident Nominations and Small Intestacies, and passed.*

LABOURERS (IRELAND) BILL.—(No. 183.)
 (The Earl of Dunraven.)

SECOND READING.

Order of the Day for the Second Reading read.

THE EARL OF DUNRAVEN, in moving that the Bill be now read a second time, said, it was intended to remedy what was believed to be a very great evil; and that was the absence of proper sanitary conditions in the cottages of agricultural labourers in Ireland, and the absence of a due regard for reasonable decency and comfort in their homes. He did not say that evil was confined to Ireland; but, at the same time, it was more intense in Ireland than in any other portion of the Kingdom. The Bill provided that the

sanitary authorities should be empowered to obtain and lay out monies on the security of the rates to improve sanitary deficiencies in existing dwellings; and, if necessary, to erect new buildings for agricultural labourers. It gave the sanitary authorities very full powers, and amongst them that of taking up land compulsorily if necessary. The powers granted, however, were very carefully guarded, and there was not the slightest possibility that there could be any infringement of private rights or damage to private property. In the first place, the sanitary authority must be moved by a petition signed by 12 ratepayers; and their Lordships would see that the petition precluded the possibility of any rates being levied except for this purpose—where one or two landowners paid the whole of the rates of the district. The sanitary authorities then, on this petition, could go into the matter; and if they found it desirable and necessary that the dwellings should be improved or additional ones erected, they could formulate a scheme for that purpose. That scheme had to be submitted to the Local Government Board in London; and they, having inquired into the matter, and being satisfied that all the requirements of the Bill had been fulfilled, and also of the necessity of the case, could make a Provisional Order confirming the scheme of the sanitary authority. That was so when it was sought to put the Act in force under ordinary circumstances; but in the event of there being any objection to the scheme—that was to say, any objection lodged by any ratepayer of the district against it, or in the event of its being contemplated to take up any land compulsorily, then the Provisional Order of the Local Government Board would require an Act of Parliament to make it valid. He thought, under these circumstances, their Lordships would see there was not the slightest risk under the Bill that private property would be interfered with in any way, especially as it was also provided that demesne lands should not be interfered with. The only objection he could conceive to the Bill was that it was feared it would not do much. He did not think it could be shown by any possibility that it would do any harm, and the only doubt was whether it would do as much good as it was anticipated and hoped it would do. The labourers

themselves would have no power to put the machinery in motion or take any part in the matter. That was an objection; but he could not see any possible way of avoiding it, or, under existing circumstances in Ireland, any other machinery that could be substituted. His own impression was that if the Poor Law Guardians acted as they should do, and if the landlords and gentry of the country districts themselves looked after the operation of the Bill, it might do a great deal of good, and might possibly be of great service in ameliorating the condition of the agricultural labourers in Ireland. Under those circumstances, he hoped their Lordships would give a second reading to the Bill.

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^d."
—(*The Earl of Dunraven.*)

LORD VENTRY said, that all would sympathize with the noble Earl in the object he had in view. So much had been said and so little done up to the present time for the labourers of Ireland that he thought this Bill should not pass through the House under false pretences. The title of the Bill as it stood was the Labourers (Ireland) Bill, but in the body of the Bill its effect was strictly confined to agricultural labourers. He would, therefore, suggest that the title should be changed to the Agricultural Labourers (Ireland) Bill, so that it might be clearly understood what the object of it was. One point to which the noble Earl had referred was the exemption of demesne lands. He thought it would be more satisfactory if the words "or home farm" were added to the clause. There were other Amendments required which he hoped would be proposed in Committee.

EARL FORTESCUE, as one who had taken an interest in sanitary matters for the last 40 years, considered the Bill unsound in principle and practically dangerous. He did not place implicit confidence in the discretion of the Boards of Guardians, for he had observed that there was far greater readiness in Ireland to borrow money than to pay regularly the interest accruing upon the loan. As it was, he apprehended considerable danger from cottages being erected in over-populated districts where it was important that people should not be encouraged to remain, and where there was a poor soil with a surplus population. It

The Earl of Dunraven

would be a great misfortune if the moderate amount of money available in that country was to be employed in building cottages in places where labourers were already too numerous, and ought, as soon as possible, to be removed to places where they would be likely to earn better wages, and become a source of profit to the community, instead of, as at present, under the slightest pressure of bad seasons, being liable to become a heavy charge upon the rates. He was glad to see that the Bill contained a clause giving facilities to Boards of Guardians to enforce the provisions of the Land Act in respect of building and improving labourers' cottages and making allotments of land thereunder. Cottages had been repeatedly ordered to be erected by the tenants when the Commissioners reduced their rents; but in the execution of those orders the most scandalous neglect and delay had been permitted. Hence the necessity for further powers.

THE EARL OF WEMYSS said, he considered that it was impossible not to see that if the principle of the Bill that a sanitary authority, which meant the State, should erect cottages for the labouring classes in Ireland was sanctioned, its extension to England and Scotland was only a matter of time. This seemed to him a wild scheme, and one which their Lordships ought to be cautious not to sanction. If the State built houses for the working classes, he did not see why they should not undertake to clothe them also. He must enter his protest against the principle of the Bill.

LORD NORTON said, that with this Bill the Artizans' and Labourers' Dwellings Act was meant to be, and ought to be, concurrent. He thought that this Bill was applicable to other dwellings than those of agricultural labourers. In England the General Act authorized, when any houses in towns were unfit for habitation, that the sanitary authorities could call upon the owner to put them in repair; and, on his refusing, they might undertake, by purchase or otherwise, to do the work themselves, and levy the expense on the local rates; but they were bound to get rid of any property which they might have so acquired afterwards. In this Bill permission was given to the sanitary authority to let or sell; but they were not com-

pelled to do so, and might retain any property taken in hand. The latter he thought a questionable proceeding.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he must complain that their Lordships were really so pressed by a plethora of legislation that Members of the House had not a moment given them to consider the principle of the Bills placed before them; and he must protest against that method of conducting the legislation of the House. He was quite aware of the difficulties which the Government had to encounter in the other House; but it was partly the fault of their Lordships that they should consent to be so pressed at the eleventh hour of the Session with a mass of Bills, some of them involving the most important principles. He had really not had time to go into this Bill; but from the cursory glance he had given it he thought it was a Bill on which they ought to have the guidance of the Government. The Bill was introduced into their Lordships' House by a Nobleman for whose judgment he had a high opinion; but he (the Duke of Argyll) looked upon it as a measure full of objection and danger. One comfort he derived from the Bill was that, in his opinion, it would be wholly unworkable, owing to the great complexity of its machinery. It was, no doubt, the duty of the owners of estates generally to spend money largely in building labourers' cottages; but it should be remembered that under the Irish Land Act all the powers of administration in regard to property were destroyed, and one consequence of that Act would be that the State would be driven, as it was hourly being driven, into the necessity of doing that which would otherwise be done by private funds and private enterprise. He had been told that morning on good authority that all outlay in the shape of improvements upon Irish land had absolutely stopped, because, under the provisions of the Irish Land Act, no landowner could count upon getting an ordinary return. That applied much more to cottages; and he could understand that in those circumstances they would be obliged to proceed more upon what were called socialistic principles, and to insist on local authorities building cottages. Therefore, he was not prepared altogether to object to that Bill; but they ought to have had more time to consider its complicated details. There was, however,

at least this security—that where compulsory powers were exercised, and landlords or others were compelled to give up their property for the erection of cottages, then nothing could be done without coming to Parliament for a special Act. That would, no doubt, prevent any injury being done; but he was afraid it would also prevent anything of a practical nature being done in the way of erecting cottages.

THE EARL OF DUNRAVEN said, he believed that the Boards of Guardians would endeavour to see that the provisions of the Bill were carried out, as they had control over the rates. He was, of course, not responsible for the lateness of the period at which that Bill came before their Lordships, and he much regretted that it had not reached them earlier. He offered to postpone the Committee stage till Monday or Tuesday, in order to meet their Lordships' convenience as far as he could.

Motion agreed to; Bill read 2^a accordingly, and committed to a Committee of the Whole House on Monday next.

GOVERNMENT INSPECTORS.

MOTION FOR AN ADDRESS.

THE EARL OF WEMYSS said, he rose to move that an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty for Return of number, names, salaries, and general duties of Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors now acting in England and Wales, and in Scotland, under the several Government Departments, and the scale of retiring allowances, and showing what were the salaries of those officers, and giving a short statement of their duties. His object in asking for that Return was to show the extent to which the system of inspection had increased, and was increasing in this country. The fact was, if this sort of legislation went on at the rate it was going at present, ere long every man would have his own and the shadow of an Inspector at his back. He observed that the mania for Inspectors was growing so much that the Trades' Union Congress, at its next meeting, was to demand three additional Inspectors.

Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty for a Return of number, names, salaries, and general duties of Inspectors and Sub-inspectors now acting in England and Wales, and in Scotland, under the several Government Departments, and the scale of re-

tiring allowances, specifying the Department; number of Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors, with total; salary, with total; scale of retiring allowances; short statement of duties."—(*The Earl of Wemyss.*)

EARL FORTESCUE, in supporting the Motion for the Return, said, that the Local Government (Scotland) Board would add another shoal of Inspectors.

Motion agreed to.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS ACTS AMENDMENT BILL.—(No. 182.)

(*The Lord Balfour.*)

SECOND READING.

Order of the Day for the Second Reading read.

LORD BALFOUR, in moving that the Bill be now read a second time, said, he fully concurred with what had fallen from the noble Duke (the Duke of Argyll) as to the short time at their disposal for considering any new Bills; but this was a very short one, the object of which was well understood. It only consisted of three clauses, and its object was to put down the so-called sport of pigeon-shooting. For that purpose, it came before the House as an amendment to the Cruelty to Animals Prevention Act of 1849-50. It provided that certain penalties should be imposed on persons who engaged in pigeon-shooting, and the method of inflicting them would be the same as that under the Cruelty to Animals Prevention Act. He called the practice of pigeon-shooting so-called sport, and he did so advisedly, because he was extremely anxious to dissociate it from what might be called legitimate field sport. Their Lordships would, he thought, agree with him that in matters of that kind it was not desirable to legislate in advance of public opinion; but he believed it was quite clear that public opinion had been decidedly pronounced in favour of that measure. Pigeon-shooting was a cruel sport, and perfectly useless. If evidence were required in favour of the Bill, he might point to the majority by which the Motion for the second reading was carried in the other House—a majority of 155, the numbers being 195 for the second reading, as against 45 on the other side; and that, although blocked as many Bills of private Members were, no serious attempt had been made to oppose it at any of its subsequent stages.

He, therefore, thought that in assenting to the second reading their Lordships would be acting in accordance with public opinion. Cruelties had been proved on many occasions to be the accompaniment of the practice; he did not say on all occasions and in all places, because he knew there were places at which the practice was engaged in, in the presence of many who would by no means be parties to such cruelties as had been indicated; but it was impossible to deny that many and serious cruelties were practised, and he did not see how it was possible to dissociate the places where they were, and were not, practised from one another. Anyone who read the newspapers must be convinced that on many occasions, and in many places, these cruelties were practised. Some would say that was an argument that the existing law was sufficient to deal with cases of cruelty; but that was not so, for, as a matter of fact, in order to get a conviction, it was necessary to show that the person charged had maltreated the particular pigeon shot at, and it was found very difficult to convict the perpetrator. No one would deny that, had it not been accompanied by betting, the practice would long ago have ceased to exist; and it was undoubtedly betting in connection with pigeon-shooting that gave rise to many of the cruelties that were perpetrated. Since it became known that he was in charge of the Bill, he had been told that it was the first nail in the coffin of legitimate field sports; but it was because he wished to dissociate this so-called sport from other and legitimate sports that he had taken charge of the Bill. A continuance of the practice of pigeon-shooting would be likely to direct public attention against field sports in general; and it was because he desired to get rid of this weak point in sporting amusements that he had undertaken the duty he was now performing. On that ground, as much as any other, he asked their Lordships to give a second reading to the Bill.

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^d."
—(*The Lord Balfour.*)

THE EARL OF REDESDALE (CHAIRMAN of COMMITTEES) said, he felt it his duty to oppose the Bill, because it was a Bill coming under a false name and false pretences. The Bill, in effect, declared that shooting at a bird with an

intent to kill it was a cruelty. The noble Lord had said that pigeon-shooting was carried on with great cruelty; but he believed that in most instances it was carried on without any cruelty whatever. What the noble Lord desired was to make shooting at birds cruelty by Act of Parliament. But it would be said it was just as cruel to rear pheasants for the purpose of being shot at. If this sort of principle was to be acted upon it would lead to difficulties beyond measure. It was a fact that many who supported this measure were practically opposed to all kinds of sport whatever. It was impossible to draw any distinction between pigeon-shooting and any other kind of sport, for there was no cruelty in it beyond what there was in other cases. It ought not to be laid down as a principle that because there had been a few instances of cruelty in a particular sport, therefore that sport ought to be put a stop to; and it would be most objectionable if, by passing this Bill, their Lordships came to any such conclusion. The law, as it stood, was sufficient to deal with cases of wilful cruelty; and, therefore, he begged to move that the Bill be read a second time that day three months.

Amendment moved, to leave out ("now") and add at the end of the Motion ("this day three months.")—
(The Earl of Redensdale.)

LORD RIBBLES DALE said, he thought they were asked to give their sanction to a really sweeping piece of legislation. He was not a pigeon-shooter himself; but he quite agreed in what had fallen from the noble Earl who had just sat down. From what he understood of the debate which occurred in "another place," a charge was made out that there was an ever-present cruelty inseparable from pigeon-shooting. That he could not admit was the case. He would not enter into the demerits of pigeon-shooting; but he certainly thought this was a hasty measure. If it was cruelty to shoot pigeons, the same might be said of hares and rabbits, or even buffalo-hunting. If persons thought that taking the life of animals for sport was cruelty, then he was perfectly willing to admit that pigeon-shooting was cruel; but he did not think their Lordships' House, which had never been considered a

purely sentimental organ, would ever take such a sentimental view of the matter as that. He felt perfectly certain, from the names of the gentlemen connected with the great gun clubs, that they would not sanction any acts of cruelty being perpetrated at their matches. A far better plan than the passing of the Bill would be, in his opinion, to strengthen the hands of the gun clubs by giving them a licence, or else appoint a Committee to inquire into the subject. That would be far better than sweeping away a sport which had been going on for some time.

LORD DENMAN said, he believed that pigeon-shooting was less cruel than driving grouse; for Mr. Gordon, the late respected gamekeeper to the Duke of Rutland, had told him that afterwards many wounded birds were picked up. This lingering death might be prevented by public opinion, but could not be prevented by legislation; indeed, he was ashamed of taking up time on such a subject. There was a certain amount of pain in every field sport. He had himself killed 12 sparrows out of 19, out of a trap, when a boy; but, as he never could afford to have a very good gun, he had given up shooting. He had once told an hon. Member of Parliament that he had been hunting with Baron Rothschild; and he was told by the hon. Member that stag-hunting was cruel. Not long after, a noble Lord, brother of the hon. Member, had the control of horses and hounds; and he (Lord Denman) mentioned this conversation to his Lordship, who said—"Oh; but it gives pleasure to so many." At the end of the season a stag, in deep water, was nearly drowned by the hounds. The noble Lord, on a tall horse, did not go into deep water to rescue him; but it was left to him (Lord Denman) to go in, upon a cob, and whip the hounds off. He (Lord Denman) had begun hare-hunting—70 years ago—at 8 years of age, and always tried to be "in at the end," to save the hare unnecessary pain, by a blow at the back of the neck. The only sport which his lamented Predecessor enjoyed was coursing; and if their Lordships had seen him, in 1823, at Holkham, enjoying a good course, they would have said it was a very innocent enjoyment. It must not be imagined that he was doing anything inhumanitarian in voting against this Bill. He had killed 25 horses,

which could not work, without pain; and he was sure, if all the accounts alluded to by the noble Lord who moved the second reading of the Bill were true, pigeon-shooting could not be called sport, but a very cruel practice.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, a distinction was to be drawn between field sports and pigeon-shooting. So far he agreed with the noble Lord who moved the second reading of the Bill. He was one of those who believed that the love of the chase was one of the original instincts of the human race, and he did not believe that the progress of civilization would ever extinguish it. It was, however, one of the essential incidents of this love of the chase that it should be in respect of an animal which was valuable for the purposes of human consumption, and could not otherwise be conveniently obtained.

A noble LORD: What about fox-hunting?

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL: Well, he did not regard fox-hunting as coming within this category, because that was merely riding across country, which was a most pleasant and enjoyable exercise. He remembered once, and for the first time and the last, seeing one of the most exciting sports that he knew of, and that was an otter hunt. Anything more exciting he never saw; but when he came to the death—with 25 dogs tearing at the animal's throat and body, and dragging it in every direction—anything more disgusting he never saw. The mere death of the animal was hideous, and no sport at all. But the chasing of the creature through pools of water, mountain scenes, and the beautiful action of the dogs as they followed the scent—those were full of interest and excitement, and it was impossible that they could fail to interest. So it was with many other sports. But in regard to pigeon-shooting these considerations were absent. So in regard to fishing. They all felt in regard to fishing that it was no amusement or sport to catch a fish that was useless for their table, and if they caught a foul salmon they threw it back into the stream again in disgust. The peculiarity of pigeon-shooting was that the birds were set at liberty merely for the purpose of being shot. He, therefore, did think that those particular forms of sport at which the Bill was directed were deficient in all the higher

elements which made them natural to mankind; and he should, therefore, support the second reading of the Bill.

THE EARL OF WEMYSS said, although he was very fond of the gun, he never shot a pigeon, with the exception of a wood pigeon, in his life. He should vote against the second reading of the Bill, because he believed the Bill was intended by those who supported it to be the germ that, they might depend upon it, would develop into the stopping of sport of all kinds. All he could say in regard to the cruelty was this—no doubt there might be cruelties practised; but he believed them to be very exceptional, and not at all the accompaniment of pigeon-shooting in general. As regarded the mere cruelty of the death of the animal, he was quite certain that if they gave a pigeon the option of being shot by Earl de Grey or having his neck twisted by the noble Lord who had brought in this Bill, it would prefer being shot by Earl de Grey.

LORD WESTBURY said, he thought that the accusations brought against even well-conducted clubs of cruelty ought to be substantiated, or else the clubs should have an opportunity of defending themselves. Had it not been for the late period of the Session at which this Bill was brought under discussion in their Lordships' House, he should have felt inclined to move for a Select Committee, in order to give an opportunity to those who made these charges of proving their assertions. He had been in the habit of shooting pigeons in all parts of the world for the last 15 years, and he had never seen any cruelty beyond the actual taking away of the life of the bird. Her Majesty's Government had been unable to state the other evening how many prosecutions for cruelty at pigeon matches had been instituted; and he had found, on inquiry from the Secretary to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, that during the last 10 years only 25 persons had been prosecuted for cruelty on such occasions. The persons really guilty of cruelty were the persons who held cock-fights, and it was no use trying to legislate for them. The noble Lord who had introduced the Bill had said that he objected to the practice of pigeon-shooting on the ground that so much betting was connected with it. Was there no other sport with which betting was connected

except pigeon-shooting? He maintained that coursing was more cruel than pigeon-shooting, and that there was more betting in connection with the Waterloo Cup than took place at pigeon-shooting for the whole year. No one, however, even thought of prohibiting race and coursing meetings on that ground. In connection with pigeon-shooting which had existed during the last 25 years, industries had sprung up which depended for their very existence upon the sport. Clubs had been instituted in various parts of the country, which had leases still to run, and which had expended large sums of money on the improvement of their grounds. Was it fair to deprive those gentlemen, first of their sport, and then of the value of their grounds? Moreover, there was the class of the purveyors of these pigeons, the magnitude of whose industry might be illustrated by the fact that in Lincolnshire alone £30,000 worth of pigeons were sold. These birds, too, were an article of food for the poor, and in hot weather were hawked about the streets at about 2d. or 3d. a-piece; and he dared say that a poor man was as fond of a pigeon as a change as any one of their Lordships was of a grouse. The loss would come not only on the farmers, but on the landlords, because the farmer, deprived of his pigeons, could not afford to pay his full rent. This ought not to be done without fuller inquiry. There was also another class of people with whom the Bill would interfere—namely, those engaged in the gun trade; and when the Bill was under consideration in “another place,” a very influential Petition was presented by Mr. Muntz, on behalf of that trade, with over 3,000 signatures. It was stated in that Petition that nearly all the improvements that had taken place in guns during the last 20 years had been made to suit pigeon-shooting. Pigeon-shooting required the very best article in the way of killing guns; and gunmakers had, consequently, been pitted against each other to produce the best article. Then there was the explosives trade. It was solely on account of pigeon-shooting that the Schultz smokeless powder was invented. Ten years ago he was the only person who used that powder. Now everybody who shot pigeons used it. Had not that been a great development of trade? He had the other day received

a letter from the eminent gunmaker, Mr. Purdey, in which he pointed out how great would be the injury to the gun trade if this Bill became law. The gun trade of London 25 years ago was not a quarter of what it was now, and the gun trade had to thank pigeon-shooting for these results. He could say a great deal more on the subject; but he thought he was not, perhaps, justified in detaining their Lordships at any great length, and he would therefore conclude by hoping that the Bill would not be read a second time.

EARL GRANVILLE: My Lords, I have a very few words to say on the subject of this Bill; but it appears to me, like most other subjects, to be one in which there are arguments on both sides, though some of the arguments used against the Bill do not appear to me altogether conclusive. I cannot quite follow the argument that pigeon-shooting is the best mode of giving cheap and good food to the poor.

LORD WESTBURY: I did not say it was the best mode. I said it was a mode.

EARL GRANVILLE: Nor can I agree that it will affect very much the agricultural depression which exists, more or less, at the present moment, if pigeon-shooting is either allowed to continue or is put an end to. I am afraid, too, that if your Lordships reject the Bill it would not appear a very strong argument that several of your Lordships are members of clubs which encourage this sport. I am sorry to say that I have given up shooting for some time, and my hunting has been reduced to a very mild form; but I entirely sympathize with what has fallen from the noble Duke behind me (the Duke of Argyll)—namely, as to the belief of a natural instinct in man for the pleasures of the chase, and as to the belief and, I may add, the hope that legitimate shooting, hunting, and fishing will never perish altogether in this country. But I must say I think that some of the arguments that have been used rather endangers than secures this in the future. There is no doubt that there is a very strong feeling against this particular class of sport, and that was shown by the very large majorities in favour of the Bill in the House of Commons. I think it is extremely unwise, and I believe perfectly untrue, to do what most of the

speakers against this Bill have done—to declare positively that there is no difference between pigeon-shooting—sending birds out mutilated in some cases, and un mutilated in others, to be shot at without any test of endurance or excitement—in the enjoyment of which no physical endurance is required, and in which there is none of the excitement which attends other sports, and that wild and legitimate sport, of which so many of us are so fond. I think you bring very false arguments to bear if you insist on saying that the two things are exactly on the same footing. When the noble Earl told us that there is no difference between the cruelty of shooting pigeons and the shooting of a tame pheasant, I venture to say that is a sort of argument which can be met in another way; for who can say that it is less cruel than allowing two game cocks to follow the strong instinct they have, and to peck out each other's eyes. Parliament has prohibited that, and has also prohibited dogs from dragging carriages after them. I remember a long discussion I had with the noble Duke behind me (the Duke of Argyll) some time ago, in which I took the practical and he the sentimental view of this question; and I remember two pictures which Sir Edwin Landseer offered to paint on the subject, one of which exhibited the intense delight of a dog merrily dragging a cart after him, and the other his intense disgust of being carried in a railway train. All those are cases of degree, and there is nothing so difficult as to draw an exact line in these matters; but I think your Lordships would be ill-advised if you make no difference between the artificial and those wider and more legitimate sports on which I should be most sorry to see any obstruction put.

EARL FORTESCUE said, that he had no sympathy with shooting pigeons from traps; but this was a frivolous Bill, and it was trifling with the time of Parliament to bring it forward. It put him in mind of Nero fiddling while Rome was burning. When Parliament could not find time for proceeding with a Bill for the protection of girls too young to resist the temptations put in their way, it moved his indignation to see Bills of this sort pressed on at this period of the Session. If this Bill was not thrown out, it would act as an encouragement

to other crotchety-mongers and hobby-riders to occupy the time of Parliament when it ought to be spent much more profitably.

On Question, "That ('now') stand part of the Motion?" Their Lordships divided:—Contents 17; Not-Contents 30; Majority 13.

CONTENTS.

Camperdown, E.	Fitzgerald, L.
Derby, E.	Forbes, L.
Granville, E.	Kenmare, L. (E. Kenmare.)
Morley, E.	Ramsay, L. (E. Dalhousie.) [Teller.]
Sydney, E.	Roay, L.
Sherbrooke, V.	Sandhurst, L.
Alcester, L.	Sandridge, L. (D. Argyll.)
Balfour of Burley, L.	Thurlow, L.
[Teller.]	
Breadalbane, L. (E. Breadalbane.)	

NOT-CONTENTS.

Windsor, M.	De L'Isle and Dudley, L.
Ashburnham, E.	Denman, L.
Clonmel, E.	Haldon, L.
Donne, E. (D. Duchesne and Queensberry.)	Hopetoun, L. (E. Hopetoun.)
Fevin, E.	Loval, L.
Fortescue, E.	Lyndal, L.
Millton, E.	Norton, L.
Poulett, L.	Ribblesdale, L.
Redesdale, E. [Teller.]	Sherborne, L.
	Stewart of Garlish, L. (E. Galloway.)
Melville, V.	Stratheden and Campbell, L.
	Ventry, L.
Abercromby, L.	Wemyss, L. (E. Wemyss.)
Bagot, L.	Westbury, L. [Teller.]
Bateman, L.	Wrottesley, L.
Botreaux, L. (E. Londondown.)	Wynford, L.

Resolved in the negative: Bill to be read 2^d on this day three months.

BANKRUPTCY BILL.—(No. 196.)

(The Lord Chancellor.)

SECOND READING.

Order of the Day for the Second Reading read.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR, in moving that the Bill be now read a second time said, that this was a most important Bill; and, though he regretted the lateness of the time at which it had reached, he thought it should

IV. down to the present, had seen many attempts at revision. That, perhaps, might be partly owing to some inherent and unavoidable difficulties on the subject itself, and partly to causes removable by better legislation. He would not do more than simply mention the legislation of the time of Lord Gray, the legislation of 1849, or that of the year 1854; but in the year 1869 a General Act was passed, founded very much upon the apparent success of the Scotch system, which it was then sought to adopt. After the experience of 14 years, however, that Act had been found in many respects seriously defective, and particularly in relation to the administration of the bankrupt's estates by the trustees, and other persons entrusted with the management of the affairs of the bankrupt, and also in respect to the system of liquidation by arrangement, which it permitted as an alternative to bankruptcy. From time to time efforts had been made, among others by the noble and learned Earl (Earl Cairns), with a view to remove the defects of the Act of 1869; but none of them had proved successful, and the present Bill was introduced with full knowledge of the evils which had preceded it, and with a determination to endeavour to go to the root of those evils which existed in the present system. The Bill had been carefully prepared and considered by the Government, and especially by Mr. Chamberlain, who, in his own Department, he must say, had been as industrious and efficient as any Minister could be. It was introduced in the House of Commons, and passed through a well-selected Grand Committee of Trade, presided over by his right hon. Friend Mr. Goschen, who conducted their labours with patience, judgment, and ability. The consequence was that the Bill, from its consistency, and from its well-considered details, would be found to deal boldly with the difficulties of the situation. Turning to the Bill itself, he would point out that considerable differences of administration were introduced by it. It separated the judicial arrangements for bankruptcy business from the administrative business in a way never before attempted. The judicial business was to be conducted by the High Court. One particular Judge, selected by the Lord Chancellor, would be specially charged with bankruptcy business. Under him there were to be

the Registrars in London and County Courts, with their Registrars, in the country. The administrative control was to be vested in the Board of Trade; the Controller and other administrative officers, with the Official Receivers, would all be officers of the Board of Trade. The Bill abolished the debtor's summons, and, instead, made suffering execution to issue under any judgment, or non-payment of a judgment debt after a certain notice. With respect to the initiation of proceedings, the Bill restored the right which formerly existed, but which was taken away in 1869, for a debtor himself to petition that he might be brought under the law, admitting his own insolvency. When a petition was presented, either by the creditors or by the debtor himself, it would go to the Court; and the Court issued, if it found that there had been an act of bankruptcy, what was called a receiving order, placing the bankrupt's estate in as much security as if there were an immediate adjudication of bankruptcy. Under that receiving order the Official Receiver—an officer of the Board of Trade—would at once have the powers of a trustee in bankruptcy, and would take possession of the property, would appoint a manager in certain cases, and would take the necessary preliminary steps to convene the creditors, and put the Act in operation. Next, the creditors were to meet, proofs were to be taken of their debts, and there was to be a public examination of the debtor, who was to make a full disclosure of his affairs. The meeting of the creditors was to have an option whether they would proceed by way of composition, if a composition were offered, or by way of bankruptcy; but it would depend upon the decision of the Court whether their option should be confirmed or not. Under the present law, in regard to proxies, it had been found that persons with no interest in the bankruptcy could get a sufficient number of votes to carry the appointment of the trustee or other appointments; and that system had been much and justly complained of. Under this Bill there were safeguards provided against the abuse of proxies. The meeting of creditors would choose the trustee, and the Court would then have to determine whether it would approve of a composition, or whether the debtor was to be adjudicated a bank-

rapt; and it would be the duty of the Court to reject the composition if it found that it would not be beneficial to the creditors generally, or that the debtor had been guilty of acts of that kind which might deprive him, if bankrupt, of the right to his discharge. Again, if the composition were allowed, and if anything afterwards appeared to show that it ought not to have been sanctioned, there was a power to revoke the composition, and to proceed as in the case of bankruptcy. The Bill abolished the system of liquidation by private arrangement, which was established under the Act of 1869—a system which had proved to be one of the greatest defects of that Act. Under the Act of 1869 the proportion of liquidations to bankruptcies became enormous; and debtors had by those means too great facilities for evading proper inquiry into their affairs, and of making such arrangements as suited their own purpose and convenience. Under the present Bill they could not escape a public examination into their affairs. Then, with respect to discharge, when the debtor had fulfilled the duties that were required from him by the Act, he would, after a certain time, be able to apply for his discharge. If he had committed any acts of fraudulent bankruptcy, or carried on trade in an improper way, then his discharge either must or might be refused. If he had done any of these things, his discharge might also be granted on conditions. The Act of 1869 made it a condition of the discharge that a dividend of a certain amount should be paid. It had not been thought necessary in the present Bill to retain that provision; but it substituted a power for the Court, in the exercise of its discretion, to make the discharge conditional, so that, if there should be reason for it, after-acquired property might be reached. By the Bill bankruptcy was made a disqualification for offices of trust and importance, and, among other things, for sitting or voting in this or in the other House of Parliament. Under the law, as it now stood, there were some differences between the case of a Peer and that of a Member of the House of Commons who had the misfortune to be made a bankrupt, and as to the conditions on which he was to recover his former position. Those differences were re-

moved by the Bill; and the conditions on which a Peer or a Member of the House of Commons who had become disqualified by an adjudication of bankruptcy would now be the same—namely, if the bankruptcy was annulled he was restored to his former *status*; and, again, if he was discharged with a certificate that his bankruptcy arose from misfortune, and not from misconduct. Turning to the subject of administration, certain debts were, under the Bill, to have a preference. These were rates and taxes due for not more than 12 months; clerks' and servants' wages not exceeding £50; labourers' and workmen's wages not exceeding two months, and a landlord's distress for not more than one year's arrears of rent. Then, certain short periods were fixed for declaring dividends, subject to enlargement. When the bankrupt's estate was not more than £300, there would be a summary administration, the Official Receiver was to be the trustee; and the functions of the Committee of Inspection, who, in other cases, might be appointed by the creditors, were then to be exercised by the Board of Trade. Again, when the total debts did not exceed £50, the County Courts were to have powers of administration, and might provide for payment by instalments. The estates of deceased persons who died insolvent were also brought within the purview of the Bankruptcy Law. He would now mention the functions the Board of Trade was to exercise. In the first place, in all cases the trustee in bankruptcy must give security, to be approved by the Board of Trade. Then the Board of Trade was to have power, subject to the opinion of the Court, to reject the trustee chosen by the creditors, if it appeared that the creditors voting at the meeting at which he was chosen had acted in bad faith, or if the person chosen were unfit to act as trustee, or had shown partiality. If the creditors appointed no trustee, the Board of Trade was to appoint one; and if the creditors did not appoint a Committee of Inspection, then the Board of Trade might exercise the powers of a Committee. The costs of all solicitors, and the charges of all managers, accountants, auctioneers, brokers, and other persons acting professionally in a bankruptcy, were to be taxed, and the accounts of the trustee were to be audited by the Board of

Trade. All balances were to be paid into the Bank of England, or into a country bank, authorized by the Board of Trade, unless, for special reasons, power was given to retain the whole or part of any balance; and, besides these provisions, the Board of Trade was to exercise over the trustee general powers of superintendence and inquiry. He thought he had stated the provisions of the Bill sufficiently to show their Lordships that it proposed a reform likely to be very beneficial in the Law of Bankruptcy. The most novel feature in that proposal was giving the superintendence of a bankruptcy to the Board of Trade, which possessed this advantage—that it entrusted the administration of bankrupts' estates to a public officer, who would be answerable to Parliament, who would have a sufficient staff for the purpose, and who was incapable of being actuated by partial or interested motives. He believed that the Bill, as a whole, was approved by the mercantile community. It had been passed through the House of Commons with great care and great skill; and he hoped it would commend itself to their Lordships. He begged to move that the Bill be now read a second time.

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^d."
—(The Lord Chancellor.)

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY merely wished to say a few words respecting the introduction of the Bill into their Lordships' House at this period of the Session. He thought that the introduction of such a Bill at such a time was a practice against which their Lordships should enter their protest; and if he had observed that there had been any disposition on the part of the House to differ from the principle of the Bill, he would have been inclined to suggest that they should take even some stronger action. They had, besides the noble and learned Earl on the Woolsack, nine Law Lords in the House; but he observed only one present in addition to the Lord Chancellor. He took it that the silence of that noble and learned Lord meant consent to the second reading, and that the opinion of the very strong body of Legal Authorities, which it was the pride of the House to possess, was in harmony with the proposals and provisions of the Bill. The question of the Bankruptcy Law had been before their

Lordships more than once, and both sides of the House had had their share of legislation upon it. He believed it would be generally admitted that the noble Earl was correct when he said that the consideration given to the Bill in the other House had been most careful and exhaustive; and, therefore, notwithstanding the somewhat scandalous time at which the Bill appeared in their Lordships' House, he would not oppose the second reading.

EARL FORTESCUE said, he must complain of the mode in which the House had been treated. His opinion was that the discredit cast upon the House was as nothing compared with the public injury caused by withholding from so large a number of eminent Legal Authorities as had seats in that House the opportunity of bringing their great knowledge and long experience on the Bench to bear on the measure, and so making it more perfect in its details. The noble Leader of the House had, on several occasions, declared, no doubt with sincerity, the deep interest which he felt in the honour and credit of that House. He (Earl Fortescue) would be sorry to believe that his noble Kinsman, after all his services to the Liberal Party, had less influence in the Cabinet than his right hon. Colleague in the other House, who had made no secret of his contempt for their Lordships' House, or even for Royalty itself. He, therefore, believed that the Prime Minister himself had thrown his strong authority into the scale, and had deliberately kept back from this House the many important measures which had been crowding into it during the last week or so. The House had on various occasions, and, he believed, with the approval of the country, set itself in opposition to the right hon. Gentleman. Their Lordships would remember that they appointed a Committee to inquire into what they believed was the injustice perpetrated in many instances on landowners under the Irish Land Act. The Prime Minister then induced the House of Commons to pass a Vote of Censure on their Lordships for so doing, after having wasted a week in the discussion; and the only result was that the Vote of Censure was never mentioned by any Member of either Party without a smile—in fact, it fell dead upon the country. Their Lordships had not been forgiven the

obstacles they had placed in the right hon. Gentleman's way; and the consequence was that a number of important measures were brought up to a certain stage in the House of Commons, and none of them were finished in time for convenient consideration by their Lordships' House. During the 40 years he had sat in Parliament he had seen several Bankruptcy Bills passed, and many more brought in by different Governments. The question was confessedly one of great difficulty as well as importance. But, at the present moment, the noble and learned Earl on the Woolsack was the one Law Lord who was here to initiate, carry on, and close the discussion on this Bill, with regard to which the judicial experience and high legal knowledge of the other Law Lords would have been of the greatest advantage.

LORD DENMAN said, that what he objected to, as to this Bill, was that it had been too little discussed. A Bankruptcy Bill, in 1832, had been brought in by his noble Relative, when Attorney General, and he had been much blamed in reference to it, and it had been greatly altered since; and yet it inaugurated a far better system than previously was administered by Commissioners of Bankruptcy. In order to obtain full discussion, he would remind their Lordships that it was in their Lordships' power to adjourn the consideration of the Bill to any period they might think fit.

LORD FITZGERALD said, that, as he had been appealed to as one of the Law Lords, he wished to say that the Bill had only reached him at 1 o'clock that day; and he could not, on such short notice, take upon himself the responsibility of criticizing its provisions. He thought it was extremely unreasonable to ask the House to read the Bill now. He felt himself in some degree humiliated in being asked to assent to the second reading of the most important Bill that had come down to their Lordships' House this Session, and which affected the interests of the whole community, without having had an opportunity of considering its principles. What seemed to be the main principle of the Bill was one of a perfectly novel character—namely, the transference of the superintendence from the creditors to the Board of Trade. There was no doubt that some alteration was necessary, and it was very likely that this would prove a very efficient

Earl Fortescue

measure; but he must say that none of them there—unless, perhaps, those who had followed the debate in the Grand Committee of the House of Commons, if those debates had been published—were in a position to pass judgment upon the Bill. Their Lordships were, therefore, placed in this position—either they would be passing a measure with which they were unacquainted, or if they rejected it they might be destroying what would be a very wise and beneficial measure. In the circumstances, he could only agree to the second reading in the hope that if any alterations were necessary to make the Bill acceptable to their Lordships, Amendments would be introduced in Committee with that object.

THE EARL OF REDESDALE (CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES) said, he would remind their Lordships that some time ago he asked the Government whether this and other Bills, which had been before Grand Committees, could not be brought up and printed, so that they might be considered by their Lordships. If that had been done, there would have been no cause for complaint. He had always protested against the manner in which that House was treated at the end of the Session.

Motion agreed to; Bill read 2^a accordingly, and committed to a Committee of the Whole House on Monday next.

AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS (SCOTLAND) BILL.—(No. 200.)

(The Lord President.)

THIRD READING.

Order of the Day for the Third Reading read.

The Queen's consent signified.

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3^a."
—(The Lord President.)

LORD DENMAN objected to its being generally believed that this Bill must pass, without any alteration, by a certain time very close at hand. He thought it might be improved by a free conference between both Houses; and, if no agreement could be come to, he thought there could be no cause for regret if the measure were rejected.

THE EARL OF WEMYSS said, as a matter of form, he would move that the Bill be read a third time on that day three months.

Amendment moved, to leave out ("now") and add at the end of the Motion ("this day three months.")—(*The Earl of Wemyss.*)

On Question, "That ('now') stand Part of the Motion?" Resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read 3^d accordingly, with the Amendments.

Moved, "That the Bill do pass."—(*The Lord President.*)

On the Motion of The LORD PRESIDENT, the following Amendments made:

—In Clause 2, page 1, line 21, leave out ("made") and insert ("executed"); page 2, line 1, leave out ("and in") and insert ("In") at the beginning of a new paragraph; line 2, leave out ("such") and insert ("these"), and after ("cases") insert ("the tenant"); line 3, leave out ("a") and insert ("the"), and leave out ("he"); line 4, leave out ("such") and insert ("the"), and after ("improvement") insert ("which he has executed"); Clause 4, page 2, line 40, after ("outlay") insert ("in the said period"); line 41, leave out ("in the said period") and insert ("such annual sums to be recoverable as rent"); Clause 5, page 3, lines 33 and 34, leave out ("contract of tenancy") and insert ("lease"); Clause 6, page 3, in the heading to the clause, leave out ("estimates of") and insert ("compensation for"); page 4, line 16, after ("rates") insert ("interest, monies payable in respect of drainage, premiums of insurance"); Clause 7, page 4, lines 32 and 33, leave out ("Provided always, as regards 22 and 23 of Part III. of the Schedule") and insert ("in the ascertainment of the amount of compensation payable to the tenant in respect of manures"); Clause 25, page 10, after line 15, add as a new paragraph:—

(Price of entailed land may be applied to improvements and compensation.)

"The price of any entailed land sold under the provisions of the Entail Acts, where such price is entailed estate within the meaning of those Acts, may be applied by the landlord in respect of the remaining portion of the entailed estate, or in respect of any other estate belonging to him, and entailed upon the same series of heirs, in payment of any cost incurred by him in pursuance of this Act for executing or paying compensation for any improvement mentioned in the first or second parts of the Schedule hereto, or in discharge of any charge with which the estate is burdened in pursuance of this Act in respect of such improvement;"

Clause 27, page 10, line 30, leave out ("the landlord's interest") and insert ("interest of the landlord, his executors, administrators, and assignees"); Clause 29, page 11, line 19, leave out ("three") and insert ("two"); line 36, leave out from ("Provided") to ("date") in line 38 inclusive; leave out side note of Clause 29, and insert instead ("Notice of termination of tenancy"); Clause 36, page 14, line 5, after ("specified in") insert ("the"); lines 6 and 7, leave out square brackets and insert ordinary brackets.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY moved, as an Amendment to Clause 2, to add the following as a new paragraph:—

"Provided that no compensation shall be claimed under this section in contravention of any specific agreement existing at the time of the passing of this Act between the parties in reference thereto."

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL thought the Amendment quite consistent with the principle of the Bill.

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he had objected to the Amendment on the English Bill, and he must oppose it in the case of the present Bill.

Amendment agreed to.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he rose to move an Amendment in Clause 4, which he had suggested on the previous day, to the effect that instead of fixing a definite rate of interest to be paid by the tenant to the landlord for money expended on improvements, it should be left open to the landlord to charge such a rate of interest as he would have to pay for the money borrowed. He was himself perfectly content with the 4 per cent interest allowed by the clause; and he would not press the Amendment if the Government thought the clause was better as it stood.

Amendment moved,

In Clause 4, page 2, line 41, after ("period") insert ("or if he shall have borrowed the outlay or any part thereof at such rate of interest for the sum borrowed as he shall be bound to pay for the same.")—(*The Duke of Argyll.*)

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, the Government thought 3 per cent interest was sufficient; but their Lordships had changed it to 4 per cent. The effect of

the words proposed by the noble Duke would be to remove any limit to the rate of interest that might be charged, and to enable a landlord to borrow at any rate of interest and charge it upon his tenant. It was, therefore, impossible for him to accept the Amendment.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, that, after the remarks of the noble Lord, he would not press the Amendment; but he should like the House and the country to observe that this was a case where the Government were proposing that one should lend his capital to another man at a lower rate of interest than that at which he could borrow the money, that other person being quite certain that he would receive a very large profit on the money so lent. He could not conceive how such a proposal should be passed by any House in its senses. It was an invasion of all the principles under which men dealt with their own capital, and it would constitute an alarming precedent, which might be extended to other forms of capital. Suppose the landlord wanted to spend his money in a more profitable investment, he would be compelled to see his tenant deriving, perhaps, from 12 to 30 per cent on the money expended on the improvements, while the landlord was losing largely by his money being locked up at a low rate of interest. He thought the objection was rather overstrained, that by his proposal a landlord would be allowed to charge any interest he chose, because he would have to borrow from the Land Improvement Companies, and the rate rarely exceeded 6½ per cent. Many tenants would willingly pay that to have their land properly drained. He had himself tenants quite willing to pay it, because they benefited largely by the transaction; but, as he had said, he would not press the Amendment.

Amendment (by leave of the House) *withdrawn*.

On Motion of The Duke of ARGYLL, the following Amendment made:—In page 3, line 12, after ("may") insert ("in terms of the lease or otherwise").

Bill *passed*, and sent to the Commons.

House adjourned at Seven o'clock, to Monday next, Four o'clock.

Lord Carlingford

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Friday, 17th August, 1883.

The House met at Two of the clock.

MINUTES.]—SUPPLY—*considered in Committee*—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—Class IV.—EDUCATION, SCIENCE, AND ART, Votes 6 to 13; 13A; 14 to 19; Class V.—FOREIGN AND COLONIAL SERVICES, Votes 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, and 9A; Class VI.—NON-EFFECTIVE AND CHARITABLE SERVICES, Votes 1 to 9; 9A and 9B; Class VII.—MISCELLANEOUS, Votes 1 and 2; REVENUE DEPARTMENTS, SUPPLEMENTARY, Classes I and II.

Resolutions [August 16] *reported*.

PUBLIC BILLS—*Second Reading*—Public Works Loans * [295]; Epidemic and other Diseases Prevention [277]; Municipal Corporations (Borough Constables) * [296].

Committee—*Report*—Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland) [286]; Statute Law Revision and Civil Procedure * [290]; Trial of Lunatics * [292]; Revenue and Friendly Societies * [269].

Third Reading—Statute Law Revision * [291], and *passed*.

Considered as amended—*Third Reading*—Parliamentary Registration (Ireland) [155]; Local Government Board (Scotland) [251]; Medals [183], and *passed*.

PRIVATE BUSINESS.

PARLIAMENT—STANDING ORDERS.

Standing Order 33 read.

SIR ARTHUR OTWAY said, he had two alterations in the Standing Orders relating to the Private Business of the House to move; but he would not take up more of the time of the House than would be necessary to explain the nature of the Amendments. The first Amendment applied to Private Bills, which contained provisions with respect to the use, inspection, or verification of weights and measures; and it required all such Bills to be deposited at the Board of Trade in the same manner as all other Private Bills. The second alteration applied to Tramway Bills, the provisions in regard to crossing public roads which applied to railways. There had been a recommendation to this effect from the Committee on Tramways. The difference between a railway and a tramway was becoming less and less every year. Tramways were now propelled by steam,

and it was considered that they ought to be under the same conditions as railways. He begged to move the first Amendment for the alteration of Standing Order 33.

Amendment proposed,

In line 8, after the words "tidal waters," to insert the words "a printed copy of every Bill containing provisions with respect to the use of weights and measures, or the inspection or verification of the same, shall be deposited at the Standard Department of the Board of Trade."—(*The Chairman of Ways and Means.*)

Amendment agreed to.

Standing Order 155 read.

Amendment proposed, in line 3, after the word "Railway," to insert the word "Tramway."—(*The Chairman of Ways and Means.*)

Amendment agreed to.

QUESTIONS.

PREVENTION OF CRIME (IRELAND) ACT, 1882—THE MAGISTRACY.

MR. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If a man named Fenton O'Brien was brought up at Mountrath on the 9th instant, before Messrs. Smith and Le-strange, resident magistrates, charged with a violation of the 9th section of the Crimes Act by having kicked a burning effigy of Carey against the leg of a policeman at Mountrath on the 1st instant; whether the only other policeman present, and whose view of the transaction was wholly unobstructed, failed to corroborate the evidence of complainant; whether three respectable witnesses distinctly contradicted the evidence of the constable, and swore that, instead of kicking the effigy against him, defendant turned it over with his foot, saying, at the same time, "It's out;" whether the magistrates found defendant guilty, and sentenced him to fourteen days' imprisonment with hard labour; whether counsel for defendant requested the magistrates to increase the term, so that he might have an opportunity of getting the decision reviewed; whether, on refusal, counsel stated that the defendant committed no offence, and immediately left the court; whether the magistrates afterwards reduced the term to seven days; and, whether either of the magistrates has been called to the Bar or admitted as a solicitor;

if not, which of them is the gentleman "of whose legal knowledge the Lord Lieutenant is satisfied?"

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, Fenton O'Brien was charged with assaulting a constable in the manner stated. The magistrates believed, on the evidence adduced, that he was guilty, and convicted him. The evidence for the defence was inconsistent and unreliable, and did not disprove the charge; while witnesses as to character produced by the defendant admitted that he had been convicted of perjury as well as assault. The magistrates refused to increase the term of imprisonment to 31 days to give the right of appeal, on the ground that the offence was clearly proved, and they considered 14 days' imprisonment sufficient punishment. After the defendant's counsel left O'Brien himself addressed the Court in mitigation of his sentence, pleading his circumstances—he being a mason working at a contract—and promising future good conduct, and the magistrates consented to reduce the sentence to seven days. Neither of the magistrates is a barrister or solicitor, nor does the Prevention of Crime Act require it. Mr. Smith, R.M., for many years an officer of Constabulary, is the gentleman of whose legal knowledge the Lord Lieutenant is satisfied.

MR. HEALY: Did not the right hon. Gentleman promise, during the passage of the Prevention of Crime Act, that one of the two magistrates should be of the Legal Profession?

MR. TREVELYAN said, that no promise of that kind was given. What was promised was that the Lord Lieutenant should be satisfied as to the legal qualifications of one of them.

NATIONAL EDUCATION (IRELAND)— NATIONAL SCHOOL TEACHERS.

MR. BIGGAR asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether, in view of the difficulty of the teachers of National Schools in Ireland, especially in poor rural districts, in raising the amount of local aid required to secure the second moiety of Results Fees, the Government will consent to pay both moieties of Results Fees unconditionally till the case of the teachers be finally settled?

MR. TREVELYAN: This is a matter for the consideration of the Treasury rather than of the Irish Government. It

is a proposal which I think it is extremely unlikely their Lordships would entertain, and I cannot undertake to press it upon them.

Mr. BIGGAR asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether, as a comparison is made in official Blue Books of the percentages of passes in reading, writing, and arithmetic in the National Schools in England, Ireland, and Scotland, would the teachers of Ireland be allowed the same facilities for carrying on their work, by the use of the best text books on the respective subjects, the same as are allowed to the teachers of England and Scotland, provided these books do not contain anything objectionable either in a sectarian or political point of view?

Mr. TREVELYAN: This Question is asked in the interests of education, and the course which the hon. Member indicates as desirable appears to be that adopted by the Commissioners of National Education. They do not insist upon the use of the books mentioned in their official list; but they require that the titles of any others proposed to be used shall be submitted to them for approval. They never refuse to sanction the use of unobjectionable books; but they always prohibit the use of books specially prepared for cramming purposes.

Mr. CALLAN: Is the right hon. Gentleman aware that the National Board have prohibited the use of the Christian Brothers' geography?

Mr. TREVELYAN: I must ask the hon. Member to give Notice of that Question.

Mr. T. P. O'CONNOR: Is it not a fact that the supply of books to the National Schools is practically a monopoly, and that facilities are only given to a certain set of books, while obstructions are placed in the way of others; and is it not a fact that competent educational authorities have pronounced many of the works favoured to be the most valueless text-books that ever were printed?

[No reply was given.]

GUN LICENCES (IRELAND)—PALLASKENRY PETTY SESSIONS.

Mr. SYNAN asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether Richard Radcliffe, the care-

taker of Mr. Sheehy (Coroner) Shannongrove, county Limerick, has been refused a licence to have a gun for the protection of Shannongrove House and Farm, although he (Radcliffe) produced a licence to carry arms in Kerry where he was recently a caretaker of Mr. Browne; whether the Resident Magistrate was, at the time of such refusal, aware that Mr. Sheehy's house was broken into at night in his absence; whether he can state how often the Resident Magistrate attended the District Sessions at Pallaskenry for the last six months; and, whether the said Resident Magistrate gave, at the same time, a licence to Patrick White, of Shannongrove, and upon what recommendation; and, whether said Patrick White is only a fisherman, and is suspected of poaching, and has been summoned for shooting a valuable dog, the property of said Mr. Sheehy, on said farm?

Mr. TREVELYAN: I am informed that Captain Hatchell, the Resident Magistrate of the district, has never been applied to for a licence for Richard Radcliffe. The Resident Magistrate has attended Pallaskenry Petty Session six times out of ten during the last six months. The case of Patrick White was not referred to in the hon. Member's Question as it originally stood. The additional paragraph was sent to Ireland for inquiry when it appeared on the Paper yesterday; and the reply has not yet been received.

POOR LAW (IRELAND)—INSTRUCTION OF CHILDREN IN DONEGAL WORKHOUSE.

Mr. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, On what authority he stated that there was a Catholic monitress, or any Catholic official, to instruct the Workhouse children in Donegal; if he will give the name of the Catholic monitress, and say if the person in question is a pauper, aged eleven years; whether, if this child be the "Catholic monitress," it is the fact that, on an examination in second class last year by the National School Inspector, she failed to pass; whether she teaches catechism at the suggestion of Mr. M'Farlane, L.G.B. Inspector; and, if not, by whose instructions she does so; if there is any difficulty in his ascertaining whether the Rev. H. M'Fadden, P.P., after his resignation as chaplain,

Mr. Trevelyan

is now paying a catechist out of his own pocket to instruct pauper children in the parish church; and, whether the spiritual destitution, which prevails in the Donegal Workhouse amongst the Catholic inmates, is such as would justify him, as President of the Local Government Board, in over-riding the authority of the guardians in order to provide a remedy?

MR. TREVELYAN said, the Notice given of this Question was not sufficient to allow of a reply being received from Ireland. He would answer the Question on Monday.

MR. HEALY said, he would ask it again on Monday. The Question, however, was the same as that already asked; and if the Local Government Board pleaded want of Notice they were guilty of want of candour.

TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN—LEASES.

MR. FINDLATER asked Mr. Attorney General for Ireland, If he is aware that the Board of Trinity College, who have from time immemorial been in the habit of making forty years' leases of building lots in Westland Row and other parts of the city of Dublin, and of renewing such leases to their tenants upon certain terms, have now intimated that they will not renew them upon any terms; and, if so, whether, having regard to the hardship inflicted upon sub-tenants who hold by leases containing toties quoties covenants for renewal, which they took upon the faith of the immemorial practice before referred to, it is the intention of the Government to interfere by legislation on the subject?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER): The Board of Trinity College has, I believe, intimated its intention of ceasing to renew leases of buildings after their expiration. The phrase "time immemorial" is hardly applicable, as the original leases never existed in the period between 1810 and 1825. The original terms were 40 years, and on the expiration of the present renewed terms, the tenants who are middlemen will have held at the old rents for periods of 88 to 90 years. I need hardly inform my hon. Friend that it is not the intention of the Government to interfere in the matter. No hardship appears to have been complained of by the under-lessees as far as I am aware.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES (ANIMALS) ACT, 1878.

MR. DUCKHAM asked the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Whether the Privy Council will now put in force the provisions of "The Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act, 1878," in order to stamp out pleuro-pneumonia from the herds of the United Kingdom; the disease being now confined to a very few herds?

MR. DODSON: I am glad to be able to state that this disease has been steadily declining since the passing of the Act of 1878; and it is much to be desired that local authorities should exercise more freely than they do the power which they possess, under Section 21 of that Act, of slaughtering healthy animals that have been in contact with diseased animals. The Privy Council are constantly calling the attention of local authorities to the expediency of adopting that course; but I must remind my hon. Friend that the Privy Council has not any power to order the slaughter of healthy animals in the case of an outbreak of pleuro-pneumonia. That power rests entirely with the local authority.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES (ANIMALS) ACTS—IMPORTATION OF CANADIAN CATTLE.

MR. DUCKHAM asked the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Whether the report contained in the "Times" of the 15th instant of twelve Canadian cattle being conveyed from Liverpool to Bristol whilst suffering from foot and mouth disease is correct; and, if so, what steps will be taken to prevent a recurrence of such a reckless means of spreading disease amongst the herds and flocks of the Country?

MR. DODSON: The Canadian animals found in Bristol Market affected with foot-and-mouth disease came from Liverpool. Wherever landed, they could not have got out of the foreign animals landing place unless they were free from disease. We are informed that they had been in contact in Liverpool Market with Irish cattle suffering from foot-and-mouth disease. They arrived at Bristol on the 8th instant, and the disease appeared on the 11th instant. All have been slaughtered since.

MR. DUCKHAM asked the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Whether any inquiry has been made to ascertain the correctness of the following statement contained in a letter to the "Times," of the 30th ultimo, from Mr. Moffat, Agent of the United States Department of Agriculture—

"For two years not a case of disease (foot and mouth) was brought to the attention of the United States Commission, except in two instances of freshly imported consignments from Great Britain ;"

and, that, seeing that the disease rarely exceeds three days in developing itself, and as the passage occupies an average of nine days, and as upon arrival animals are subjected to ninety days' quarantine, if he could explain how it was possible that animals imported from Great Britain could convey it into that Country?

MR. DODSON: No inquiry was necessary, because it is an undoubted fact that foot-and-mouth disease has been exported from this country into America. The beginning of it, however, was that in 1881 we received a cargo from America suffering from foot-and-mouth disease, and shortly afterwards we heard that a cargo of Jersey animals had been shipped for America in the same vessel. We telegraphed the fact to the American Government, and on the arrival of the vessel in America the cattle were found to be affected with the disease. A similar case occurred during this year, when a cargo of Channel Islands' cattle landed at Baltimore were found to be affected with foot-and-mouth disease. The incubation of the disease is from two to four days; but it takes from two to four weeks to pass through a herd, according to the number, and there is nothing strange in its lasting during a voyage across the Atlantic. The quarantine of 90 days is no security against the indirect introduction of the disease by means of persons and things in the quarantine station passing out of it. It only secures safety from the particular animals placed in quarantine.

POOR LAW (ENGLAND AND WALES)— PAYMENT OF OUTDOOR RELIEF.

MR. CAINE asked the President of the Local Government Board, If he is aware that it is usual in some unions for the payment of out-door relief to be distributed in public-houses; and, if he will issue an order from the Local Go-

vernment Board prohibiting such distribution in future?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: The Local Government Board are not aware that it is usual in some Unions for the payment of outdoor relief to be distributed in public-houses. If the Board are informed of the facts of any case where such an arrangement is made they will communicate with the Guardians with a view to its discontinuance.

MR. CAINE said, he had two cases which he would bring to the knowledge of the right hon. Baronet.

CRIME AND OUTRAGE (IRELAND)— CASE OF SAMUEL LEATHAM.

MR. BIGGAR asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether it is true that a man named Samuel Leatham was murdered at Cork by two detectives at 10.30 on the night of the 30th ultimo; whether it is the fact that the district head constable and a number of the police endeavoured to shield the murderers from the sub-inspector; whether one of the principal witnesses was prevented from giving evidence on the inquest; if so, why so; and, what action the Government intend to take against the detectives?

MR. TREVELYAN: The matter referred to in this Question is to-day the subject of investigation at Petty Sessions. It would, therefore, be obviously improper for me to make any statement on the subject. It is important enough for Assistant Inspector General Reed to have been sent down from head-quarters to be present at the inquiry.

ARMY—THE ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE, SANDHURST.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL asked the Secretary of State for War, If he can state why the recommendations of the Visitors of the Royal Military College, made in 1880 and concurred in by his predecessor, in regard to geometrical drawing and modern languages, have not been attended to, as stated by the Visitors in their last Report?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON, in reply, said, this subject formed part of the larger question of the tests to be required from candidates for admission to the Army, which was now under consideration. The recommendations of the Board of Visitors would receive due attention.

LAW AND JUSTICE—THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR—THE DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL asked Mr. Attorney General, If it is true that the Departmental Committee which has for some months been engaged on the question of the Public Prosecutor, has adjourned to next winter without coming to any conclusion or making any Report?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (SIR HENRY JAMES), in reply, said, it was perfectly true that the Departmental Committee referred to had concluded its labours and made no Report. The fact was that there were Members of that Committee who had little time at their disposal, and the Committee could not meet more than once a-week. The Committee had sat after the time when Parliament was usually prorogued, and that had been found inconvenient, especially to non-official Members. They felt that any recommendation that could be made and laid before Parliament could not be acted on till next Session; and he was sure it was an advantageous course to postpone the consideration of their Report.

EGYPT—THE ALEXANDRIA INDEMNITY COMMISSION.

MR. GIBSON asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether anything has yet been done to decide on the claim of the representatives of the late Mr. Ribton before the Indemnity Commission at Alexandria; and, what is the cause of the delay on the subject?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: Mr. Ribton's claim has not yet been decided upon. The smaller claims were dealt with first. Mr. Ribton's claim, which is among the larger amounts, will, it is understood, come up shortly for decision. I may add that the Commission is an International one, over which Her Majesty's Government have no control.

PARLIAMENT—PALACE OF WESTMINSTER—THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT—TELEPHONIC COMMUNICATION.

MR. AGNEW asked the First Commissioner of Works, If it is his inten-

tion, during the recess, to make arrangements whereby, upon the re-assembling of Parliament, Members may be afforded facilities for telephonic communication?

MR. SHAW LEFEVRE: My hon. Friend is apparently not aware that the telephone has already been introduced into this House—one at the Members' entrance, and the other in the Upper Waiting Hall.

MR. AGNEW: I wish to say, Sir, that that fact is not generally known to hon. Members.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR: Can the First Commissioner of Works give a single instance of the telephone being used except by Members of the Government, or name a Member outside of the official circle who is aware of its existence?

MR. SHAW LEFEVRE: I cannot say to what extent hon. Members are aware of the fact; but the telephone was introduced into this House about a fortnight ago.

COLONEL NOLAN: I should like to ask the right hon. Gentleman if there are any more agreeable secrets of this sort which he has to disclose?

MR. CAINE: I may say the telephone has been up quite a fortnight. That one at the entrance is visible to the naked eye when you pass.

ROYAL IRISH CONSTABULARY—CODE 848.

MR. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If he will lay upon the Table Code 848 of the Royal Irish Constabulary; and, if he intends to maintain the Rule in force?

MR. TREVELYAN: The Code has hitherto been held to be a privileged document, and must continue to be so. Till the hon. Member withdraws the imputation which he made yesterday, under privilege of Parliament, and with the publicity of Parliament, on a woman who cannot defend herself, I can answer no further Questions in connection with this subject.

MR. HEALY: Of course, the statement of the Chief Secretary is intended to protect Sub-Inspector Cameron from the discharge which an ordinary member of the force would receive, as a disorderly person?

RUSSIA—THE EXPULSION OF JEWS FROM ST. PETERSBURG.

Mr. MONTAGU SCOTT asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, If his attention has been called to the case of the representative of the firm of Messrs. Raphael, Tuck, and Sons, of Coleman Street, London, a British subject, who, although travelling with a passport issued only fourteen days before by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, was expelled from St. Petersburg on his arrival on Wednesday, the 15th of August, because he was a Jew; and, whether Her Majesty's Government will endeavour to prevent a repetition of such treatment to British subjects on account of their religion?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: Yes, Sir; a letter was received yesterday from the firm, and Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires will be directed to report upon the facts of the case, in order that the Secretary of State may consider what steps can be taken in the matter.

PARLIAMENT—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE: I beg to ask the right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister a Question with regard to the Business for to-morrow. It would be convenient to know, supposing that, by misfortune, Supply should not be finished to-night, what Business will be taken to-morrow; and, especially, whether Her Majesty's Government intend to go on with the Court of Criminal Appeal Bill?

Mr. GIBSON asked, Whether Her Majesty's Government contemplated proceeding further with the Union Officers' Superannuation (Ireland) Bill?

Mr. CAVENDISH BENTINCK asked, Whether the right hon. Gentleman was aware that Votes in Supply had been taken until 3 o'clock that morning; and, whether he could undertake to prevent a repetition of that proceeding during the remainder of the Session, even at the risk of personal inconvenience to Her Majesty's Government?

Mr. BIGGAR asked, Whether the right hon. Gentleman had not stated that he would to-morrow bring forward the Union Officers' Superannuation (Ireland) Bill?

Mr. CALLAN asked, Whether, considering that a Select Committee had last year revised the Poor Law Officers' Superannuation Bill, the right hon. Gentleman would not consider it to be the duty of Her Majesty's Government to proceed with that Bill, and to obtain the sanction of Parliament to a much desired reform?

Mr. GLADSTONE: Certainly, it is the intention of Her Majesty's Government to go forward with the Union Officers' Superannuation (Ireland) Bill at whatever time it may come on. I desire that there should be no mistake or misapprehension upon that point. With regard to the Question of the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for Whitehaven (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck), I can only say that I am very sorry that it should have been found necessary to prolong the Sitting in Supply to so late an hour as 3 o'clock in the morning, which, I am aware, should not be done until towards the very close of the Session, and when the date of the Prorogation has actually been fixed. It was, however, done last night by the will of the House. [*Cries of "No!"*] I do not understand that any effort was made to induce the Committee to report Progress. There was no Division taken on the point. [Mr. CAVENDISH BENTINCK: The Committee gave way.] Well, if the Committee gave way, I do not see what there is to complain of. Had the Government seen any indication that it was the feeling of the Committee that Progress should be reported, they would have assented to that course being taken. I am sorry if the right hon. and learned Gentleman has suffered inconvenience from the course that was taken; but we have now merely a choice of inconveniences—everything is inconvenient at this period of the Session. We made the best choice in the circumstances that we could, having regard to the state of Public Business. With regard to the Business for to-morrow, I am sorry to say that since I last addressed the House on the subject of the course of Business we have lost all hope of being able to finish Supply to-night, because we certainly could not hope to get through the other Business of Supply to-night in time to enable us to redeem our pledge not to take the Army Votes after a particular hour. We must, therefore, proceed with Supply to-morrow, when it

may take some hours. That being so, we do not think that it would be fair to ask the House to take the Court of Criminal Appeal Bill to-morrow. Then, inasmuch as we have appointed Business for Monday and Tuesday, the question arises, When are we to proceed with the Court of Criminal Appeal Bill? Looking at the nature of that Bill, I do not think that it will require any lengthened discussion, and therefore we intend to fix it for the first Order of the Day on Monday. It then remains to be determined whether we shall take the Indian Budget as the second Order of the Day on Monday after the Court of Criminal Appeal Bill, or postpone it until another day. It cannot be made the first Order of the Day until Wednesday, because on Tuesday we must take the Amendments to the Agricultural Holdings Bills, if those Bills should have come down from the House of Lords by that time. We shall endeavour in the course of the evening to ascertain whether it will be most agreeable to the House to take the Indian Budget as the second Order of the Day on Monday, or as the first Order of the Day on Wednesday.

MR. BIGGAR: In reference to the Union Officers' Superannuation Bill, I would ask the right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister whether, in view of the strong opposition of the Irish Members to this Bill, and to the fact that it would prolong the Session if persevered with, he would not consider the advisability of dropping the measure?

MR. GLADSTONE: I do not think there is a very large proportion of the Irish Members against the Bill—unless, indeed, the hon. Member himself constitutes that very large proportion.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE inquired whether it was intended, as the right hon. Gentleman's statement seemed to imply, to take the Appropriation Bill as a late Order every day, and never to give it precedence?

MR. GLADSTONE replied, that they must undoubtedly take the Appropriation Bill according to the usual course. From the time they introduced it they must have it as the first Order of the Day.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT asked the Prime Minister to reconsider his decision with regard to the Indian Budget, which had already, in spite of many promises, been put off for a long

time, and which had been formally fixed for Wednesday. Several influential Members had arranged to come a considerable distance on Monday on account of the Indian Budget.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL hoped that, as it had been found necessary to devote Monday to another measure, the Indian Budget, on whatever day it might be considered, would not be taken at a late hour.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, the Court of Criminal Appeal Bill was discussed at great length by a Committee upstairs; and he understood that the Attorney General was going to throw over some of the decisions of that Committee. Such an important measure could surely not be adequately discussed, under the circumstances, at this period.

MR. GLADSTONE remarked that, viewing the origin of that Bill and the time bestowed on it by the Grand Committee, it would not be right for the Government to take the responsibility of withdrawing it from the House. They felt that the House and not the Government should decide on the question whether it should be proceeded with or not. With regard to the Indian Budget, he agreed that it ought not to be brought on at a late hour. He entertained the hope that the Court of Criminal Appeal Bill would not occupy more than a couple of hours, and in that case it might be preferable to go on with the Indian Budget on the same evening. He would, however, as he had said, endeavour to ascertain the general sense of the House on the question whether the Indian Budget should be the second Order on Monday or the first Order on Wednesday.

DR. CAMERON asked whether the arrangement to take the Medical Act Amendment Bill on Tuesday would hold?

MR. GLADSTONE: Yes; on Tuesday, after the Lords' Amendments to the Agricultural Holdings Bills have been disposed of.

DR. CAMERON asked the Speaker whether it would be competent for the hon. Member for Eye (Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett) to bring forward on the Indian Budget the question of the Indian Criminal Jurisdiction Bill?

MR. SPEAKER: I consider that on a Motion relating to the Indian Budget it would be open to the hon. Member to make general observations on the Bill referred to.

NOTICE OF QUESTION.

FRANCE—THE FRENCH PYRENEES—
SUPPOSED CASUALTY TO THE REV.
MERTON SMITH.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE: I beg to give Notice that to-morrow I shall ask the noble Lord, Whether Her Majesty's Government have received any information with regard to the Rev. Merton Smith, who is said to be missing in the Pyrenees; and, also, whether it is their intention to make some inquiry into the subject?

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

TRAMWAYS AND PUBLIC COMPANIES
(IRELAND) BILL.—[BILL 286.]

(*Mr. Trevelyan, Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Attorney
General for Ireland, Mr. Courtney.*)

COMMITTEE.

Order for Committee read.

Motion made, and Question proposed,
"That Mr. Speaker do now leave the
Chair."—(*Mr. Trevelyan.*)

MR. BIGGAR, who had on the Paper a Notice to move that the House go into Committee that day three months, observed that, although the Bill contained the pleasing proposal that £40,000 should be granted for the purpose of proposed tramways in Ireland, this proposal had such conditions attached to it as deprived it of all its attractiveness. There were several districts in the West of Ireland where it would be unreasonable to expect a tramways line to pay; and yet in many of these places there would be an agitation got up to bring them within the operation of the Act. For example, take the district from Clifden to Galway—a line between these two places would never pay. The population was sparse and poor, and the produce would never be equal to the maintenance of a line. Even in such a prosperous district as that between Ballymena and Larne a narrow-gauge railway barely paid working expenses. He hoped, therefore, that the Government would withdraw the Bill and introduce it next Session, at a period when it could be fully examined and discussed. The second part of the Bill—namely, that

relating to emigration, was opposed to the first part. The Government proposed, in the first place, to construct tramways for the accommodation of the people in the poor districts of Ireland, and then they proposed to remove from the country the very people who would be likely to receive any advantage from tramways. This scheme of emigration was promoted by a number of busybodies of the Exeter Hall type, the same class who sent missionaries to the negroes and supplied them with rum and Bibles. These people thought they knew the interests of the Irish people much better than their own Parliamentary Representatives; but the Irish people would be much obliged to these meddlers if they left them alone to manage their own affairs. The Government ought to be ashamed of their measure. With regard to the last part of it, he could not believe that it was seriously proposed. The Land Commissioners had at present power to sell lands to the occupying tenants; but if they, who required no profit, were unable to carry into operation the Purchase Clauses of the Land Act, how was it possible that a public Company, which would require a profit, could do so? He entirely dissented from the opinion of the Chief Secretary, when he said that he did not believe in any system of peasant proprietary in which the tenant had not to supply a material part of the purchase money and be bound to repay the loan within a limited time. The Purchase Clauses of the Land Act would never succeed until the total amount of the purchase money was advanced to the tenant; and he contended that the tenant's interest in his occupation afforded ample security to the State for the repayment of the loan.

MR. SPEAKER: Does the hon. Member propose his Amendment that the House go into Committee on the Bill this day three months?

MR. BIGGAR: No, Sir; but I will divide against going into Committee.

SIR EARDLEY WILMOT said, that, as a friend of Ireland, he was extremely sorry to hear the sentiments expressed by the hon. Member for Cavan (Mr. Biggar). Any Irishman who had any true affection for his country ought to thank the Government for having introduced this Bill. As a matter of fact, the present Session was the first in his recollection in which any remedial legis-

lation for Ireland had been brought in; prior to this he had regretted the indisposition on the part of any Government to introduce measures that would tend to the development of the resources of Ireland and to contribute to her material prosperity. During the present Session three measures of that character had been introduced, two by Irish Members, and the third by Her Majesty's Government, all of which were calculated to do good to the country—he referred to the Fisheries Bill, which was supported by the Chancellor of the Exchequer; the Labourers (Ireland) Bill, which was calculated to confer material benefits on a portion of the community hitherto greatly neglected; and the Bill now before the House, which was also calculated to do much good. Having sat for some weeks this Session on a Select Committee, he had had an opportunity of hearing most convincing evidence that one great want in Ireland was the want of communication, especially in the Western parts of the country, where there was a great absence of facilities for conveying the agricultural produce to market. Evidence had also been produced before the Committee with respect to the fisheries; and it was stated that in many places after great catches of fish the fishermen were obliged to leave the fish on the shore because they had no means of taking it to market. He thought, therefore, the introduction of tramways and railways was most important, and he gave the project his cordial support. He also approved of the clause by which the amount to be advanced by the State to assist emigration was raised from £100,000 to £200,000. He agreed with the Irish Members that emigration, in the long run, would be a bad thing for Ireland. He believed if the resources of the country were properly developed it would support a larger population than it possessed at present; but they must deal with circumstances as they existed, and when they found there were certain districts where the people were starving, where if they had the land for nothing they could not live upon it, he considered they were justified in resorting to the temporary remedy of emigration. When the Government introduced their Coercion Bill he asked them not to forget that there were loyal and peaceable people in Ireland who ought to be con-

sidered. The Chief Secretary had not forgotten his appeal, and had introduced this useful measure. Therefore, while differing from the Government on many points, he thought they had done that, in the present instance, which entitled them to the gratitude of Ireland and the Irish Members.

COLONEL NOLAN said, he rose to state that he differed from the hon. Member for Cavan as to the utility of a line of tramways in Connemara. There was a dense population along the coast, and such a line would be largely used not only by tourists, but by the people of the district. Everyone in Connemara wanted this mode of communication. He regretted the objection of the hon. Member for Cavan. He believed a certain canal that turned out badly was at the bottom of his hon. Friend's opposition to this sort of legislation. In his (Colonel Nolan's) opinion, the poorer a district was, the more it needed the construction of tramways to open up its resources.

MR. HEALY said, he was inclined to agree with the hon. Member for Cavan in his objection to the Bill; and if he went to a Division against it he would vote with him. He (Mr. Healy) was of opinion that the Government had brought in this Bill at the bidding of interests to which they ought not to have submitted, while they always rejected the representations of Irish Members with contumely and scorn. The emigration part of the Bill had been introduced in deference to Mr. Tuke and the Exeter Hall party, and the tramways portion to please promoters. There was no demand from Ireland for either section of the Bill. The tramways part of the measure was simply iniquitous. The unfortunate taxpayers, who had no voice in the matter, would have to pay the whole of the money; while the landlords—or, in other words, the grand juries—who were to decide what tramways were to be made and where, would not have to pay anything. Under the Bill the unfortunate ratepayers of the country, weighed down already with the blood tax, the police tax, and the rack rents fixed by the Sub-Commissioners, would be fleeced just as the ratepayers of the County Waterford had been fleeced for the Waterford, Dungarvan, and Lisamore Railway. The right hon. Gentleman, who knew nothing about the

matter, indeed, proposed that the presentment Sessions should have a voice in the question. But the grand jury pricked a certain number of ratepayers, of whom half were chosen by ballot, to form the Presentment Sessions, so that the ratepayers chosen would approach the landlords in position. The right hon. Gentleman would say that the grand jury was the only body to whom the matter could be left. Whose fault was that? Had not the Irish Members year after year urged the Government to do away with the grand jury system? One clause actually proposed that the grand jury might charge such baronies as they thought proper, and at such a rate as they pleased. Why, the grand jury might run a tramway through one barony and throw the tax for it on another. He was surprised that the Chief Secretary, with all his ignorance of Ireland, could propose such a scheme. He never knew a more monstrous Bill. There was no health or soundness in it. If the right hon. Gentleman really desired to benefit the Irish people—from whom the Prime Minister, since he first became Chancellor of the Exchequer, had obtained a greater amount of money than Germany had wrung from France as her War Indemnity—let him put the 2 per cent on the State first; and then, if that were not found to be sufficient, let the baronies be called upon to supply the deficiency. The right hon. Gentleman, however, was very careful about the money of the State, and very liberal with the money of the unfortunate ratepayers who would have to pay for these speculative schemes. With regard to the emigration scheme, let the Government emigrate as many as they could. They were sending out to America recruiting sergeants of agitation, who would go out with hatred in their hearts, and would learn in a free country what freedom meant. He promised the Government the more they sent out to America the greater would be the terror they would inspire when they got there. Those people would not be the poor miserable peasants they had been shipping off like cattle, but educated men; and their children would, he hoped, be in Office in that great Republic which had done so much for Ireland. The Government were sowing dragons' teeth, and he wished them joy of the harvest they were destined to reap.

Mr. Healy

MR. TREVELYAN said, that if the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) really believed—as he presumed from his speech he did—that the motive of the Government in bringing in this Bill was one of ill-nature and ill-will towards Ireland, he was welcome to his opinion. The only other motive suggested for the Bill was that it was brought in to please Exeter Hall and a set of gentlemen who were his (Mr. Trevelyan's) personal friends. Well, he had to plead guilty to never having been inside Exeter Hall in his life. No doubt, in so far as the Bill dealt with emigration, it consorted with the scheme promoted by Mr. Tuke and the hon. Members for Carnarvonshire and Bedford (Mr. Rathbone and Mr. Whitbread) and their coadjutors; but the suggestion, as to the largest and most important part of the Bill, that it had been brought in to please certain contractors who were friends of Ministers, was preposterous. It had been his misfortune never to have had anything to do with public Companies; and, so far as he knew, until this Bill was actually on the Table of the House, he had never had a conversation with a contractor in his life. The only motive which the Government could have in this matter was to do good to Ireland; and no other that could hold water for a moment had been suggested. The hon. Member for South Warwickshire (Sir Eardley Wilmot), in his kindly speech, said that the Government had this year endeavoured to bring in remedial measures. That had been repudiated by the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy), who said the Government had accepted nothing for the benefit of Ireland from the side of the House on which he sat. Now, taking as a definition of "benefit" the lending or allotting of public money, he would remind the House that two Bills had been brought in by hon. Gentlemen opposite with that object. Under one of those Bills £250,000 of the Church Surplus had been expended in a manner which he believed to be very pleasing to Ireland; and the new clause in the Labourers Bill, by which loans were to be granted out of the Exchequer, would, he believed, accord thoroughly with Irish ideas. Both of those Bills were accepted by the Government with the single desire to meet Irish wishes. If the hon. Gentleman thought the Government had any elec-

tioneeering motives in what they had done, he gave them credit for more stupidity than he should have thought possible. It was said that the Bill was lavish of the money of the ratepayers and careful of public money. But when the hon. Member talked of the unfortunate peasant having to pay his money for the benefit of English contractors, he forgot that the Irish peasant would have between him and his liability to pay several parties whose interest it would be to protect him. It was also objected that the Bill was to be worked through the grand juries. Whatever charges might be made against grand juries, he had never heard of their being anxious to promote the interests of English Companies established in Ireland. The main objection he had heard taken in private conversation to grand juries having to administer the Bill was that they probably would not use the powers which were given them by the Bill. He repeated that the only persons whom it was intended to benefit were the peasantry of the districts which would be affected. It might be that grand juries were not the best administrative agency which could be devised; but surely hon. Members did not wish the Bill to be postponed until a new Local Government Bill had been passed for Ireland. He was glad, however, to observe that, though there were 10 pages of Amendments, with some of which it would be impossible for the Government to agree, the greater number of those Amendments were of a practical and useful character, and obviously devised with the object of making the Bill a practical and efficient measure. While, therefore, he accepted any blame that might be deserved for bringing on the Bill so late in the Session, he did not hesitate to ask hon. Members to let them go at once into Committee, and proceed to the consideration of these Amendments.

MR. DAWSON (LORD MAYOR OF DUBLIN) said, he could not agree with the criticisms of his hon. Friend the Member for Monaghan. Six ratepayers could petition against the application of the powers of the Bill to a particular district, and the provisions sufficiently met the objections of his hon. Friend. He welcomed the measure as one which was likely to open up the resources of Ireland. There was great wealth in many Irish counties. In Clare there

were rich lands, which only required improved communication for their produce to find an accessible market, and the coasts of Donegal teemed with fish, while the peasantry were in a state of chronic semi-starvation. As to emigration, he was as strongly opposed to it as the hon. Member for Monaghan, not, however, from any sentimental feeling that the people should cling to the country, but because, as long as one of the resources that God gave them in their native land remained undeveloped, he held it to be a monstrous thing that one human being should be forced out of the country. He would support the Bill, although he wished the Government had been more liberal in its aid.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT protested against the Bill, not only on account of the late period of the Session, although that was a sufficient objection, but also because no sufficient warning of its introduction had been given. He protested also against the Government introducing another measure in relief of Irish distress, without giving the House time to investigate its merits. In London there were hundreds and thousands of persons who were in as absolute want as any of the distressed peasantry of Ireland. Yet the Government had induced one of their own supporters (Mr. Broadhurst) to withdraw a Motion of great importance, which proposed to deal with the housing of the poor in the Metropolis. Distress was hardly less prevalent in England and Scotland than it was in Ireland; and no sufficient reason had been given for such exceptional legislation. The Government, in deference to the wishes of the Irish Members, had withdrawn the Police Bill and the proposal to extend the Bankruptcy Bill to Ireland, alleging as an excuse for their conduct, that time could not be found for those matters; yet they now found time to press forward the present Bill, which proposed to devote a large sum of public money to the relief of distress in Ireland. In conjunction with other recent proceedings of the Ministry, it looked very much like a fresh bargain with the Irish Party. He protested against the transaction as unfair to the loyal poor in England and Scotland.

MR. BARRY said, that, although the Bill might be open to criticism in some points, he thought the first part of it, relating to tramways, was calculated to

do good, and he hoped his hon. Friends would allow the Bill to go into Committee. He argued, however, that at present the measure contained no provision for securing the regular payment of dividends to investors, and that unless it were amended in that respect the development of tramways would be retarded. Although he did not agree with the hon. Member for Monaghan in his sweeping criticism of the Bill, he did agree with him very much in the protest he made against entrusting the administration of the Bill to such unpopular fiscal bodies as the grand juries.

Mr. O'BRIEN said, he could not agree with some of his hon. Friends in their wholesale condemnation of the Bill. [*Ministerial cheers.*] He was sorry that hon. Gentlemen opposite should cheer him. The opposition of the Irish Members was chiefly confined to the Emigration Clauses; and he thought, after the speech of the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Bradford (Mr. W. E. Forster) at Devonport, in which he stated that he had invited Mr. Tuke to commence this system of emigration, it was hardly possible that the Irish people could view the scheme without suspicion and aversion. During the last four years Ireland had lost a population of 100,000 a-year; and, unfortunately, the children she lost were those whose loss she could least afford. It was the young, the strong, the well-to-do people that Mr. Tuke's Committee had been picking up, while the old and helpless were left behind. He did not attach a feather's weight of importance to the rose-coloured representations which came from emigration agents. He wished that from the beginning the Irish Members had set their faces against it, and told Earl Spencer that the Irish race would stand it no longer. Stronger men than he had burned their fingers over the same policy. Cromwell's rough-and-ready system was not a bit more detested by them than Earl Spencer's genteel process of starving the people into submission, and then driving them away under the guise and oant of philanthropy. Those Englishmen who went over to Ireland to patronize the people, and, meddling in matters which they did not understand, skimmed away the cream of the rural population, presumed too much upon the indulgence that had been extended to

them, and in future they would encounter the hostility of the whole Irish race. He hoped his hon. Friend would not challenge a Division on this subject. For his part, he would be guided by the opinion of his hon. Friend the Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell), whose judgment he had never known to fail. As to his (Mr. Brien's) opinion of the Bill when it was first introduced, perhaps the less said the better.

Dr. COMMINS said, that, while giving the Government credit for good intentions, he entirely agreed with the strictures passed upon the Bill by the hon. Members for Cavan and Monaghan. The tramway scheme was, in his opinion, ill-digested, and would work badly. No doubt, however, it could be amended so as to render it less liable to criticism than it was now; but there was every probability that it would, if passed in its present shape, give rise to bogus speculation and jobbery. He thought they ought to be content with the protests they had made, and ought not to divide the House.

Mr. DALY said, he intended to vote for the Bill, because it would be of great benefit to the Irish people. He thought it would be a grave responsibility for any Irish Member to take upon himself to endanger the passage of such a Bill. He gave it his hearty support, on the principle of the German proverb—"If you can't get what you like, like what you get."

Mr. HARRINGTON said, he was in favour of the tramways scheme; but he strongly objected to sandwiching in the measure the proposal with regard to emigration. He suggested that a plan should be adopted which would enable the promoters and opponents of any railway or tramway to be heard in Ireland, so that they might be spared the trouble and expense of appearing in London. He hoped, however, his hon. Friend would not divide the House on the question in deference to the views of the hon. Member for the City of Cork. Yet he had not much faith in the Lord Lieutenant, because he believed that the views of two landlords and one bailiff would have more influence with him than the representatives of a whole barony of the ordinary population.

Mr. O'KEILLY also appealed to his hon. Friend the Member for Cavan not

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to divide the House. He believed the Bill contained some provisions which could be made beneficial to many parts of Ireland. If the Government would accept such Amendments as would create a more perfect control over the working of the Bill, it would be deprived of many of the features which the Irish Members deemed obnoxious.

Question put, and *agreed to.*

Bill considered in Committee.
(In the Committee.)

PART I.

POWERS OF GRAND JURY TO GUARANTEE.

Clause 1 (Grand Jury may present in favour of baronial guarantee).

MR. LEA, in rising to move, after the word "any," in line 7, the insertion of the words "narrow gauge Railway or," said, he had taken a somewhat strong view of the benefits which were likely to accrue in the West of Ireland if this Bill were passed; and, therefore, in order not to retard its progress, he would confine what he had to say to the fewest possible words. He did not know whether the Government would be able to assent to the proposal he made or not; but there were two reasons why he had placed it upon the Paper. If the Bill was to be effective at all, it must provide for the construction of something better than a tramway running alongside the roads in the county of Donegal. He was told that there were provisions in the measure which authorized the compulsory purchase of land; and as it would be necessary, in many instances, to make wide deviations from the high road, in that case it would amount, practically, to the making of a narrow gauge railway. If the right hon. Gentleman told him that the object he had in view was already included in the Bill he should certainly not press the Amendment too strongly upon the Committee; but he should be very glad if the right hon. Gentleman could accept the words he proposed.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 7, after "any," insert "narrow gauge Railway or."—(*Mr. Lea.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) said, that,

since the Bill had been introduced, representations had been made to the Government as to the desirability of extending its provisions so as to cover the case of narrow gauge railways, or what were known as "light railways." As the Bill stood, it was possible that it did not go so far; but hitherto there had been no definition in any Statute of what a tramway was, and a tramway might be a railway, or a railway might be a tramway. The Bill contained no provision in regard to a limit of deviation, and it repealed part of the Tramways (Ireland) Act of 1860, by which means it would have the effect of giving compulsory powers to take land wherever it was necessary to do so for the purposes of the Act. The construction of lines, even in places not in the immediate vicinity of public roads, might be involved under the Bill, inasmuch as it might be a necessary portion of the tramway scheme to work the line by steam power; and it was not, in the opinion of the Government, very important whether the provisions of the Bill were carried out by a tramway or a railway. But in the Acts of Parliament, called Tramway Acts, a tramway was spoken of, and not a railway; and he proposed to extend the definition to railways, so that by the term both tramways and light railways might be included. He thought the object of his hon. Friend the Member for Donegal (Mr. Lea) would be obtained best by the introduction of a definite clause at the end of the Bill, declaring that in this and other Acts of Parliament the word "tramways" should be taken to include a light railway. If the term "light railway" was not a sufficient definition, he would undertake to bring in words on the Report to carry out the object his hon. Friend had in view. He hoped this assurance would be satisfactory.

MR. BIGGAR wished to state the reason which induced him to propose the Amendment which stood in his name. He presumed the object of the Government was to make the Bill as successful as possible; but although he entertained objections to the measure, if the Bill was to be of any service at all, it should be so framed as to give some assurance of success. The Amendment proposed to include narrow gauge railways as well as tramways; but there would be great disadvantage in con-

structing a railway as compared with a tramway. In the case of a tramway they would pay nothing for the land, because the tramway would run over the public roads; and it would make an enormous difference in the expense of the Company, both in reference to legal proceedings and the obtaining of compulsory powers of purchase, if they were to construct railways. For this reason, he was of opinion that a tramway would be much more preferable than a narrow gauge railway, or any railway at all where it would be necessary to prepare a permanent way. In constructing a permanent way, it would be necessary to make cuttings and embankments, and to incur a large amount of expense. If tramways were to be successful, they must be on the same gauge as tramway lines already existing. He presumed that, as a rule, the tramways would terminate in the neighbourhood of some railway station, and if that were so then the tramways would be able to borrow or hire from the Railway Company all the rolling stock they required; but if a Tramway Company, with a short line, found it necessary to keep up a stock of waggons and a permanent staff, the result would be that all the revenue would be used up in the expense. He certainly thought that no encouragement ought to be given to narrow gauge railways, and that a provision should be inserted in the Bill that in every case where a tramway terminated near a railway station it should be of the same gauge as the railway in connection with which it ran. In that way, no doubt, these tramways might be made of immense value as feeders to the railways, and the railways would in the same way contribute indirectly to the traffic upon the tramways; but to call upon a tramway to keep up a permanent staff of engineers and coachbuilders, and all the requirements of a Railway Company, must, in his opinion, end in disaster.

Mr. LEA intimated that, after the statement which had been made by the Attorney General for Ireland, he would not press his Amendment.

Dr. LYONS expressed a hope that the Attorney General would take care that the term used in the Bill was such as would put the Tramway Company beyond the possibility of litigation afterwards. Although the term "narrow

gauge railway" was very well understood, he was afraid that the term "light railway" might give rise to difficulty.

Mr. O'KELLY said, he hoped the Government would not pay any attention to the suggestion of the hon. Member for Dublin (Dr. Lyons). On the contrary, he thought the definition "light railway" would obviate the difficulty which his hon. Friend the Member for Cavan (Mr. Biggar) had very properly pointed out. If the definition were made "narrow gauge railway," he (Mr. O'Kelly) thought they would introduce into the future construction of these lines the difficulty which his hon. Friend was afraid of. If the Government accepted the definition "light railway," then the question of gauge could be left to the decision of the people who constructed the line. He had placed an Amendment upon the Paper with a view of providing that the expression should be "light railway;" but as the Government had practically accepted the Amendment of the hon. Member for Donegal (Mr. Lea), and were anxious to meet the suggestions which were made, he should not propose his Amendment. He thought the proposal of the Government would meet his views.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL said, he would express a hope that on future occasions the Government would get rid of the word "tramway" altogether, because it was a word that had no definite meaning, and only led to confusion. Since the Bill had been introduced he had been very anxious to find out what the word meant; but he had altogether failed. The Government would be aware that in America it was discarded, and instead of "tramway" the word used was "street railway."

Mr. PARNELL asked the Attorney General for Ireland if he was to understand that the 42nd section of the Tramways Act was repealed by this Bill? As far as he could make out, if that section were not repealed there would be no compulsory powers under the Bill for the purchase of land; and it would be utterly impossible to make "light railways" in the way proposed.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, it was proposed to repeal the 42nd section of the Tramways Act; and whether it was called "railway" or "tramway" was a matter of very little consequence.

Mr. Biggar

MR. GIBSON asked if the Bill placed tramway construction on the same footing as that with regard to railways?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) said, he was not quite certain what his right hon. and learned Friend meant. Did he mean in regard to legal machinery?

MR. GIBSON said, he meant the compulsory taking of land.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) said, that would be precisely the same as under the present Lands Clauses Consolidation Act.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) moved, in line 7, after the words "promoters of any tramway," to insert the words "being a public Company." It was not intended that statutory powers to make a tramway, and compulsory powers to take land, should be given to individuals. The Light Tramway Acts conferred powers upon individuals; but it was intended that this Act should apply exclusively to Directors of Public Companies.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 7, after the word "tramway," insert "being a public Company."—(MR. ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

COLONEL NOLAN said, he thought that the grand juries and public authorities would, under the Amendment, be precluded from making tramways; and that, he thought, would be a most unwise provision. He was of opinion that the most economical way of making these tramways would be for the counties to make them themselves. The hon. Member for Cavan (MR. BIGGAR) was afraid that the expense of making and working a tramway or light railway would swallow up all the profits; but if the public authorities or the grand juries were allowed to enter into the contracts, he believed they would not do so unless they felt that they could do the work economically.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR said, he thought the difficulty might be met by allowing persons, whether incorporated or not, to make an application for an Order in Council under the Act.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) said, the proposal of the hon. and gallant Member for Galway (Colonel Nolan) was a perfectly novel one. It had never been suggested to the House, and had certainly not been included in any Tramway Act now existing, that the grand juries should have power to undertake works of this kind, which were altogether distinct from their proper functions. The suggestion contained in the Bill was that the powers should be given to the Tramway Company with a Government guarantee. The clause, as it stood, would not meet the case of grand juries or public authorities at all. It provided that it should be lawful for the promoters of a tramway to make application to the grand jury for any county under the Tramway Acts; but it did not give authority to the grand juries to confer such power upon themselves.

MR. DAWSON (LORD MAYOR OF DUBLIN) said, that Municipal Bodies and Corporations were entitled to make tramways in districts under their jurisdiction.

COLONEL NOLAN said, his argument was that the Bill should not exclude these public Bodies; and he thought if they were going to insert the words "public Companies" they should also extend the clause to public Bodies. His suggestion was that they should either leave out "public Company" or add "public Bodies."

MR. DALY said, he believed that if the suggestion of the hon. and gallant Member for Galway (Colonel Nolan) were agreed to, the whole Bill would be a failure. The grand juries were generally representative men, and ought not, in their individual capacity, to exercise powers of this kind. The proposition of the hon. and gallant Member would not bear the test of examination.

MR. MITCHELL HENRY said, the object of the Bill was to establish better means of communication. At present, the grand juries made the roads, and the proposal was that they should be able to place lines of railway upon them. He could not for the life of him understand why an individual or a grand jury desirous of making a tramway in the interests of the public should not be at liberty to do so. Why should they be absolutely excluded? The guarantee would be just the same in the case of an

individual as in the case of a Company. It was quite possible that there might be individuals willing and able to undertake the work; and he did not see why it should be imperative that the application should only be made by a public Company.

Mr. SYNAN said, it appeared to him that the Attorney General for Ireland was really delaying his own Bill. He thought it would be better to pass the clause in the shape in which it was originally introduced. The words "promoters of any tramway" were quite wide enough. Therefore, *cui bono* the definition. It was totally unnecessary, and did no good.

Mr. KENNY said, that there was a provision in this Bill enabling a grand jury to take over and carry out works which had failed, and to charge the expenses on the county. If a grand jury were to be allowed to do that, he did not see why it should not be competent to them to construct a line.

Mr. CALLAN said, the hon. Member for Ennis (Mr. Kenny) seemed to think that if the words "public Company" were not inserted it would be open to any swindlers to go over to Ireland and promote a scheme; but the hon. Member must be unaware of the financial history of the country, which showed that all the great swindles had been promoted by public Companies. He himself should have much less confidence in a public Company than in a private individual. The grand jury system was a system which Irish Members had always denounced, and he could not understand why any greater powers should be given to them than they now possessed. He hoped the Government would not, under any circumstances, yield to pressure to give them any powers beyond those contained in the Bill. All the purposes of the Bill would be equally well met if the Attorney General for Ireland did not insist on this addition, but would withdraw the Amendment.

Mr. GIBSON said, he was almost disposed to think the Bill would not pass this Session. Yesterday he thought it would pass, and he hoped it would, for it contained many good things; but this Sitting was now half over, and the Committee were discussing the 1st line of the 1st clause. It was quite clear that unless there was great forbearance on all sides there would not be a

shadow of a chance of the Bill passing this year.

Mr. TREVELYAN said, the Amendment had been carefully thought over by his right hon. and learned Friend by the light of his experience of tramways and the Tramway Acts; and he considered the Amendment desirable.

Mr. O'KELLY said, these words might include other public Bodies than public Companies, such as Town Councils.

Mr. BIGGAR said, he strongly objected to the suggestion that the grand juries should be asked to take over tramways and to work them. If the promoters found that they were unable to pay the principal and interest and the preliminary expenses of an Act of Parliament, then it might be depended upon that the grand juries would not be more successful. The proposal, in point of fact, amounted to this—that if a line was successful, then the promoters would get all the profit; but if it were not successful, then that somebody else should reap the loss.

Mr. HARRINGTON said, he thought the proposal would involve considerable difficulties, because the County Treasurer and the County Surveyor had certain powers which it would be most undesirable to give to the grand juries in reference to tramways.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

Mr. HEALY said, the next Amendment was one in his name, to leave out "grand jury" and insert "Poor Law Guardians." He had put down the Amendment as a protest against the slipshod way in which the Bill had been drawn. The Government did not care to provide any other machinery than that of the grand juries as the easiest way of getting the Bill through the House. The Government admitted that it was their intention to create Local Government Boards; but it would appear that the whole system of local self-government was to be thrown upon the grand juries, and there was no proposal in the present Bill to amend that system. No doubt the Poor Law Guardians had power over a limited area as compared with the grand juries. But what was it the Government were going to do? There might be a proposal to construct a tramway which would run through two or three counties; and in

that case there would be just the same difficulty as if they were dealing with two or three different schemes. Take, for instance, a line from Sligo to Bundoran. It would have to run through portions of the counties of Sligo and Donegal, and probably Leitrim, and it might be necessary to consult three Grand Juries. Therefore, as a protest, he would move the Amendment.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 8, leave out "Grand Juries," and insert "Poor Law Guardians."—(*Mr. Healy.*)

Question proposed, "That the words 'Grand Juries' stand part of the Clause."

MR. TREVELYAN said, that if the Amendment of the hon. Member were adopted, the machinery of the Bill would necessarily fall to the ground. The hon. Member had suggested an argument which might be carried to a very considerable extent. The Unions were not always coincident with the area of taxation in which it was necessary to raise the guarantee. Unions might extend into two and sometimes three counties; but they had nothing to do with the levy of the rates; and they would be much more non-representative in respect of this Bill than the grand juries. He had already entered at considerable length into this question in reply to the hon. Member on the Motion for going into Committee; but he understood the hon. Member simply to move the Amendment by way of protest. The framers of the Bill had sifted the question carefully, and they had come to the conclusion that where a tramway ran over more counties than one, it would be necessary for the promoters to make their terms with one grand jury after another. It was almost impossible to form any system by which different grand juries could work together; and the adoption of the Amendment of the hon. Member would necessitate an entire re-modelling of the Bill.

MR. CALLAN said, he thought the Amendment of the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) was founded on a real knowledge of the country, much superior to that of the draftsmen of the Bill. The grand juries were not the persons who had to pay the tax; whereas the Poor Law Guardians were constituted one half of magistrates and the other half of ratepayers, the latter being

occupiers who were resident, and were required to pay their proportion of the tax. The Poor Law Guardians were also elected, and, being residents, they had a much better knowledge of the requirements of a district than the Grand Juries could have. He knew there would be great difficulty in re-arranging the Bill; but the same difficulty would occur in the case of grand juries where it was necessary to construct a line in two counties. The instance mentioned by the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) of the construction of a tramway between Sligo and Bundoran was a case in point. There were only two Unions to deal with, and there would be much less difficulty in dealing with them, than if there were a divided jurisdiction between two or three counties. At the same time, he hoped the hon. Member would not press the Amendment, as it would necessitate an alteration in the Bill and its entire re-casting. If it were not for that reason, he would certainly recommend his hon. Friend to go to a Division.

MR. P. MARTIN said, the effect of adopting the Amendment would be, in the case of tramways for a short distance—say four or five miles—to prohibit them altogether, if there were several jurisdictions to deal with.

MR. HEALY said, he would allow the Amendment to be negatived.

Question put, and agreed to.

MR. BIGGAR moved, in line 9, after "proposed," to insert "one condition being that the trains shall run at least twice each day on every day except Sunday and Christmas Day." He knew that in many parts of Ireland it was not considered necessary to run trains on Sunday, and he had no wish to bind Tramway Companies to do so. The sole object of the Amendment was to secure that the working of the tramways should be *bona fide*. If the Government were going to pay 2½ per cent, it might be said that running a tram once a-week was actually working the line. He thought a Company should be bound to run a tram twice every day at least, once in the morning and once in the evening each way. If that were not done, he thought the intention of the Bill would not be carried out. On the other hand, if a train were only run once a-day in each direction, it would scarcely provide sufficient accommodation for the public,

and would not be in compliance with the understanding under which these powers would be conferred.

Amendment proposed,

In page 1, line 9, after "propose," insert "(one condition being that the trains shall run at least twice each day on every day except Sunday and Christmas Day)."—(*Mr. Biggar.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, the hon. Member for Cavan (*Mr. Biggar*) had asserted that he was anxious to protect the ratepayers by the present Amendment. What he was really doing was this—imposing on the locality the charge of running two trains a-day, even although one train was amply sufficient for the accommodation of the district. Surely that was not what the hon. Member meant.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

MR. O'CONNOR POWER moved, in line 9, after the word "baronies," insert "except the baronies specified in the Schedule to this Act." His object was to except certain specified baronies in the West of Ireland from the provision with regard to guaranteeing baronies. The Committee were not called upon now to determine the extent of the district to be excepted; but, if the Amendment were agreed to, it would be necessary to propose a Schedule in which they would be sketched out. That, however, would be a matter for subsequent consideration. He reminded the Committee that in an Act passed some time ago the Unions of Swinford, Clifden, Newport, and Oughterard were included and specified in a Schedule. He considered the Amendment to be one of great importance, and for reasons that might be briefly stated. He did not propose to dwell upon the attention of the Committee for a moment beyond what was absolutely necessary. He only wished to say that it was the poorer districts which stood more in need of communication; and there could be no doubt that, so far as public objects were concerned, they would be best served by bringing aid to those districts in the matter of communication as cheaply and rapidly as possible. He ventured to propose the Amendment, in the belief that, in the long run, the Treasury would not be losers. In some of these poorer districts

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it would be found that the baronies could not conveniently make the sacrifices demanded of them; whereas there was a likelihood that if tramways were made, although they might not be immediately remunerative, in the course of 10 or 15 years the circumstances would be very different, and the utmost advantage would be derived from the tramways constructed. The adoption of this proposal would make a very great difference to the poorer baronies, by enabling them to avail themselves of the provisions of the Bill.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 9, after "baronies," insert "except the baronies specified in the Schedule to this Act."—(*Mr. O'Connor Power.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. TREVELYAN said, the Government were extremely anxious not to approach the consideration of the Bill in a spirit which could in any sense be called ungracious or arbitrary. At the same time, they did approach this Amendment, which was moved by an hon. Member whose suggestions in all matters relating to the prosperity of Ireland were entitled to respect, because they were always made in a manner most agreeable to the House in which he always brought them forward, with a distinct negative. It would really be a waste of the time of the Committee, if he did not at once state what those proposals were, which under no circumstances the Government could accept. The present proposal of the hon. Member was one for which he allowed there was a great deal to be said; but, on the other hand, it was one which had been considered over and over again by those Members of the Government who had been specially engaged in framing the Bill, because it lay at the very root of the arguments upon which the Bill was founded. The Government had come to the conclusion that it could not ask the taxpayer to extend his obligations further than were contained in the four corners of the Bill. He considered it absolutely essential that for every penny advanced by the general taxpayer on this guarantee the locality should produce, at least, another. To accept the Amendment of the hon. Member would really be to open the door to a proposal altogether inconsistent with this prin-

ciple. The hon. Member, later on—he (Mr. Trevelyan) thought he was in Order in referring to the subject—proposed that the Government, in a scheduled district, should guarantee the whole of the money. The proposal of the hon. Member really amounted to this—that the Government should institute a better and more valuable stock than any stock that already existed in the world. The hon. Member said the Schedule would only apply to certain districts. He (Mr. Trevelyan) could only say that if the Government seriously entertained and discussed the proposal now before the Committee, the Schedule the hon. Member proposed to insert would be very much widened; and there would be no Representative of any county in Ireland who would not consider it a matter of honour and duty towards his constituents to insist that his county should be put into that Schedule. What the hon. Member proposed to do was what many counties in England and Scotland would be very glad to do. He (Mr. Trevelyan) himself lived in a county where for 60 miles there was no railway or tramway at all. The district was an agricultural one, in many respects resembling Ireland, and the locality itself was too poor to supply the deficiency. If they could only have a proposal of this kind in a Bill of this nature they would jump at it with alacrity. He could assure the hon. Member that Her Majesty's Government dare not from that Bench ask the general taxpayer to make any further concession in this direction.

MR. O'CONNOR POWER was sorry to say that he had not been convinced by the speech of the right hon. Gentleman. There might be good reasons for not assenting to the Amendment; but he was bound to say that the right hon. Gentleman had not stated them in his speech. The Government proposed to give to the poor people of Ireland certain aid, in order to insure their future prosperity; and he believed they could only reach the extremely poor districts by the adoption of some such proposal as this.

MR. TREVELYAN said, his general argument was that tramways should not be made that could not reasonably be expected to pay, and that wherever tramways could reasonably be expected to pay the locality should be required to put the provisions of the Bill in force.

Although it was not necessary to name him, an hon. Gentleman, to whose opinion he attached much weight, and who possessed a considerable amount of knowledge in regard to tramways, having had to do with the working of them, as well as their construction, was of opinion that the Bill would be of considerable advantage, even in the district which the hon. Member took so deep an interest in.

MR. O'CONNOR POWER said, they were not now called upon to decide whether the Treasury should guarantee the whole 4 per cent. That was not the question before the Committee. The Chief Secretary had somewhat confused the issue in his speech. Later on they would have to determine whether the Treasury should guarantee 3 or 4 per cent, and call upon these poor baronies for 1 per cent. If the Committee agreed to his Amendment, what they would do would be to leave the Committee free to accept the Amendment of which Notice had been given by the hon. Member for Peterborough (Mr. S. Buxton) in reference to the guarantee. It would be utterly impossible to relieve poor districts, unless this Amendment were adopted.

Question put, and *negatived*.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 10, after "dividends," insert "not exceeding four per cent."—(Mr. Lalor.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. TREVELYAN said, he could not accept the Amendment, because it might have the effect of rendering the Act inoperative in the poorer baronies. The grand juries must make the bargain, and get the money in the open market.

MR. HEALY said, he had not seen the Amendment of the hon. Member on the Paper; but he understood that it was of a similar character to one of which he (Mr. Healy) had given Notice in regard to line 21—namely, that the guarantee of the grand jury should not be more than 2 per cent. He should like to know from the Government the grounds upon which they opposed that proposal. He did not know what more the promoters could want than a guarantee of 2 per cent from the State and 2 per cent from the barony; and he thought it was a monstrous thing to leave the

grand juries to impose such a rate of interest as they pleased. The Committee must remember that in this case the tax was not to be divided, as in the case of the poor rate, between the owner and the occupier. It was the unfortunate tenant who would have to pay the whole of the tax, and the landlord none. The proposal contained in the Bill was a most objectionable one, because the landlords who would not pay the tax were, nevertheless, required to fix a rate of interest, and they were to be in a position to guarantee that interest to an unlimited extent, although not one single penny of it, when imposed, would they have to pay. He could not see how the Government could resist this proposal—indeed, he thought that the Amendment of the hon. Member for Queen's County (Mr. Lalor) gave the grand juries far too much power. He (Mr. Healy) thought 4 per cent was too extravagant, and his Amendment fixed 2 per cent, which he regarded as a more reasonable figure. Why was the right hon. Gentleman so anxious about the State, and so careless about the cesspayer? The right hon. Gentleman seemed to be dreadfully anxious that the British ratepayer should not contribute more than 2 per cent; but he was very careless about the Irish taxpayer, who was to pay an unlimited amount. He (Mr. Healy) should certainly support the hon. Member for Queen's County, if he made the Amendment 2 per cent and went to a Division.

MR. BIGGAR said, he hoped the Government would give way. It was highly objectionable to give unlimited taxing powers to the grand juries. It was still more objectionable to give these unlimited powers of taxation to the grand juries when it was known that they would have to contribute only a small portion of the money themselves. It might be said that there was a provision in the Bill which allowed only six county cesspayers in any barony to present a petition of appeal to the Lord Lieutenant in Council against the presentation of a grand jury; but it would be impossible for any six cesspayers to get up an organized opposition to the will of the grand jury. It was absurd to suppose that they would incur the expense of an appeal of this kind. When the Chief Secretary introduced the Bill a few

nights ago he understood him to say that the amount of the guarantee from the State would be 2 per cent, and that there would also be a guarantee from the ratepayers of the district of another 2 per cent. To show that that was what the right hon. Gentleman intended, the right hon. Gentleman went on to add that the stock would be saleable in the market at a price which would leave a large profit above par. He understood the right hon. Gentleman to say that it would sell for 112 or 116, so that the promoters of any scheme would be well paid if they got a good guarantee from the county of 2 per cent, and also a guarantee of 2 per cent from the State. Two per cent from the State would sell in the market for 60, or a little more, and 2 per cent from the county would sell for 50.

MR. DALY said, that, if he understood the guarantee of 4 per cent provided by the Amendment of the hon. Member for Queen's County (Mr. Lalor), it meant that 4 per cent should be guaranteed by the grand juries. But there were hundreds and thousands of debentures which were sought for with avidity which did not pay 4 per cent; and he thought the hon. Member for Queen's County was perfectly right in proposing to limit the discretion of the grand juries. Certainly, 4 per cent would afford a sufficiently wide margin. The State then came in and reduced the guarantee by 2 per cent, leaving the tax on the ratepayers only 2 per cent.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, that, in the richer baronies, where the credit was good, no doubt 4 per cent would be a sufficient guarantee; but in the poorer baronies he very much doubted whether it would be sufficient. If the Amendment were adopted he was very much afraid it would have the effect of throwing the whole expenditure upon the richer counties, and of excluding the poorer districts.

MR. DALY said, that, if tramways could not be constructed in the poorer districts, because it was impossible to give a guarantee of 4 per cent, then, *a fortiori*, they ought not to be asked to construct them at all.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, that it was the practice for local authorities in England to borrow money on the credit of the rates; and rich Corporations, like those of London and Liverpool, could

Mr. Healy

borrow money readily at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent; whereas many small Corporations could not borrow at all, or, at all events, not at a less rate than 5 per cent. He did not see how it was to be supposed that baronies in Ireland in the poor districts would be able to borrow money at a lower rate than important boroughs in England, who found 5 per cent the lowest rate at which they could borrow.

MR. MACFARLANE said, he thought the Amendment was based upon a perfectly sound principle. These tramways were practically guaranteed railways, and the point in dispute had reference only to one-half of the guarantee. The lenders of money would not dispute the 2 per cent guaranteed by the State. It was only the other 2 per cent that there would be any question about, and if the Government thought 2 per cent too little, then he would suggest that it should be $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. At any rate, the Government ought to fix the maximum rate of interest to be granted, and not leave the grand juries in Ireland unlimited power in the matter.

MR. TREVELYAN said, he could confirm the statement which had been made by his right hon. Friend the President of the Board of Trade. He had a paper in his hand which gave a list of the loans borrowed under a guaranteed rate of interest, and he found that the average rate at which Irish Corporations could borrow money was 5 per cent. Therefore, in the interest of the practical working of the Bill, he was afraid it was impossible for the Government to accept the Amendment proposed by the hon. Member.

SIR JOSEPH McKENNA said, he thought 4 per cent would be quite sufficient to fetch the money. He was afraid this would be an Act to facilitate the getting of a high rate of interest from people who were least able to pay. If the grand jury had the power to make the interest 5 per cent, the contractors would act accordingly, and demand that rate without lowering the contract price. Four per cent was sufficient to get the money in every enterprise that was at all feasible.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Question, "That the words 'not exceeding five per cent' be there inserted," put, and *agreed to*.

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MR. BIGGAR proposed, in line 12, after "Act," to insert "and bona fide expended on permanent way and rolling stock." His object in this Amendment was to impose some check upon the contractors. The nominal capital might be £1,000, for instance, and yet the total value of the property, if the Act were passed in its present shape, need not be more than half that amount. His desire was that the grand jury or the Board of Works should see whether the money for which they made themselves liable was properly laid out. The words "paid up capital" were too vague.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 12, after "Act," insert "and bona fide expended on permanent way and rolling stock."—(*Mr. Biggar.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) said, it must be obvious to the Committee that this Amendment could not be accepted because, under it, it would be impossible for a Company to have one farthing of capital except such as was actually expended in the rolling stock and the permanent way. He reminded the hon. Gentleman that the subject-matter of the Amendment would arise on Subsection 4. The matter could then be discussed, and, therefore, he asked the hon. Member to withdraw his present Amendment.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

MR. HEALY proposed to leave out from "Act," in line 12, to "baronies," in line 16. If the contractor did his work badly and the tramway could not be used, the consequences would fall upon the unfortunate barony or baronies. The contractor might do his work in a ship-shod manner, and yet the barony and not himself would be the sufferer. There was a Railway Company in Ireland which had become bankrupt. They borrowed money from the Board of Works, and the line was now in the hands of the Board of Works, but they were not obliged to work it. An attempt was now being made to make an unfortunate barony do what the Board of Works did not do. "What was sauce for the goose was sauce for the gander." Either they should not compel a barony to work a dilapidated tramway, or they

should compel the Board of Works to work the Portumna Railway.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 12, leave out from "Act," to "baronies," in line 16.—(*Mr. Healy.*)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause."

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN said, they had provided against a swindling contractor laying down a line that would not work, by securing a local supervision. Baronies and the grand juries would have to see that the line was properly made, and that they got value for their money. If a line that was properly laid did not pay, all they had done was to take power for the grand jury to make arrangements for the working of the line.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Mr. BIGGAR proposed, in line 18, after "presentment," to insert—

"Setting forth the amount of present traffic over proposed line, nature of the district, and any further information they can, calculated to inform the Lord Lieutenant that the undertaking is a sound one."

The intention of the Amendment was that the Lord Lieutenant should not give his sanction to a scheme that it was perfectly evident could not pay. He (Mr. Biggar) was anxious that these tramways, when made, should succeed, and he thought the proposition he now made was perfectly reasonable.

Amendment proposed,

In page 1, line 18, after "presentment," insert "setting forth the amount of present traffic over proposed line, nature of the district, and any further information they can, calculated to inform the Lord Lieutenant that the undertaking is a sound one."—(*Mr. Biggar.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Mr. TREVELYAN said, the hon. Member (Mr. Biggar) might be assured that the Lord Lieutenant and the Board of Works would take good care to acquaint themselves with the character of the traffic and the prospects of the district. These words would be mere surplusage, and, therefore, he hoped that the hon. Gentleman would not press the Amendment.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Mr. BIGGAR proposed, in line 19, to leave out "baronies," and insert—

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"District, so that no ratepayer shall be chargeable whose holding is more than three miles distant from any part of the Tramway."

There were some parts of baronies in which, for a variety of reasons, tramways could not be laid down. A large river or mountain might prevent the existence of a tramway in a particular part, and it was quite easy to understand, therefore, that there were some persons who would not reap the slightest advantage from a tramway. His wish was that only those people who received any benefit from the tramway should be called upon to pay for its construction. In the county of Waterford the grand jury paid as much as £14,000 a-year to a line which barely paid the working expenses, and he knew there were many farmers in the county who did not get the slightest advantage from the railway. The nearest station was more than five miles from the town of Waterford. The farmers used their carts, and the result was the railway was of no service to them, although they paid very dearly for it. It was but reasonable that the persons living a given distance from the tramway should not pay anything towards its construction and maintainance.

Amendment proposed,

In page 1, line 19, leave out "baronies," and insert "district, so that no ratepayer shall be chargeable whose holding is more than three miles distant from any part of the tramway."—(*Mr. Biggar.*)

Question proposed, "That the word 'baronies' stand part of the Clause."

Mr. TOTTENHAM said, it was desirable there should be some modification of the words of the clause. As the clause now stood, it would be only competent for the grand jury to place taxation in respect of the tramway upon the whole barony. On account of the lay of the country, and the shape of a district, it would be, in many cases, impossible for some persons—those, for instance, who lived at the far end of a barony—to receive any benefit at all from a tramway; therefore, it should be competent for the grand jury to exercise their discretion as to what part of the barony they should place the assessment upon. He would, however, suggest the insertion of the words "such baronies or parts of baronies," in lieu of the words proposed by the hon. Member for Cavan (Mr. Biggar).

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, the hon. Member for Cavan had pointed out a possible grievance. There might be persons who could not possibly be benefited by a tramway. He (Mr. Chamberlain), however, preferred the words suggested by the hon. Member for Leitrim (Mr. Tottenham) to those proposed by the hon. Member for Cavan (Mr. Biggar).

MR. BIGGAR asked leave to withdraw his Amendment.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 19, after "baronies," to insert "or parts of baronies."—(Mr. Tottenham.)

Question, "That those words be there inserted," put, and *agreed to*.

MR. LALOR proposed to insert, after "rate," in line 21, "not exceeding five per cent per annum."

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 21, after "rate," insert "not exceeding five per cent per annum."—(Mr. Lalor.)

Question, "That those words be there inserted," put, and *agreed to*.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 21, to omit "as the grand jury may determine."—(Mr. Lalor.)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause."

MR. HEALY said, he was afraid that if this Amendment were adopted the grand jury would have no option but to pay 5 per cent.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

MR. TOTTENHAM proposed to insert, as a consequence of the Amendment accepted a moment ago, after "baronies," in line 24, "or parts of baronies."

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 24, to insert, after "baronies," "or parts of baronies."—(Mr. Tottenham.)

Question, "That those words be there inserted," put, and *agreed to*.

MR. BIGGAR, in order to obtain an expression of opinion from the Government, moved, formally, in page 1, line 23, to leave out from "and" to "completing," in line 26. He feared that the grand jury would not only be liable for the guarantee of 5 per cent, but for a much larger sum. In his opinion, 5 per

cent should be the highest possible limit that the grand jury should have to pay.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 23, to leave out from "and" to "completing," in line 26.—(Mr. Biggar.)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, the words proposed to be left out were consequential upon the retention of the words at the end of the 1st sub-section of the clause. The hon. Gentleman must remember that it was only a permissive power that the grand jury had.

MR. HEALY said, there was a slight danger, now that the Amendment of the hon. Member for Leitrim (Mr. Tottenham) had been adopted, that the grand jury would proceed in the same way that the Lord Lieutenant had proceeded under the Crimes Act. Something ought to be done to prevent any invidious exemptions being made.

MR. TOTTENHAM said, he did not think that any one individual could carry 22 other people with him in favour of the exemption of his property from the assessment.

MR. BIGGAR said, he was not satisfied with the explanation of the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Board of Trade (Mr. Chamberlain). He knew it was only optional; but the grand jury could give this 5 per cent, and then as much more as they chose to spend.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, that all the grand jury was limited to was the amount of the dividend. As he pointed out before, if a tramway did not pay working expenses, the grand jury, having guaranteed the 5 per cent, must have the option to spend whatever additional sum might be required in order to get a workable property.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

MR. TREVELYAN said, he had now to propose an Amendment as a consequence of certain suggestions put into his hands by the hon. Member for Clare (Mr. O'Shea). The hon. Gentleman had pointed out to him that Sub-section 3 was too unelastic and narrow, and provided only one method of local control, which in the case especially of a Company which was engaged in working one or more tramways would so overweight

the Board of Directors as to very seriously impede the working of the concern. The new sub-section he (Mr. Trevelyan) now proposed provided for such larger or smaller amount of local control over the line as might be necessary in each particular case, in view of the enactment that the baronies should in all cases be represented by a representative sitting on the Board of Directors. The Government did not absolutely hold to the Amendment, but they thought that probably it would, on the whole, meet the views of hon. Members. He certainly thought the former enactment was far too narrow, and might have very seriously, under certain circumstances, interfered with the proper working of the tramways. He begged to move, in page 2, to leave out sub-section (3), and insert,—

“(3.) The presentment shall provide that the barony or baronies which it is proposed to charge with any part of such guarantee shall be represented in the direction and supervision of the affairs or finance of the Company, so far as relates to the said Tramway, or the part or parts thereof, in respect of which such barony or baronies are proposed to be charged. This may be done—(a) By enabling the presentment sessions for such barony from time to time to elect a director or a local consulting director or directors of the Company as the grand jury think necessary; (b) By enabling such presentment sessions from time to time to appoint an auditor, with power to inspect the books and accounts of the said Company at stated and reasonable times; (c) By enabling such presentment sessions from time to time to appoint a delegate or delegates to attend and vote at the general meetings of the Company under such conditions as may be prescribed; (d) By any combination of the foregoing arrangements deemed proper.”

Question proposed, “That those words be there inserted.”

Mr. O'SHEA said, his idea was that the success of the Bill depended very much upon some public-spirited gentlemen forming themselves into Companies totally apart from the promotion money. He approved of the sub-section proposed by the right hon. Gentleman, though he should have to propose some verbal Amendments to which he understood the Government did not object.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

Amendment proposed to the proposed Amendment, line 1, after the word “baronies,” to insert the words “or parts of baronies.”

Question, “That those words be there inserted,” put, and *agreed to*.

Mr. Trevelyan

Amendment proposed to the proposed Amendment, sub-section (a), line 2, after the word “director,” insert “or directors.”—(*Mr. Marum.*)

Question proposed, “That those words be there inserted.”

Mr. TOTTENHAM said, he agreed that there might be so many ratepayers represented that the Directors of the Company would be altogether swamped. He thought that there should be some limit, and would suggest that the number of Directors elected by the Presentment Sessions should in no case exceed three, which would prevent the Company's Directors being over-weighted.

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN said, the Government were willing to accept this Amendment. He should not think it likely that the baronies would overburden the Board by sending an unnecessary number of Directors. Again, the shareholders were to be guaranteed their interest by the ratepayers, and could have no reason for objecting to the baronies being represented in the manner proposed.

Mr. TOTTENHAM contended that some limitation was necessary. The Directors representing the baronies would probably have little acquaintance with the proper management of the affairs of a Tramway Company, and it might very easily happen that the number of inexperienced persons on the Board of Direction would be greater than those who were competent to manage the Company's affairs. He believed that people about to find the money in the first instance for capital would wish to see how the Board of Direction was to be constituted, and when they found that their Directors were going to be in a minority they would think twice before they paid their money into the concern. In this way the operation of the Bill would be impeded, and therefore he suggested the limitation of the number of representatives from the baronies.

Mr. MITCHELL HENRY said, they wanted the work in connection with Irish Tramways to go forward, and they believed it would prove successful. He knew from experience that it was undesirable there should be a large number of Directors on the Boards of these Companies, and he regarded three representatives from each barony as too

many—one consulting Director would, in his opinion, be sufficient.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, the argument of the hon. Gentleman was based on the assumption that the number was compulsory; but that was not the case. It could not be supposed that the baronies would want to overweight the Board; they could only wish to see so many Directors upon it as would be necessary to work the Company properly.

MR. TOTTENHAM said, he remained of the same opinion as that which he had already expressed—namely, that those persons who found the money would like to understand by whom it would be managed after it had been subscribed. He was confident that if the clause remained in its present form—if the number of baronial representatives was unlimited—it would militate against the operation of the measure.

MR. DALY agreed that it was undesirable to have a preponderance of persons on the Direction of the Companies who were practically unacquainted with the working of tramways.

MR. MACFARLANE said, as the Bill was a good one, he thought it better to allow it to pass as it stood, than to prevent its becoming law by attempting to amend it at that period of the Session.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

MR. O'SHEA said, he proposed to move to leave out the word "Company" from Sub-section (b) in order to insert the word "Tramway." The object of this Amendment was that the auditors should only have access to the accounts in which the baronies were interested. He hoped the right hon. Gentleman would assent to the alteration.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he was prepared to accept the principle of the Amendment suggested by the hon. Gentleman the Member for Clare, but preferred to retain the word "Company." The Government would agree to the insertion of the words "relating to the said tramway at stated and reasonable times."

Amendment proposed to the proposed Amendment, after the word "Company," in Sub-section (b), to add the words "relating to the said tramway at stated and reasonable times."—(*Mr. O'Shea.*)

Question, "That those words be there inserted," put, and *agreed to*.

MR. TOTTENHAM said, that unless some restricting words were added to Sub-section (c) the delegates appointed by the Presentment Sessions would be constantly bringing forward questions with which they had no concern whatever. If the right hon. Gentleman was disposed to add a few words after the word "vote," the action of the delegates could be easily confined to the particular business they were concerned in.

Amendment proposed to the proposed Amendment, sub-section (c), after the word "Company," insert "on business relating to the said tramway."—(*Mr. Tottenham.*)

Question, "That those words be there inserted," put, and *agreed to*.

MR. MARUM said, it was his contention that the salaries of the Directors and officers of the Company ought to be under control, and therefore he proposed that power should be taken to lay down a scale of payment subject to revision when necessary.

Amendment proposed to the proposed Amendment, in line 4, after the word "prescribed," insert sub-section (c.)—

"The presentment may lay down a scale of payment for the directors and officials of the Company, and may provide for the revision of such scale."—(*Mr. Marum.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be their inserted."

MR. TREVELYAN said, the original objection entertained by the Government to the Amendment of the hon. Member was that it assumed that in all cases the Directors would be paid, whereas they had supposed that the work would be done for nothing. If, however, the hon. Gentleman was willing to accept the view that there should be payment, he would then gladly adopt the suggested Amendment.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, that as the Amendment of the hon. Gentleman constituted a new declaration, distinct from the object of the sub-section which he proposed to amend, it would be better if the Amendment were withdrawn, so that it might be added in the shape of a new sub-section after Sub-section (d). The Government had no objection to the wording of the Amendment, which was quite correct.

MR. MARUM said, after the statement of the right hon. Gentleman he would ask leave to withdraw the Amendment.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Original Amendment, as amended, *agreed to*.

On the Motion of Mr. TREVELYAN, Amendment made, in page 2, at the end, by adding the following subsection:—

“(b) Nothing contained in this Act shall operate to prevent a Company from promoting, constructing, and working two or more different Tramway undertakings: Provided always that such Company shall keep separate capital and revenue accounts for each Tramway.”

COLONEL NOLAN said, he thought the grand jury should not alone have the power to decide as to whether a tramway should be made or not. The Amendment which he was about to move to Clause 2, and for which the Amendment to Clause 1 was intended to prepare the way, provided that an appeal should lie from the grand jury to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

Amendment proposed,

In page 2, at end of Clause, add—“If the Grand Jury shall decide against the proposed Tramway, they shall make a report to the Lord Lieutenant in Council stating their reasons for refusing the proposal.”—(*Colonel Nolan*.)

Question proposed, “That those words be there inserted.”

MR. TREVELYAN said, it was quite impossible for the Government to accept this Amendment, because its effect would be to authorize taxation of the ratepayers without the sanction of the properly constituted body in whom the power to tax them was vested.

MR. HARRINGTON suggested that the words “with the sanction of” might be inserted.

COLONEL NOLAN said, he must complain that there was no time to discuss the Bill, and he had no alternative but to withdraw the Amendment. The argument of the Chief Secretary, however, had no weight with him.

MR. BARRY said, he thought the Committee were anxious that the Bill should pass that day. At the same time, he would urge on the right hon. Gentleman the desirability of giving some indication that he would consider this question further on a future stage of

the Bill. Seeing how the Amendment was safeguarded by other Amendments, he thought the Government might accept it. It was quite possible that, without some such Amendment, the feeling of the people might be in favour of the construction of a tramway, and yet that the grand juries would object.

MR. T. P. O’CONNOR said, this was the one point of the Bill upon which he considered that he should be justified in occupying the attention of the Committee. One district which had been brought forward and urged upon Her Majesty’s Government as illustrating the necessity of some such measure as this was the district of Loughrea. Now, what was the history of the district of Loughrea in regard to the communication which a measure of this kind would facilitate? There was a small piece of railway required in order to connect that town and the district with the general railway system of the country, and the length was, he believed, only a few miles. The Bishop of the diocese in which Loughrea was the central point had urged in every way he possibly could upon the Government the necessity of supplying this connecting link, and he believed that both the late Chief Secretary and the present Lord Lieutenant were anxious to facilitate the efforts of the Bishop to secure the benefits which the completion of the communication would supply. What, then, had been the sole obstacle to the construction of the line? Simply a resident landlord and the grand jury of the district; and what had taken place there had also taken place in other parts of the country. The right hon. Gentleman ought to give the ratepayers an opportunity of appealing against decisions which might so seriously affect them.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he thought that both the landlords and the ratepayers had the same object in view. If the majority of the ratepayers were anxious to have tramways, and to bear their portion of the expense, they might depend upon it that they would have them; and, on the other hand, if they were not considered of advantage, no provision would be made for them. He admitted that the representative authority in the Bill for the representation of the locality was not entirely satisfactory. But let the Committee consider what the alternative was which it was proposed

to substitute. The alternative was 100 cesspayers rated to the extent of £5 per annum, or any Town Commissioners or Corporation upon the line of the proposed railway, so that those who might only have a small interest in the line would, if that proposal were adopted, on obtaining the consent of the Lord Lieutenant, have a taxing power over the whole of the barony. That, he thought, was a monstrous proposition. The Government desired to secure for Ireland a more satisfactory system of local government, and he hoped that Parliament would not separate without taking some step in that direction. At the same time, they could only, at the present moment, deal with what they had actually before them.

MR. MACFARLANE asked the Government whether, if they could not accept the series of Amendments proposed by his hon. and learned Friend (Colonel Nolan), they would not accept the first of them which called on the grand jury to make a report to the Lord Lieutenant in Council stating their reasons for refusing the proposal? Of course, if their reasons were satisfactory, no effect ought to be given to them. He trusted that any idea of referring the question to the Report stage of the Bill would not be entertained.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) said, he was anxious to get on with the Bill, seeing the limited time at their disposal.

COLONEL NOLAN said, he quite agreed with the Attorney General; and, although he believed that nearly the whole of the Irish Members would vote with him (Colonel Nolan), he thought the best course would be to withdraw the Amendment. He was not at all prepared to admit the argument of the President of the Board of Trade, because the cesspayers would not be able to tax the ratepayers at all, but they would only have a right to be heard, and it would be the Lord Lieutenant who would tax them.

DR. LYONS said, that unless something was done to make provision for the special meeting of the grand juries, it might be desirable to have some arrangement by which they could meet within a reasonable time after the passing of the Act. Otherwise there would be a long delay, and it might not be possible to arrange at the Winter Assess-

ment Assizes for all the presentments, the consequence of which would be to throw them all over until March. Without pretending to foresee all the difficulties in the way, he thought the principle was right that some arrangement should be made, even if it involved a slight additional expense in sending one or two of the Judges to meet the grand juries, and hold a proper Presentment Sessions. If that were done, some of the tramway lines now projected might be carried out in the course of two or three months; and, during the winter, arrangements might be entered into for commencing the works. It was quite possible, by a plan of that kind, for some tramways to be brought into operation early, which he thought would give great satisfaction to the community. He would, therefore, ask the Attorney General if he saw any difficulty in the way of accepting that arrangement; and, if not, whether he would take the matter into his consideration? In his (Dr. Lyon's) opinion, it would save much unnecessary expense if the matter was disposed of at an earlier Assize.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) wished he could see his way to an arrangement of that kind; but he was afraid that it was not possible to summon the grand juries in order to hold Special Presentment Sessions for carrying out the provisions of the Act. What might happen was this, that the grand jury would be summoned in one county and not in another. It was obvious that there would be a great rush of persons who were anxious to obtain the benefit of the Act; but there might be one Sheriff who would say that he would not summon the grand jury, while another would be anxious to do so, and thus they might open the door to something almost in the nature of jobbery. He thought it would be better that the autumn and winter months should be employed by the promoters in getting up their schemes and arranging their plans. They would then obtain a fair start, and be better able to come before the Assizes.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*, and ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 2 (Petition of appeal against presentment).

MR. O'SHEA said, the number of cesspayers under the Bill who, by appealing to the Lord Lieutenant in Council against the presentment of a grand jury, could prevent a tramway from being made was six. The consequence was, that a certain number of persons paying £60 a-year in the shape of county cess might be able to prevent a tramway from being constructed; and, of course, in the case of a short line, the promoters could not possibly afford to come to Parliament for their Bill. Under those circumstances, he would move to substitute 20 cesspayers for six.

Amendment proposed, in page 2, line 22, leave out "six," and insert "twenty."
—(*Mr. O'Shea.*)

Question proposed, "That the word 'six' stand part of the Clause."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he was willing to admit that the Bill was drawn up rather wide, and he would, therefore, accept the Amendment.

MR. TOTTENHAM suggested that, instead of 20, the number should be 100.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he must decline to accept 100.

MR. TOTTENHAM said, that as 100 was objected to, would the right hon. Gentleman accept 50 instead of 20?

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he thought that 20 was a fair number.

Question, "That the word 'six' stand part of the Clause," put, and *negatived*.

Question, "That the word 'twenty' be there inserted," put, and *agreed to*.

MR. O'SHEA said, the next two Amendments he had to propose hung together, and the effect of them was to provide that the 20 cesspayers collectively should pay one-fourth, or upwards, of the county cess.

Amendment proposed, in page 2, line 23, after "one," insert "collectively."
—(*Mr. O'Shea.*)

Question proposed, "That the word 'collectively' be there inserted."

MR. PARNELL said, he thought the second Amendment which his hon. Friend Mr. O'Shea had placed upon the Paper was scarcely fair and reasonable. So far as he (Mr. Parnell) could see, it

provided that 20 cesspayers should pay one-fourth of the cess. There might be 20 cesspayers very much against the tramway, and yet not sufficiently rich, or possessed of sufficient property in the county to enable them to have their views properly represented.

MR. O'SHEA said, that if his hon. Friend considered one-fourth too much, he would suggest one-eighth.

MR. TOTTENHAM said, he thought one-fourth ought to be retained in the Amendment as it was. Surely, one-fourth was a sufficiently small minority to enjoy the power proposed to be conferred upon them.

MR. O'SHEA said, that what he was anxious to prevent was the possibility of anything in the shape of jobbery. For instance, a tramway five or six miles long might be proposed, and the promoters might feel disposed to go to the cesspayers and offer inducements to them to support the proposal.

THE CHAIRMAN: I wish to point out to the Committee that the Amendment now before the Committee is the first Amendment, which relates simply to the insertion of the word "collectively."

Question, "That the word 'collectively' be there inserted," put, and *agreed to*.

Amendment proposed, in page 2, line 23, after "pay," insert "one-eighth or upwards of the."
—(*Mr. O'Shea.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he thought the Amendment a very fair one.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

MR. O'SHEA moved to strike out the last paragraph of the clause—namely,

"Such petition of appeal shall operate in the same manner as a petition of appeal under the Tramways (Ireland) Acts to prevent the Order in Council from taking effect unless confirmed by Parliament."

Amendment proposed, in page 2, line 25, leave out all after "presentment" to end of Clause.—(*Mr. O'Shea.*)

Question, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN accepted the Amendment.

Question put, and *negatived*.

Mr. MARUM moved, at the end of the clause, to insert—

"The Lord Lieutenant in Council may, upon the application of such promoters, award costs to an amount not exceeding the sum of ten pounds against any such person or persons groundlessly or frivolously and vexatiously presenting a petition of appeal."

He thought there ought to be some provision, not only in regard to the number of cesspayers presenting a petition of appeal; but also that there should be a penalty for the frivolous and vexatious presentation of a petition. He had, therefore, put down this Amendment in order to prevent such frivolous petitions. It was quite obvious that when a tramway was promoted, it might be easy to get up a number of cesspayers to act together in opposition, and in that way to defeat the measure; and to counteract any action of that kind, where it was palpably groundlessly taken, this proposition, he believed, would have the effect of preventing groundless, frivolous, and vexatious petitions of appeal, on account of the expense which might in such cases be thrown upon the petitioners. Perhaps persons who would commit an act of the kind would not think very much of paying £10 in costs; but he would make the proposition, and leave it in the hands of the Committee.

Amendment proposed,

In page 2, line 28, at end of Clause, insert—
"The Lord Lieutenant in Council may, upon the application of such promoters, award costs to an amount not exceeding the sum of ten pounds against any such person or persons groundlessly or frivolously or vexatiously presenting a petition of appeal."—(*Mr. Marum.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN said, he thought that, after the Amendment already accepted by the Government, the proposal of the hon. Member was quite unnecessary. There must now be 20 people joining together who must pay collectively one-eighth of the entire county cess. He, therefore, could not accept the Amendment.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*, and *ordered to stand part of the Bill*.

Clause 3 (Order in Council may adopt the presentment of the grand jury).

COLONEL NOLAN said, he had placed an Amendment upon the Paper em-

powering the Lord Lieutenant in Council to inquire into the necessity for any proposed tramway, and to make an Order rendering the barony responsible for such sums as he might decide, which Order should have the same effect for all purposes as if it had been a presentment of the grand jury. He would not, however, move that Amendment at present.

Clause *agreed to*; and *ordered to stand part of the Bill*.

Clause 4 (Baronies to contribute pursuant to their guarantee).

MR. O'SHEA moved an Amendment to provide that during the continuance of the guarantee the net receipts from the tramway should be applied to the payment of a dividend, after deducting from the gross receipts the expenses of the tramway, as well as the management and working of the tramway.

Amendment proposed, in page 2, line 40, after "working," insert "and proper maintainance."—(*Mr. O'Shea.*)

Question, "That those words be there inserted," put, and *agreed to*.

Amendment proposed, in page 2, line 24, leave out "Company," and insert "Tramway."—(*Mr. O'Shea.*)

Question proposed, "That the word 'Company' stand part of the Clause."

MR. TOTTENHAM suggested that the word "Tramway" should be inserted before "Company."

MR. O'SHEA said, that would not carry out the object he had in view, because there might be several Tramway Companies working several tramways.

MR. TOTTENHAM said, that if they struck out the word "Company," and inserted "Tramway," the clause would have no sense, because a tramway had no capital. It was the Company which had the capital.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, it would, perhaps, be better to substitute the words "so much of the share capital applicable to such Tramway."

MR. O'SHEA said, he would withdraw his Amendment in favour of that suggested by the President of the Board of Trade.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Amendment proposed, in page 2, line 42, after "Company," insert "appli-

cable to such Tramway.”—(*Mr. Chamberlain.*)

Question, “That those words be there inserted,” put, and *agreed to.*

MR. O’SHEA moved a Proviso to enact that the sums required to pay a dividend or to make up a deficiency should be charged upon the barony chargeable under the guarantee—

“Unless an appeal to the Board of Trade founded upon an affidavit sworn by the auditor or other person appointed by the grand jury, under Clause one, and specifying unjust or improper charges in the accounts relating to the Tramway.”

The object of this Amendment was to provide that it should not be necessary to bring in certain machinery provided for afterwards by the Bill, unless there was real cause for it. Under ordinary circumstances everything would go on in an easy way, and there would be no necessity for constant litigation.

Amendment proposed,

In page 3, line 3, after “shall,” insert “unless an appeal to the Board of Trade founded upon an affidavit sworn by the auditor or other person appointed by the grand jury, under Clause one, and specifying unjust or improper charges in the accounts relating to the Tramway.”—(*Mr. O’Shea.*)

Question proposed, “That those words be there inserted.”

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he would make an appeal to the hon. Gentleman. He was not anxious to have any more administration thrown upon himself in connection with the affairs of Ireland. As the Bill was drawn, all the Board of Trade had to do was to appoint an arbitrator in a case in which an arbitration was to be held; but his hon. Friend proposed to make the Board of Trade actually responsible for the works. If this were done at all, it ought to be done by the Irish Department.

MR. O’SHEA said, that if the right hon. Gentleman objected, he would not press the Amendment.

MR. TREVELYAN said, it appeared to him that the Board of Trade would not be the proper authority.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) remarked, that under the Bill the machinery was the same as that already employed where guarantees were given.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn.*

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*, and ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 5 (Repayment by Company of money contributed by the baronies) *agreed to.*

Clause 6 (Amount to be paid by baronies).

On the Motion of MR. TREVELYAN, Amendment made, in page 3, line 34, by leaving out from “time” to “appointed.”

MR. PLUNKET said, that in the absence of his right hon. and learned Colleague (MR. GIBSON), he would move the Amendment standing in his name.

Amendment proposed,

In page 4, at the end, add—“It shall not be lawful for any county surveyor, liable to be appointed an arbitrator under this provision, to promote or have any pecuniary interest in or connected with any proposed Tramway.”—(*Mr. Plunket.*)

Question proposed, “That those words be there inserted.”

Amendment proposed to the proposed Amendment, after the words “proposed Tramway,” to insert the words “in the county of which he is a surveyor.”—(*Colonel Nolan.*)

Question proposed, “That those words be there inserted.”

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he must confess that he did not like the proposal of his hon. and gallant Friend; but he preferred the Amendment as it originally stood on the Paper. No doubt, it would be a dangerous thing in dealing with a public officer to allow him to have an interest in any matter in which he might be called upon to give a decision. It might lead to what was called in another country a certain amount of “log-rolling,” and he thought that, like Cæsar’s wife, all public officers should be above suspicion.

Amendment to proposed Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn.*

Question put, and *agreed to.*

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*, and ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 7 (Sums mentioned in certificates to be presented by grand jury and paid by county treasurer).

MR. PARNELL said, he rose to move, in line 31, to leave out the words—

"In like manner as any presentment made under the authority of an Act passed in the Session of the sixth and seventh years of the reign of His late Majesty King William the Fourth, chapter one hundred and sixteen, and any Act amending the same; and if the grand jury fail to present the sum, or any part thereof, contained in any such certificate, together with the costs and expenses of levying the same,"

and to insert "equal parts off the owner and the occupier." The object of the Amendment, which had been alluded to several times in the discussion of the Bill, was to divide the guarantee into different parts between the owner and the occupier in the same manner as was done in the Relief of Distress Act, which permitted tramways to be made under somewhat similar provisions to those contained in the present Bill, except that the Government did not advance part of the guarantee. He hoped the Government would accept the Amendment. It might prevent some tramways from being made in some localities owing to the unwillingness of the landlords to take their share of the guarantee; but he did not think that, when a tramway was likely to be of any advantage to the community, this provision would be likely to prove a hindrance.

Amendment proposed, in page 4, line 31, leave out from "in" to "some" in line 35, inclusive, and insert "equal parts off the owner and the occupier."—(*Mr. Parnell.*)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause."

MR. TOTTENHAM said, he presumed the hon. Member for the City of Cork (*Mr. Parnell*) and those who acted with him desired the Bill to be effectual when it was passed; but the effect of adopting this Amendment would certainly be to prevent a great number of claims from being brought forward. Whatever might be said in favour of the proposal some years ago, the Land Act had entirely altered the conditions under which it could now be made. The owners had now no opportunity of increasing their rents or enhancing the value of their property, and, therefore, the conditions which formerly applied did not apply now.

MR. TREVELYAN said, the hon. Member for the City of Cork and himself had argued this question upon the second reading of the Bill, and the

argument which had just been used by the hon. Member for Leitrim (*Mr. Tottenham*) was also brought forward. He (*Mr. Trevelyan*) was certainly of opinion that if the Amendment was pressed, they would make so little progress with the Bill as to endanger the passing of it altogether.

COLONEL NOLAN supported the Amendment. He doubted very much whether the landlords would be opposed to the construction of the tramways. On the contrary, he believed that a good many persons on the grand juries would be equally interested in their construction with the occupiers.

Question put, and agreed to.

Clause, agreed to, and ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clause 8 (Application of Act to cities and corporate towns).

MR. BIGGAR said, he moved to leave out the last paragraph in the clause, which provided that—

"Nothing contained in this Act relative to the mode of enforcing payment of any sums due on account of a baronial guarantee, or as to the levying of moneys for making such payment, shall prejudice or affect any action or proceedings which may be taken by any person or persons to whom any money is due on account of such guarantee."

His object in moving the Amendment was to avoid litigation.

Amendment proposed, in page 5, leave out lines 30 to 35.—(*Mr. Biggar.*)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Clause."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (*Mr. Porter*) said, he could not accept the Amendment.

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. SMALL moved, at the end of the clause, to add the following Sub-section:—

"Nothing contained in the forty-second section of 'The Tramways (Ireland) Act, 1860,' shall apply to any Tramway undertaking under the provisions of this Act."

The Government had already accepted the principle, and the only question was the way in which it was to be carried into effect. He thought the way he now proposed was the most convenient and proper one.

Amendment proposed,

In page 5, at the end of Clause, to add the words—"Nothing contained in the forty-second section of 'The Tramways (Ireland) Act, 1860,' shall apply to any Tramway undertaking under the provisions of this Act."—(*Mr. Small.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, he regarded the proposal contained in the Bill as much more convenient than that suggested by the hon. Member, and he, therefore, hoped that the hon. Member would not insist upon the Amendment.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause *agreed to*, and *ordered to stand part of the Bill*.

TREASURY CONTRIBUTION TO GUARANTEE.

Clause 9 (Treasury contribution to baronial charge) *agreed to*.

ENACTMENTS AS TO ORDERS IN COUNCIL.

Clause 10 (Provision shall be made by Order in Council for the working of line).

MR. LALOR said, he had placed various Amendments upon the Paper which were preparatory to the insertion of the following Sub-section:—

"Should the Company fail to complete the undertaking within the stipulated time, having expended the estimated and guaranteed amount, and should the guaranteeing baronies be called on, in consequence, to contribute money in order to complete the Tramway, the amount so contributed by the guaranteeing baronies shall be deducted from the amount already expended by the Company, and on the balance alone shall the guaranteeing baronies be obliged to pay the guaranteed dividend; should the Company having completed the necessary arrangements in conformity with the requirements of this Act, and having commenced the execution of the works in connection with a Tramway, fail to continue or complete the execution of such works within the prescribed time, and before the estimated amount necessary for the purpose has been expended. In that case the Company shall forfeit to the guaranteeing baronies any portion of the work that may have been executed without receiving any remuneration whatever, and shall not be entitled to receive any portion of the guaranteed dividend on the amount so expended."

The sub-section was directed against bogus Companies who might try to force themselves upon the ratepayers for their own pecuniary interests without taking into account the interest of the ratepayers themselves.

Amendment proposed, in page 6, line 18, after "completed," insert "by the Co."—(*Mr. Lalor.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, he thought he fully understood the object the hon. Gentleman had in view in submitting this Amendment. The proposal was to require the baronies themselves to contribute a portion of the expense of the construction of the tramway. That would, of course, be a better guarantee for the carrying out of the work; but he thought the proposal of the hon. Member went a great deal further than that. If the hon. Member would allow the matter to stand over until the Report stage of the Bill, he (the Attorney General for Ireland) would see if he could not do something to meet the hon. Member's views.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause *agreed to*, and *ordered to stand part of the Bill*.

PART II.

EMIGRATION, AND PURCHASE OF LANDS BY PUBLIC COMPANIES.

Clause 11 (Emigration).

MR. TREVELYAN said, he had placed two Amendments upon the Paper, and he did not imagine that after the debate which took place on the second reading of the Bill either of those two Amendments would be opposed. They were as follows:—The clause proposed that—

"In the twentieth section of the Arrears of Rent (Ireland) Act, 1882, enabling grants to be made in aid of emigration, the sum of two hundred thousand pounds shall be substituted for the sum of one hundred thousand pounds."

He proposed, after the word "pounds," to insert—

"and the sum of eight pounds shall be substituted for the sum of five pounds, in any case in which the Lord Lieutenant shall so direct."

He then proposed to add this Proviso—

"Provided that, to an extent not exceeding fifty thousand pounds, the moneys to be hereafter granted by the Commissioners of Public Works under the said section may be applied for the purpose of paying for or assisting in the removal of persons or families from districts or places within the unions referred to in the said section to other places in Ireland, whether within such unions or not, and their settlement

there, or for other purposes incidental to such removal and settlement. Such grants shall only be made on the recommendation of the Lord Lieutenant, and on such terms as he may approve."

He thought they were all agreed that if a scheme of migration was adopted by the House, the Lord Lieutenant, in those cases where poor people wished to go further inland, should be able to secure that they should go there in a decent and comfortable manner. The second paragraph of the clause had been carefully considered in substance by himself, and also in its drafting by his right hon. and learned Friend the Attorney General for Ireland. Its object was to carry out the concession or agreement which the Government had arrived at in obedience to the general wish of the House as expressed in several, if not in all, quarters. He begged now to move the first Amendment.

Amendment proposed,

In page 1, line 21, after "pounds," insert "and the sum of eight pounds shall be substituted for the sum of five pounds in any case in which the Lord Lieutenant shall so direct."
—(Mr. Trevelyan.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. PARNELL said, the clause was widely drawn; and he thought, on the whole, there were advantages in providing that a clause of this kind, dealing with a subject which had not been tried under these conditions, should be widely drawn. The proposal of the right hon. Gentleman required that the experiment should be conducted under the supervision of the Irish Executive. He looked upon that proposal as a reasonable and prudent one. It was not desirable that such a provision should be used in any way for purposes of jobbery; and, especially for his hon. Friends and himself, he might say that they were desirous that every possible safeguard should be inserted in the Bill so as to prevent any abuse or any evasion of the intentions of Parliament. He had placed on the Paper some small and trifling Amendments to the Purchase Clause of the Bill, which, in his opinion, would tend to make the clause a workable one, and ensure that there should be no failure in carrying out the scheme. He did not propose to persevere with these Amendments at the pre-

sent moment; but he hoped that, at the proper time, the right hon. Gentleman might be able to accept them, so as to make the Irish Members feel confidence that they were not committing themselves to what would be a failure.

SIR WALTER B. BARTELOT said, he was glad to hear the remarks which had fallen from the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell); but he desired to draw the attention of the Committee to the fact that this was the first time the Government had made any proposal of this kind; that hitherto they had studiously avoided making such a proposal; and that they had over and over again pointed out the danger of such a course. They had introduced into the present Bill a proposal to give £100,000 expressly for emigration, which was exactly the sum which was cut out of the Bill last year; because, if he recollected rightly, the sum of £200,000 proposed in the Bill of last year was reduced to £100,000. The Government, after mature consideration, named a sum of £100,000 in the Bill, believing that it would effect the object they had in view—namely, the relief of the chronic distress which had existed from generation to generation in certain districts in Ireland. But now, all in a moment, with what view he would not pause to inquire, the right hon. Gentleman turned round upon the proposal he had made before, and, deliberately abandoning his original plan, proposed that £50,000 should be spent in migration instead of emigration. He desired to call the attention of the Committee to that fact, because, in his opinion, it was an important deviation from the ordinary scheme of Her Majesty's Government, and some explanation of the new departure was required at the hands of Her Majesty's Ministers.

MR. TREVELYAN said, that, in regard to the arrangement which the hon. and gallant Gentleman believed to underlie this concession of the Government, if it was a political arrangement it was one of the most sensible he had ever heard of. Certainly, an arrangement which met with the approval of such different sections of the House represented by the hon. Member for Carnarvonshire (Mr. Rathbone), of the hon. Member for Peterborough (Mr. S. Buxton), and the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr.

Parnell), must be satisfactory to the strongest Government that ever existed. It was quite true that on a former occasion he had argued with great earnestness against any scheme which might commit the Government to a very indefinite enterprise in the direction of migration. It was, however, a very different thing to commit the nation to the proposal of immense loans which would never be repaid, and to give, once for all, a very small definite sum out of the Irish Church Surplus in order to try an experiment with regard to which Irishmen, and a good many Englishmen interested in Ireland, would never be satisfied until it had been tried. That was the exact state of matters. He did not retract one single word which he had uttered on economical subjects during the Session; and he must remind the Committee of the terrible attacks the Government had endured upon that question. He would only say that, in the main, his opinion had not in the least degree changed.

MR. O'CONNOR POWER said, that the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary had introduced controversial matters into the observations he had just made, and he (Mr. O'Connor Power) was exceedingly sorry that time did not permit him to answer them. They were giving, under this proposal, the widest possible discretion to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. He would only express a hope that the arrangement connected with the expenditure of this sum of £50,000 which was to be devoted to the scheme of migration would be entrusted to men whose action would be likely to bring about good results. At present they were giving the widest possible discretion to the Irish Executive, who did not believe in the efficacy of the proposed plan. He hoped that they would entrust the actual work to those who did believe in it.

MR. MITCHELL HENRY said, he was of opinion that migration would not succeed unless it were accompanied by an extension of agricultural education. Under the scheme persons would be removed who at present did not know how to cultivate their holdings to other parts of Ireland. He was afraid that the success of the scheme would not be very great, and it certainly was a proposal which had never been contem-

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plated by those who took an interest in reclamation, which was the proper thing to be combined with migration and agricultural teaching. To transfer ignorant peasants from bad land to good land would do little good unless they were, at the same time, taught agriculture, and how to work their holdings.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

Amendment proposed,

In page 7, insert—"Provided, That, to an extent not exceeding fifty thousand pounds, the moneys to be hereafter granted by the Commissioners of Public Works under the said section may be applied for the purpose of paying for or assisting in the removal of persons or families from districts or places within the unions referred to in the said section to other places in Ireland, whether within such unions or not, and their settlement there, or for other purposes incidental to such removal and settlement. Such grants shall only be made on the recommendation of the Lord Lieutenant, and on such terms as he may approve."—(*Mr. Trevelyan*.)

Question "That those words be there inserted," put, and *agreed to*.

MR. ARTHUR ARNOLD moved to add a Proviso to the Amendment of the Chief Secretary, just agreed to.

Amendment proposed,

In page 7, to add at the end of Clause—"Provided, also, that the liability of the Consolidated Fund contained in the twentieth section of the Arrears of Rent (Ireland) Act in respect to grants in aid of emigration shall not apply to this Act."—(*Mr. Arthur Arnold*.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he must oppose the Amendment.

Question put, and *negatived*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*, and ordered to stand part of the Bill.

It being ten minutes before Seven of the clock, the Chairman left the Chair to report Progress; Committee to sit again *this day*.

SUPPLY.—REPORT.

Resolution [16th August] *reported*.

First Two Resolutions *agreed to*.

Third Resolution *postponed*.

Subsequent Resolutions *agreed to*.

Postponed Resolution to be considered *this day*.

QUESTIONS.

PARLIAMENT—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

SIR WALTER B. BARTELOT asked whether the Army Estimates would be taken as the first Order of the Day to-morrow?

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (Mr. CHILDERS) said, that the Estimates referred to would be taken to-morrow. At the Evening Sitting the Civil Service Estimates would be proceeded with; but the postponed Votes relating to the Offices of the Lord Lieutenant and the Chief Secretary would not be taken.

In answer to Mr. PARNELL, THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (Mr. CHILDERS) said, that the Vote for the Queen's Colleges (Ireland) would be taken early.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE said, that some time ago the Prime Minister had given a distinct pledge that a fitting opportunity would be allowed for the discussion of the Army Votes.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (Mr. CHILDERS) said, that the Army Estimates could not be taken first to-morrow, as the Civil Service Estimates must be disposed of before any other Votes were considered.

SIR WALTER B. BARTELOT observed, that six or seven weeks ago a distinct pledge was given that the Army Estimates would be brought on at an early hour.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (Mr. CHILDERS) said, that during the present week it had been clearly intimated that the Army and Navy Estimates would not be taken until after the consideration of the Civil Service Estimates.

SIR WALTER B. BARTELOT asked whether the right hon. Gentleman would put off the Army Estimates until Monday? Nothing would be gained by not treating the House fairly.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (Mr. CHILDERS) said, that the Government had two objects in view. One was that the Estimates should be fairly discussed, and the other that the Session should come to an end as soon as possible.

MR. CALLAN wished to know whether the right hon. Gentleman thought

the convenience that would accrue to Members if the Session were brought to a close without delay of greater importance than the proper discussion of financial questions?

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (Mr. CHILDERS) replied, that his opinion would depend on the circumstances of the case. If the House was to rise by a particular date, the Votes must be taken in a certain order.

The House suspended its Sitting at Seven of the clock.

The House resumed its Sitting at Nine of the clock.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

SUPPLY—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES.

SUPPLY—considered in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

CLASS IV.—EDUCATION, SCIENCE, AND ART.

(1.) £14,250, to complete the sum for Learned Societies and Scientific Investigation.

(2.) £7,749, to complete the sum for the London University.

(3.) £2,400, to complete the sum for Aberystwith College, Wales.

(4.) £4,000, to complete the sum for the Deep Sea Exploring Expedition (Report).

(5.) £570, to complete the sum for the Transit of Venus.

(6.) £255,723, to complete the sum for Public Education, Scotland.

DR. CAMERON said, he must express his regret that this Vote was brought on at so late a period of the Session. Even now, however, he could not allow it to pass without calling attention to one or two practical points of importance. The Report of the Committee of Council on Education in Scotland presented this year showed one rather discouraging fact when considered in connection with the rose-coloured descriptions of education in Scotland which were sometimes given. The Report showed that the ratio of average attendance on population of school age was about 3 per cent lower than in England. It showed a falling off of 500 in the number of

children between 13 and 14 on the registers, and a similar falling off in children above 14, and further that the education of children over 10 years of age was sadly defective. Of the children over 10 presented for examination, 30 per cent were presented for Standards suitable for children of seven, eight, and nine years of age. The Appendix for this year had not yet been published, but, according to last year's figures, the number of children on the roll in Scotland between 13 and 14 was 26,900, and between 14 and 15, 14,700, or 41,700 in all, of whom only 5,478 were presented in their proper Standards. That showed that the attendance of scholars was not defective, but that there was something very wrong in the system of education. There were upwards of 14,000 children between 14 and 15 on the registers, and it required not only these children, but 26,000 in addition between 13 and 14, to make up the 5,400 presented for Standard VI., which ought to be passed between 12 and 13. Last year the percentage of children presented for the three higher Standards who passed in the three R's was 63 per cent for the Fourth Standard, 61 for the Fifth, and 66 for the Sixth. That showed that one-third of the entire number of children presented in the three higher Standards failed in one of the elementary subjects. But that was not merely one-third of the children who were on the registers, but one-third of the children who had qualified for examination. In Scotland there were 761 schools, accommodating from 60 to 100 pupils each. These constituted one-fourth of the entire number of inspected schools. In the schools accommodating 60 only one teacher was required, and that teacher was required to teach all the Standards up to the Sixth, in addition to special subjects. That arrangement must create such a sub-division of the teacher's time as to prevent his giving a proper attention to the various pupils; and that he thought, to some extent, explained the lamentable failure of the scholars in Scotland in regard to the high Standards. In the schools accommodating an average of 60 to 100, a pupil teacher was required in addition to the head master; but the pupil teacher took the infants in the First Standard, and the head master had still to attend to so many Standards that he could not take proper advantage of the

attendance of the scholars. At the present moment, when the age of compulsion was prolonged by a year, it appeared to him a very important matter that no effort should be spared to secure that the best educational use should be made, if the opportunity afforded; and he hoped the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. Mundella) would inquire into it with a view to remedying this defect.

MR. MUNDELLA said, he shared the regret of the hon. Member at the late period of the Session when the Education Vote (Scotland) came forward; but he was thankful that he was not in a position to take such a desponding view of education in Scotland as his hon. Friend had done. The standard of education in Scotland had grown very much year by year; because, when he compared the position of Scotch education to-day with its condition when the Act of 1872 was passed, he found, not only a marvellous improvement, but a steady annual increase. The best test of what was doing in education in that country was the percentage of the children in the schools who were in the higher Standards. When the Act was passed, the number of scholars presented for examination in Standards IV. to VI. was 35,502, which represented a percentage of 27.33; but it was to be remembered that those 35,502 were a percentage of the children upon an average attendance of something under 250,000. In 1873, the number of scholars had risen to 36,900, or 27.46; in 1874, which was a year of transition, the Code being changed by Standard II. of the previous Code becoming Standard I. of the New Code, the number was 36,240; in 1876, the number of children presented in the higher Standards fell to 33,538; but, in 1876, it rose to 43,000, and went on rising to 57,327 in 1877, 71,731 in 1878, 85,890 in 1879, 102,259 in 1880, 112,462 in 1881, and 117,677 in 1881. 36.69 of all the scholars were presented in the upper Standards. It was quite true that, in proportion to the population, there was not the same number of children in attendance in Scotland that there was in England. The reason of this was that the climate of Scotland did not favour the sending of children to school at so early a period as in England. In England, children were often sent to school at from three to five years of age; but

that was almost unknown in Scotland, while in England the attendance was much more strictly enforced than it was in the Northern part of the Kingdom, and the consequence was that the ages of the scholars ranged very much higher in Scotland than in England; but the attainments were higher, the percentage of specific subjects was much higher, and the earnings were also very much higher than they were in England. He admitted that there was room for improvement in the average attendance. Greater regularity was wanted. He had had the pleasure of seeing Dr. Kerr, one of the senior Inspectors, the other day; and he had said that, so far from the children being over-pressed, they could rise a Standard a-year as half-timers, and were doing it with marvellous regularity in Scotland. Scotland had an excellent body of teachers, the Training Colleges were good, and were very much helped by the Universities. It was an excellent thing to know that a large number of the school teachers availed themselves of the advantages of University teaching, and that gave a high tone to the education in the Scotch schools. He hoped that would go on; but he also looked for a good deal more in the future, because there had not been that progress during the last few years that was desirable. What was wanted now was regularity of attendance. He was told there was an improvement; but he hoped for more from the operation of the Act passed through that House a few days ago. He believed the Scotch school boards had been very much hampered and handicapped by the defective condition of the law that it was intended to amend; that Act would give them increased power, and when it came into operation he believed there would be a very much better average attendance, and he hoped that something more would be done for those poor half-timers who, in one part of Scotland, were found to be in a most disgraceful condition—a condition that really constituted a blot on Scottish education.

DR. CAMERON said, the right hon. Gentleman had overlooked his point, which was that out of 41,700 children of an age to be presented in Standard VI. only 5,478 had been presented.

MR. MUNDELLA said, that was entirely due to the want of punctual and regular attendance in the earlier years

of school life. Besides, Standard VI. in Scotland was tolerably high, and included specific subjects—Latin, and very often Greek.

MR. J. A. CAMPBELL said, he believed the right hon. Gentleman had given the correct explanation of the point raised by the hon. Member for Glasgow, in saying that the unsatisfactory result referred to was due to the want of regular attendance on the part of the children. In his opinion, the unsatisfactory percentage of passes might, to some extent, be accounted for by the difficulty of getting children of tender years to attend school so regularly as they did in England. If there was any strain felt in the schools in Scotland it was in the very lowest Standard; and he believed that if the right hon. Gentleman would give some relaxation of the Code in that respect, he would do what educationists in Scotland would regard as a great favour. With reference to the strain upon scholars of which they had heard when the English Vote was under consideration, he thought the experience in Scotland was that, with the exception of the very lowest Standard, there need be no strain whatever, provided that the schools had a sufficient and an efficient staff of teachers, and that attention was paid to the attendance; and, above all, that a continuous and steady effort was made in the schools all through the school year, and not for the last few months of it alone. He was in a position to give the Committee an example of what might be done without the slightest strain on the scholar through attention being paid to the principles he had indicated. He referred to schools in Glasgow under the School Board. The school board of that city had paid great attention to those matters. He had the particulars relating to several schools in Glasgow; but he would only ask the attention of the Committee to the particulars of one out of five or six schools of which he had reports, and in doing so he would not conceal the fact that he took the best out of that number. In this school under the Glasgow School Board, with an average attendance of 818 pupils, the number qualified for examination in Standards was 811, and of these the number presented was 799, or 98 per cent. The percentages of passes of the number presented were—in reading 98·8, in writing 98·2, and in arith-

metic 98·7; while the grant earned by the school was for every scholar in average attendance £1 2s. 9d. That result had been attained without any strain whatever on the pupils; and the secret of success was that there was no relaxation of attention on the part of the teachers. With regard to regularity of attendance, he might mention that the School Board of Glasgow had adopted a plan which he thought was worthy of imitation. They had offered small prizes to children who were never absent a single day or a single attendance, and who passed the standards regularly; and the result was that last year, with a roll of 42,000 children in the public schools in Glasgow, there were between 15,000 and 16,000 scholars never absent one day for several months, and that from September to May, which might be considered the school session, there were 3,000 scholars who had never once been absent. This he gave as an illustration to show that by attention on the part of the school managers a great deal might be done in the way not of forcing, but of encouraging the scholars to regular attendance. They heard, when the English Vote was under consideration, of the importance of seeing that scholars were not suffering from being under-fed, as well as from being overworked. In Glasgow there was a very useful work done by day industrial schools. The poorest of the children were provided with food as well as education. That, however, was not under the School Board. He ventured to say that school boards should not mix themselves up with outside work of that kind; but they could do a great deal by way of co-operation. He thought that one of the attendant defects or disadvantages connected with the system of school boards was that a number of people who used to find a great deal of interest in school management were now, as it were, thrown out of occupation; and it was a misfortune if the interest in schools was to be confined solely to the members of school boards. Now, here, in the work of providing day industrial schools for the poorest children, such people would find a useful field of work. But this work might be done upon a much smaller and less ambitious scale. They had a very interesting statement while the English Vote was being considered as to what was done

in a country village in Devonshire in the way of providing the scholars with dinner. He would, with the permission of the Committee, state, in a few words, what was done on a humbler scale in a country school in Scotland. He did so, because what was done there might be done elsewhere. The place he had in his mind was Farnell, in Forfarshire. It was a small parish, with a population of about 600. It was a compact parish, with an area of about six square miles. The minister of the parish, who was a member of the school board, was struck, some years ago, with the suffering or hardship on the part of many scholars because of the cold in winter, and the want of a comfortable meal. He found that the attendance in inclement weather was irregular, and he suggested that a warm dinner of some kind should be got for the scholars. The result was the establishment of a school soup kitchen, not connected with the school board, but still with the co-operation, and consent, and assistance of the board. The soup kitchen had been in existence for five winters, and he might, in a few figures, give the result. The meal which was supplied to the scholars would, perhaps, appear to English Members something almost contemptible; but in Scotland their ideas on the subject were plainer and less ambitious, and they considered a bowl of soup not a bad dinner. The bowl of good soup was all that was given. The spoon belonged to the scholar, who brought it with him in his satchel. The soup was not given for nothing; but each scholar paid one halfpenny per day for it. There was this discount given—that a family of any number was supplied with soup for one penny per day, so that three or four children, if of one family, got their share for one penny. The soup was prepared in a place adjoining the school, and the preparation of the soup was under the charge of a woman receiving from the school board—and this was the only charge which fell on the school board—a wage of 1s. per day, or for the three months of the winter £3 5s. For this expenditure something was received in the way of instruction, inasmuch as the elder girls assisted the woman in cooking the soup, and received a practical lesson in domestic economy. The average attendance at this school last winter was 114, while

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the average number of portions of soup served daily was 110, showing that nearly all the scholars took the soup. The expenditure for the soup kitchen was £10 1s. 11d.; but, in addition to that expenditure, gifts of vegetables, meat, and the like, were received from parishioners, the value of which was estimated at £10. The money expended, however, was only £10 1s. 11d. The income received from the sale of soup was £9 7s. 3d., and the Curling Club of the parish handed over a prize of £1 they won, so that the income was £10 7s. 3d., a few shillings more than the money spent on the dinner. The dinner might be said to pay itself, inasmuch as it was no expense to the parish, except in so far as voluntary donations were given. What were the results? One result had been that the school had gained an additional grant to the extent of £10 from the Education Department; and beyond that, he was assured that this winter dinner had had the effect of improving the health and spirits of the scholars. There had been no epidemic in the school, while there had been epidemics in neighbouring parishes; and the average attendance had increased since this dinner had been established. There had been no other change—the population of the parish had remained the same, the teachers were identically the same—yet, since the dinner was instituted, five years ago, the average attendance had increased from 90 to 114, and the grant from £89 to £99.

MR. MUNDELLA: I think you have said the children are charged one halfpenny per day for the cost of the soup. Do they bring their own bread?

MR. J. A. CAMPBELL said, he ought to have mentioned that they got no bread. They had to bring bread if they wished it; but, he believed that many of them took no bread; they were satisfied with the soup. The plan to start the kitchen was supplied by donations from parishioners, the value of it being about £7. With regard to specific subjects and elementary science, he believed there was not much done in the way of teaching science in the schools of Scotland. He thought this branch was useful or the reverse, according to whether it was well taught or not well taught. Where badly taught it was useless, and it was a very great strain upon both teacher and scholar.

Where it was taught from text-books it was useless. It was so stated by the Commission who reported on this subject some time ago; their statement being that it appeared more reasonable that elementary science should be taught by object lessons only; and he hoped they would soon see the day when the Department would give some substantial grants to teachers who did their work efficiently in giving science lessons in that way. The specific subjects which might be regarded as of a more educational nature, and were sometimes called University subjects, had always been taught in Scotland; and although in many schools they were not taught to the same extent as they used to be, he believed there was not much falling-off in that respect. He hoped they would always remember that the teaching of the higher branches, when done well, was in no way a hindrance to the proper teaching of the more elementary branches; in fact, in the words of the Report which had been made on this subject some time ago, it was not only possible to combine thorough elementary teaching with instruction in the higher branches, but any separation of these subjects was detrimental to the school, and dispiriting to the master. There was one subject in connection with the teaching of the higher branches in regard to which, on one or two occasions, he had taken an opportunity of putting Questions to the right hon. Gentleman the Vice President of the Council (Mr. Mundella)—he meant the inspection of higher-class schools. It was felt a grievance in Scotland that the provisions of the Act of 1878 with regard to the inspection of higher-class schools had never been acted upon. He noticed the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. Mundella) looked to the Secretary to the Treasury, and he believed the Treasury were in this matter more to blame than the Education Department. He had always understood that the reason why the provisions of the Act had never been carried out was that the Treasury had regarded the provisions as only permissive; and in that way they had, in the estimation of educationists in Scotland, neglected the intention of the Legislature in passing the provisions. It would be of the greatest consequence to education in Scotland that there should be a uniform system of inspection for the

higher-class schools. The cost to the Treasury would not be more than a mere trifle—something between £400 and £500; and for the expenditure there would be gained the great advantage that all the higher-class scholars in Scotland would be under the same kind of inspection. With Government inspection there would be much greater confidence felt in the instruction given. There was another matter on which educationists in Scotland had a grievance—and he hoped there might be some removal of the grievance before long—and that was that no grant was given to any schools the fees of which averaged more than 9*d.* per week. He did not ask that that should be entirely removed; but it would be a very great advantage if the Department would allow a portion of a school to be relieved from the restriction. The working of this 9*d.* per week limit at present was rather unfortunate. There were schools in large towns where the people would willingly pay a higher fee than was asked, but where the fee was kept low in order not to lose the benefit of the inspection of the Department. The Report of the Scotch Education Department this year referred to a matter in which many were doubtless interested. It appeared there was a large number of inefficient uninspected schools to which children whose fees were paid by public bodies were sent. That was a surprise to many, and it was desirable that children whose fees were paid by a Parochial Board, or any such body, should be sent only to inspected schools. They had heard of the unsatisfactory schools in one town of Scotland for half-timers; but he believed there were schools for whole-time children which were very unsatisfactory, both as regarded accommodation and teaching. He did not know why all school boards should not exercise the power which he knew some school boards had exercised, of visiting all schools in order to see what the school provision of their district was. He was told that some boards fancied that they had not power to inspect schools; but one school board, he knew, the operations of which were very large, went on the principle that it was their duty to ascertain the nature of all the schools in the place, and where they found schools unsatisfactory in regard to accommodation or teaching that they

should take no account of these whatever, and provide for the educational wants of the districts as if these schools did not exist. He hoped that statement might help to give greater courage to school boards to ascertain the condition of schools other than their own. If there was any want of power to make the inspection which was necessary to ascertain what school accommodation existed, and what additional accommodation was wanted, he hoped the right hon. Gentleman would take means to give school boards that power.

MR. BUCHANAN said, he wished to raise a somewhat peculiar point, which had its origin in the statement which was made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. Childers) as to the possibility of the superintendence of education being taken out of the control of the Vice President of the Council (Mr. Mundella). The Chancellor of the Exchequer said it would be necessary to consider the question, and that it was left to the consideration of the Select Committee which had been appointed in consequence of the Motion of the hon. Baronet the Member for London University (Sir John Lubbock). If that subject was to come under their consideration, he (Mr. Buchanan) held that the Select Committee appointed was not such as would adequately enable a thorough investigation to be made, and a satisfactory decision to be given. The only two Scotch Members were his hon. Friend the Member for Glasgow and Aberdeen Universities (Mr. J. A. Campbell) and the right hon. Gentleman the Member for the University of Edinburgh (Sir Lyon Playfair); and, of course, no two Gentlemen were more competent to decide on Scotch educational questions, but he believed that on this particular question their views were already well known to the House; and if this was to be an impartial inquiry it would be necessary that there should be some Representative, he would not say on the other side, but who would look at the question in a different light. If the right hon. Gentleman next Session moved the re-appointment of the Committee, he should endeavour to ascertain definitely if this matter was to come under their consideration; and, if so, he should feel fully justified in moving that the constitution of the Committee might be somewhat amended.

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MR. MUNDELLA said, he regretted that there were so few Members in the House to hear the exceedingly interesting speech of the hon. Member for Glasgow and Aberdeen Universities (Mr. J. A. Campbell). One of the points to which he desired to allude was the inspection of the higher-class schools in Scotland. The clauses of the Act of 1878, in the opinion of the Treasury, left it optional for the Department to inspect the higher schools.

MR. J. A. CAMPBELL: The clause says—"It shall be lawful."

MR. MUNDELLA said, that was so; but that was considered not obligatory, but optional. But after the Education Endowments Act last year power was taken to inspect the endowed schools of Scotland; and when the machinery was brought into operation it was to be hoped that the same machinery might be applied to the higher-class schools, so that the work might be done more economically than if it were to be taken by two independent authorities. With respect to the abolition of the 9d. minimum, he confessed that he regarded with very grave suspicion any extension of the limit beyond the 9d. in the public schools, because it simply subsidized the better class of schools. The hon. Member for Glasgow and Aberdeen Universities gave a case where the grant amounted to 22s. 9d. per head per scholar. That was a very considerable grant; and if they doubled the grant, and gave it to 1s. 6d. fees, they practically largely subsidized a middle-class school. If they subsidized middle-class education they degraded the school in this way—that they created a class of public schools supported out of the rates and grants, to which schools the poorer classes could not have access because of the fees. That was a very doubtful question. He knew the Glasgow School Board were in favour of it; and, as he was going to Glasgow this year, he hoped to have an opportunity of examining the question on the spot. As to the payment of fees in private adventure schools, he held that the public money ought not to be spent in subsidizing schools which were practically inefficient. Henceforth, no fees were to be paid from Public Services except to public inspected schools. That, he thought, would bring to an end a great deal of that inefficient education

which had been too much encouraged by some school boards in Scotland giving subsidies to schools that were practically inefficient.

Vote agreed to.

(7.) £12,852, to complete the sum for Universities, &c. in Scotland.

(8.) £1,700, to complete the sum for the National Gallery, &c. in Scotland.

(9.) £10,000, Scottish Historical Portrait Gallery.

MR. CAVENDISH BENTINCK asked whether this was not a Supplementary Estimate? He thought they had a right to call for an explanation of the reason why this money was asked for.

MR. COURTNEY, in response, stated that a private donor had made an offer of £10,000 for the establishment of a Scottish Historical Portrait Gallery, on condition that a similar sum was contributed by the Government. This Gallery would be attached to the suite of rooms in the Scottish National Gallery. The sum of £20,000 would be kept as a capital sum, and the interest of it expended on the purchase of historical portraits. This was a gift once for all, and there would be no additional charge for maintenance.

Vote agreed to.

(10.) £408,339, to complete the sum for Public Education, Ireland.

MR. HEALY said, that on this Vote he wished to ask a question as to a matter affecting the Albert Agricultural Model Farm. The right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant would remember that a year or two ago the Government promised to grant an additional £100 or £200 a-year to enable experiments to be made in regard to the potato disease. He (Mr. Healy) desired to know whether the right hon. Gentleman could give any information as to whether or not the Model Farm had been used for that purpose? The hon. and gallant Gentleman the Member for County Galway (Colonel Nolan) had taken the matter up during the time the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Bradford (Mr. W. E. Forster) was in Office; and a promise was made that this amount should be given for experimenting in regard to matters connected with the potato disease. He failed to find any charge in the Votes for the fulfilment of that promise, and he did not

know what the result had been. Would the Government say whether they knew anything about it?

MR. TREVELYAN said, he knew very little about the matter; but during the past two months he had made inquiries in regard to it, and had been informed that the experiments were being very carefully carried out, and that by about October they would be sufficiently advanced to enable another annual Report to be furnished. No doubt, if he had had any knowledge that this question was going to be asked, he would have been prepared with details; but the impression on his mind was that the experiments were engaging attention, and that there was an amount of money being spent on them.

SIR HENRY HOLLAND said, he was aware that the system of public education in Ireland was different from the system in England; but still the Commissioners were bound by certain rules which ought to have the force of a Statute. It had come before the Committee on Public Accounts that the Commissioners had in their discretion distinctly infringed the rules, or that they had considered, on special occasions for special reasons, that they could set the rules aside. The Treasury, in answer to a question put to them, had strongly taken an opposite view, and had contended—as he thought, justly—that the Education Board were bound to abide by those rules. He would ask the Secretary to the Treasury whether the Commissioners were prepared to be guided by the Treasury letter, and to abide by these rules so long as they existed? If it was found that the rules were not workable, then let them be altered; but, so long as they existed, the Department ought to be bound to abide by them.

MR. COURTNEY said, the Treasury were not at all disposed to depart from the position taken before the Committee on Public Accounts. He had no doubt these rules must be considered binding. If found inconvenient, the proper course for getting them altered would, no doubt, be taken.

MR. HEALY said, he had a word to say on this Vote on a subject which was engaging considerable attention in Ireland—he referred to the manner in which the National Board of Education treated the Irish language. It was well known that there were in Ireland some

hundreds and thousands of people who could not speak a word of English. The Government and the people of England ignored the fact as much as possible; but, unfortunately, at the recent trials in Ireland, this fact was brought only too painfully before the notice of the country. Some of the people who were placed on their trial could not speak a word of English, and could only be communicated with by pantomime action until the services of a policeman-interpreter were obtained. The Board of Education gave little attention to Irish—not even to place it on the same footing as French. The people who did not know a word of English were taught to read English reading lessons with as much success as would attend an effort to teach English children Greek without a grammar or vocabulary. In the West of Ireland the unfortunate urchins at school were put through their lessons in English, and taught to read that language without knowing a single word of it, and taught to spell just as if they were parrots. The thing was so comical, so ridiculous, that it could not possibly occur in connection with any other institution than the Irish Board of Education. It had been shown, over and over again, that they could teach the people to read English far quicker and far better by means of first teaching them their own language. Teach the people to read in their own language, give them a grip of the language in which they talked, and thought, and lived, and then teach them English by aid of Irish instruction books. Some time ago it was not thought extraordinary for a boy to be taught Greek by means of a Latin instruction book; but that system had been condemned, and was now abandoned. In the West of Ireland—indeed, almost all over the country—they had schools in which the children could not speak a word of English, and yet in which they were required to read their lessons in English. They went through the pantomime of spelling in English before the English Inspector, who gave the result fee for this absurdity. Not only was this the case, but the parents of these children, knowing that the English language was the only means their sons and daughters would have of getting on in future life, especially if they went to America, would not talk to them in

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Irish. These parents might be intelligent people enough in their own language, but could not communicate their ideas fluently in English, owing to their want of knowledge of English; and the result was that the minds of the unfortunate children were stunted, knowing little of either English or Irish. The conduct of the Board of Education was extraordinary. For £1,000 or £2,000 a-year they would be able, from the numerous monitors and teachers who were sent up from the country knowing Irish fluently, to give the children who required it instruction in Irish, and cheap instruction. Books could also be printed in the Irish language, by aid of which they would be ultimately able to teach the children to read English. But what was the result of the present system? Why, that the children neither knew Irish nor English. When they came to England, if their necessities brought them to this country, they were laughed at—when they went to America also they became the laughing-stock of the people, who did not, by the way, laugh at Germans or Italians for not knowing English, because they were not expected to know it. Sir Patrick Keenan, the distinguished and able Resident Commissioner and chief official of the National Education Board, who was sent out to Malta—the Government regarding his educational services so highly—to make inquiries on the subject of education in Malta—the children there speaking either Arabic or Italian, or, at any rate, not speaking English—had made several statements with regard to this question of teaching the language of the country which were worth repeating. The question that he (Mr. Healy) was now raising had been raised with regard to Malta. The idea had been to root out the Maltese *patois*; but it had not been successful. When Sir Patrick Keenan was examined before the Royal Commission of 1868, Professor O'Sullivan asked him—

"Have you ever turned your attention to the subject of the instruction of the Irish-speaking part of the population?—Very much. I have had, on different occasions, to consider that question minutely.

"In what parts of the country is Irish still spoken to any considerable extent?—In the counties of Galway, Mayo, Kerry, Cork, and Waterford—these are the chief. In the county of Galway 62·1 per cent of the people speak Irish.

"Has the National Board ever made provision for teaching the people through the medium of the Irish?—I am very sorry to say it has not.

"What is your opinion with regard to instructing the people in Irish with a view to their learning English?—I believe it to be next to impossible to teach, skilfully and effectively, the Irish-speaking population by the ordinary process adopted in our schools, which at once gives them the English alphabet, English books, and English everything, without reference to translation into or from their vernacular language.

"In your opinion, they would, if taught Irish, learn English better?—I think those who desire that the people shall soon speak English—and every lover of his country must be desirous that they shall—should teach them, in the first instance, to read Irish, in order that they may all the more readily and naturally soon afterwards learn to read English.

"Would you propose that they should learn Irish only at first, or both Irish and English together?—I propose that that should be done which is done in Scotland, and of which the present Scotch Commission approve for Scotland. I propose that the children should commence their school education in Irish books, and that their instruction in English should begin when they have learned to read Irish.

"Do you think those who read Irish and subsequently learn to read English will continue to read English?—I think they will be through life afterwards an English-reading people.

"Have you ever drawn attention to the subject of teaching Irish to the Irish-speaking people?—I have, in various Reports, drawn attention to the subject.

"Did you recommend to the Commissioners the plan you have now stated?—Yes; I recommended a plan something to that effect.

"At what period?—I recommended it in 1855, and again in 1856, and I think again in 1858.

"No step has ever been taken on the subject?—No; my project was not favourably received."

The following was also very interesting, which was taken from the Report of the National Teachers' Congress held in 1874:—

"The parents in Irish-speaking districts have not English enough to convey their ideas, except such as relate to the mechanical business of their occupation. Hence they are not able in any degree to cultivate or inform the minds of their children—though often very intelligent themselves—who consequently grow up dull and stupid, if they have not been suffered to lose the Irish language, or to drop out of the constant practice of it."

Further on Sir Patrick Keenan said—

"The shrewdest people in the world are those who are bi-lingual; Borderers have always been remarkable in this respect. But the most stupid children I have ever met with are those who are learning English whilst endeavouring to forget Irish . . . the natural result is that the English they acquire is very imperfect."

He would call attention to the fact that people who only spoke Irish in Ireland at the present time suffered the most tremendous disadvantages. If a man came up in a Court of Petty Sessions, as was very frequently the case, and took the book in his hand, and happened to know enough English to be able to say "thank you," he would not be allowed to give his evidence in any other language than English. That was obviously very absurd, because a Russian might be able to say "thank you" without knowing anything more of English than those two words. He (Mr. Healy) had himself heard from a person present only recently in the Land Court at Bandon of a remarkable instance of the unfairness with which Irish-speaking witnesses were treated when they came forward to give evidence. A witness was asked a question as to rental, and in reply to his interrogator said he could only express himself in Irish. Well, directly he made that statement there was a howl amongst the barristers, and they insisted that he should give his evidence in English, and he had to do so. Later on some question as to rent turned up, and the man made use of the words "£50 a-year." If it had happened that that statement was near the mark, it would have been put down that he was a perjurer, and the case would have been dismissed, and a fair rent, perhaps, would not have been fixed; but it was plain to everyone that "£50 a-year" was not what the man meant to say. The services of an interpreter were availed of, and it was found that the man really meant £30 a-year. Here, then, was a case where a man's whole life would have been affected by a question of words, for it made all the difference in the world to a tenant whether he was charged a high or low rent. It was a very common thing that a person might be able to express his views on matters that were not complicated in a language, when he would altogether break down in matters of detail, particularly when he had to deal with figures. Irish children did not get a very extensive amount of learning of English in the schools, and they suffered from that all their lives. His suggestion was that some £2,000 or £3,000 should be devoted to the systematic and scientific teaching of the Irish language to schoolmasters who came up to the

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model schools in Dublin and elsewhere, and who already knew something of Irish, so that they might be able to train the children under their care in that language. He would point out to the Committee that although England and the English Government neglected the Irish language in the way in which they had been doing, yet German students were continually pouring over to Ireland, doing their best to learn the language. Only recently, also, in the Royal Irish Academy, he saw a Frenchman, who did not know a word of English, translating Irish into the French through the medium of a young man who was acquainted with the Irish and the French languages. Professor Windisch had published a grammar in Irish, and had himself dwelt upon the necessity of teaching the language. It was really too bad that some little endeavour was not made by the English Government to cultivate the scientific teaching of the language. No one could ever have studied the language, or have inquired into it, without coming to the conclusion that it was a most interesting branch of learning. The language was a most peculiar and interesting one; and he would put it to the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary that he would be doing a graceful act, and an act which would go far to soften the prejudices which his action in other respects created in Ireland, if he would undertake to look into this subject, and endeavour to meet the views which he (Mr. Healy) had tried to express. The right hon. Gentleman should endeavour to satisfy the national feeling in Ireland on this point, and should put some sum of money aside for teaching the masters who came up to the training class a thorough knowledge of Irish. It would be better for English teaching, and for Irish also, if this were done.

Mr. C. S. PARKER said, he should like, as a Scotch Member, to join in impressing on the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant the educational importance of the question raised by the hon. Member for Monaghan. There was a corresponding question in regard to Scotland, and another in regard to Wales. In Scotland he believed, officially, little or nothing was done to teach Highlanders to read in their native tongue. But there were voluntary schools in the Western Islands, chiefly

conducted by a society of ladies, who had always held that the best way to convey a knowledge of English to the Highlanders was to instruct them first in reading Gaelic. The hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) seemed to think that he might be suspected of national prejudice or narrowness of view; but it would be remembered that the hon. Member had fully acknowledged the importance of teaching English to the Irish people, and had said that the Irish parents recognized the necessity of such a course. The question that he raised was, whether the proper way to teach English to the Irish-speaking children was by using none but English books—whether the better way to teach them English was not to begin with Irish books? He (Mr. C. S. Parker) was inclined to agree with the hon. Member that it might be better to teach a foreign language by teaching children in their own tongue first. It was certainly undesirable, as the hon. Member had pointed out, to teach a language which was to be the most useful to them in after life as they might teach a parrot. Even English children might often be found reading books in which the language was too hard for them, and gabbling out words which they did not understand. If teaching of that kind was unsatisfactory even amongst children learning their mother-tongue, how much more so when every word was new to them? The children of poor parents in the West of Ireland were under a great disadvantage through not being able to understand the spelling of their own language, which was exceptionally difficult. If the National Board of Education would recognize the difficulties of the case, and would endeavour to teach the English tongue through the Irish, it seemed to him that they might be taking the best means to spread a knowledge of the English language more rapidly and more effectually. But he should like to say to the hon. Member for Monaghan that in one respect the remarks he had made were too highly coloured by national feeling—namely, in so far as he laid the whole blame in regard to this matter upon English institutions. By his own account, part of the blame should be laid elsewhere—namely, upon the Irish parents who declined to speak the English language to their children; they could not lay

the blame of that upon the English. If time were not so precious, he should like to hear from the right hon. Gentleman the Vice President of the Council what he had done in regard to the Welsh and Gaelic languages; but, at any rate, he would join in pressing the right hon. Gentleman to grant a little more money for the experiment of teaching Irish, or, at least, to apply his mind to the question whether the English language could not be more effectually taught in Ireland through the Irish.

Mr. TREVELYAN said, the hon. Member for Perthshire (Mr. C. S. Parker) had done well in not calling upon the right hon. Gentleman the Vice President of the Council to give his experience on this question. The right hon. Gentleman had had considerable experience in Wales; and he (Mr. Trevelyan) had found, from private conversation with the right hon. Gentleman, that his deduction drawn from that experience was not favourable to the views of the hon. Member who had last spoken. On the contrary, the right hon. Gentleman had stated what was a very interesting fact—namely, that the Welsh children were exceedingly bright and clever from the fact that they had a bi-lingual language. The right hon. Gentleman had stated that, in order to bring out their cleverness, it had been found necessary to appoint Inspectors who knew Welsh, and that whilst the children were examined in English, as in a foreign language, as hon. Members would have been examined in Latin at school, the details of the examination were conducted in the language familiar to the children. It was certain that of all questions this was one that most required experience, and scientific experience, to discover what was the best method of teaching the language which he thought he gathered from the hon. Member for Monaghan's speech that it was most important these children should be instructed in—namely, the English language, which was the language of the majority. So far as he could gather, in Ireland, Irish was the language of the minority; because whilst the people who could speak Irish were very numerous indeed, there were very few who could not speak English. [Mr. HEALY: There are 300,000.] He (Mr. Trevelyan) was not acquainted with the precise

statistics; but, no doubt, there were a great many who spoke Irish and English, probably very imperfectly; but he believed the number who could not speak English at all was very small. But that was a point upon which it was necessary to make inquiries from those who had experience. The hon. Member had stated quite enough to interest anybody who had education at heart; and he (Mr. Trevelyan) would certainly make it his duty—and a pleasant duty it would be—to inquire into the matter when he got to Ireland. He would undertake to set Sir Patrick Keenan at work in procuring information from those persons who were concerned in the education of Wales and the Western Islands. He hoped to be able to give a full report of this question next Session—a much fuller reply than he could now. At this moment he had only one feeling, and that was that the effect of Irish education would be that the children should leave school instructed in that language which would serve them well in future life—namely, that which they all in the House of Commons spoke.

MR. TOTTENHAM said, he should not have taken part in the discussion, if it had not been for the absurdity of some of the views which had been laid before the Committee. He had lived for 25 years amongst the people of Ireland, and in the course of that time he had been brought into contact with all classes of the population, both at Assizes, Quarter Sessions, Petty Sessions, and on Boards of Guardians—[An hon. MEMBER: And at evictions.]—and other places where one was likely to come into communication with the people; and all he could say was that in the county he was most connected with, in the whole course of that time he had only known it necessary on one occasion to make use of an interpreter. The hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) and other hon. Members would have them believe that the majority of the population of Ireland were Irish-speaking.

MR. HEALY: I did not say the majority.

MR. TOTTENHAM: I think the hon. Member mentioned 62 per cent.

MR. HEALY: In Galway.

MR. TREVELYAN: One county.

MR. HEALY: I read from the Report of Sir Patrick Keenan in which he men-

tioned 62 per cent in the county of Galway.

MR. TOTTENHAM said, he could so far bear out the hon. Member's statement as to Galway as to say that the one occasion when he did happen to require the services of an interpreter was one Winter Assizes at Carrick-on-Shannon. A large number of the witnesses from Galway, 33 per cent of them, were unable to speak with sufficient fluency, and the services of an interpreter had to be engaged. But that was the only county in which Irish was spoken to any extent. He should not have found it necessary to take part in this discussion had it not been for the utter absurdity of some of the statements which had been made.

MR. BULWER said, he adopted the same view as his hon. Friend who had just spoken. ["Hear, hear!"] Some hon. Members from Ireland called out "Hear, hear!" but he would remind them that before most of them were born he had travelled through a great part of the country, and was now speaking of his experience of it. When the hon. Member for Monaghan spoke of hundreds of thousands of people who spoke only Irish, he could only say that you might travel through the North and West of Ireland, where he had frequently been, and seldom—except, perhaps, in Donegal—would you come across a man who would not understand you if you spoke English. [An hon. MEMBER: Galway.] Yes; he included Galway, and the neighbourhood of Maamtrasna too, where those horrible murders were committed of which the hon. Member might have heard. In Donegal he was furnished with a shibboleth, in order to enable him to get some potheen. He was informed on that occasion that if he wanted potheen he must ask for what he wanted in Irish, and when he used the words which he had been taught he got what he wanted. He was astonished to hear the statements which had been made by hon. Members to-night, as it was contrary to his experience in travelling through the North and West of Ireland, where he never found, save on the one occasion to which he had referred—and he was not sure that even then the ignorance was not assumed—that the people did not understand English. He was not at all opposed to the extension of the

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Irish language, and should be sorry that a language which had a history and annual of its own should be extinguished; but to tell him that they should go to the great expense of teaching English through the medium of Irish was to tell him a thing which he did not for a moment believe to be necessary. He should think there were few scholars—save, perhaps, in some isolated districts of the country—who he would not say were thoroughly acquainted with English, but still knew enough of its elements for education to be given in that language.

MR. DAWSON (LORD MAYOR OF DUBLIN) said, the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary had said what was so satisfactory that it was not necessary to pursue the question any further. The point was not whether the people knew English or not; but Sir Patrick Keenan insisted upon this—that the people knew English so imperfectly, and were so improperly educated in the vehicle through which they were going to learn that language, that they seldom got a sound instruction in it. Sir Patrick Keenan said that the people had got a hazy knowledge of English owing to the fact that those who taught them did not know the language of the people, and they could not make themselves understood in it. He wished to call the attention of the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant to another portion of this Vote. He had frequently moved in the House for Returns as to the Model Schools. These were put down as entailing an annual expenditure—in addition to the account for construction, which was £160,000—of £36,000 a-year. He wished to know what good were these schools doing? The school in Dublin was, no doubt, doing something; but the late Chief Secretary had given him a Return of the Model Schools throughout Ireland, according to which it was clear that these schools were only attended by the children of well-to-do people—by children of parents who were well able to pay for their education. This £36,000 was forced upon Ireland—Ireland did not require it. It was spent upon a very few only, and even that few were perfectly able to pay for their own education. The right hon. Gentleman's Predecessor gave him statistics showing that there were £160,000

spent on the construction of the schools, and that the annual grant was £36,000. The students numbered only 11,000. Who were the students, or rather who were their parents? Agents and managers, 344; architects, 29; artists, 30; clerks, 842; farmers, 827; Government *employés*, 210; medical doctors, merchants, and traders, 284; gentlemen of no profession, 164; police, 256; railway *employés*, 197; well-to-do tradesmen, 2,429; &c. These were not the subjects or objects for free National Education; and, even if they were, the number was a very small number to be taught for £36,000 a-year. The right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary had defended the system; but he promised that the subject should receive careful attention.

COLONEL COLTHURST said, he would draw the attention of the Committee to this—that the Commission of 1869 made some suggestions in regard to these schools. He could bear out what had fallen from the hon. Member who had just sat down as to the class which attended the schools in the City of Cork. They were hardly fit subjects for almost gratuitous education—or, at any rate, very few of them were. The children who attended these schools were principally the sons of professional men, or, as the hon. Member (Mr. Dawson) had pointed out, the sons of well-to-do tradesmen. Take, for instance, the Model School in Dunmanway. It entered into competition with the ordinary schools, and its effect had been to injure and stunt the Roman Catholic primary schools in the district to a very great extent, owing to the small amount of the fees which were charged, and the other advantages which it possessed. He sincerely trusted that the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant would take this matter into his consideration.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR said, he wished to call the attention of the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary to a point on which, on a previous occasion, he had made detailed allusion. He wished to say a word or two as to the character of the books which were used in the National Schools in Ireland. He did not say that the time had yet arrived for writing the history of Ireland; but when it did he could wish that the right hon. Gentleman, who had already distinguished himself so remark-

ably by his literary efforts, would set himself the task of writing that history with the experience of 10 years as Chief Secretary. There was one thing they had a right to demand in Ireland, and that was that their children in the Irish schools should not be asked to read books insulting to their nationality. That, he thought, was a very moderate claim to set forward. Let them take the books which were supplied to the children in the Irish National Schools for their instruction—let them take first *The Fourth Book of Lessons*. They would find in that book the following—

“The people of Ireland are a clever, lively people; formerly, very much given to drink, and very ignorant; but now it is believed that they are one of the soberest nations in Europe: and it will be their own fault if they are not also one of the best educated.”

[“Hear, hear!”] The hon. Member for Kendal (Mr. Cropper), he thought it was, cheered that. That cheer represented the mind of the hon. Member for Kendal—that was but a narrow view to take of the state of Irish history. Then, as to the history of Dublin, this *Fourth Book of Lessons* said—

“Dublin has some beautiful manufactures of poplin, velvet, and glass, and there were once many more manufactories; but the workmen, not satisfied with good wages, refused to work at a lower price than they should themselves appoint, which the masters being unable to afford, the establishments were broken up, and the proprietors took their money and machinery elsewhere.”

That was the history of Dublin compressed into a very narrow compass. Then, turn to the history of France in this *Fourth Book of Lessons*. It said—

“The religion of France is Roman Catholic; but there are many Protestants also.”

That was in the National School Book. Then, with regard to Wales, the book said—

“The dress and appearance of the Welsh are very different from those of the English. The women wear a man's black beaver hat tied down with a handkerchief over their clean, nicely crimped-caps, as white as snow, and, generally, blue cloth jackets. They are a remarkably clean, active, industrious people—their houses and persons are very neat, and they are so careful never to lose a moment of their time, that they carry their knitting with them wherever they go; they may often be seen with baskets or bundles on their heads and knitting needles in their hands, making woollen stockings, night caps, or other articles of warm clothing. The Welsh are fond of music; their favourite instrument is a large harp, and in almost every inn a harper may be found.”

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With regard to the objects of these books, as he had stated before, it was, clearly enough, to make the Irish people ashamed of their own country. *The Third Book of Lessons*, speaking of Belgium, said—

“I need not point out the striking contrast of the mode of living here described with the state of the same class of persons in Ireland; and it is important to investigate the causes of this difference. In the greater part of the flat country of Belgium the soil is light and sandy, and easily worked; but its productive powers are certainly inferior to the general soil of Ireland, and the climate does not appear to be superior. To the soil and the climate, therefore, the Belgian does not owe his superiority in comfort and position over the Irish cultivator. The difference is rather to be found in the system of cultivation pursued by the small farmers of Belgium, and in the habits of industry, economy, and forethought of the people. The cultivation of the small Belgian farms differs from the Irish—first, in the quantity of stall-fed stock which is kept, and by which a supply of manure is regularly secured; second, in the strict attention paid to the collecting of manure, which is most skilfully managed; third, by the adoption of a system of rotation of five, six, or seven changes of crop, even on the smallest farms, which is in striking contrast with the plan of cropping and fallowing the land prevalent in Ireland, and by which so large a portion of its produce and powers is every year wasted.”

There was not a word about the landlords, 25 per cent of whose rents the Government had taken off. [Mr. CAVENDISH BENTINCK: Hear, hear!] The right hon. and learned Gentleman said “Hear, hear!” but he was not appealing to him—he was appealing to the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary opposite. Well, to proceed. Ireland had supplied a great deal of poetry to the world—her poetry found a place in every heart and in every place except the Irish National School Book. He did not find here any of the poetry of James Clarence Mangan, of Thomas Davis, of Thomas Moore, or of Justice O'Hagan, or of Charles Gavan Duffy. He did not find here any of the poetry of Justice O'Brien; but what he did find was poetry of this description, in *The Fourth Reading Book*—

“The beasts that roam over the plain
My form with indifference see;
They are so unacquainted with man,
Their tameness is shocking to me.”

This was the kind of model poetry put before the youth of Ireland of both sexes who might be inclined to indulge their fancy in alcaics and trochaics. There was not a single poem in all this

book of a National character—nothing from the Young Ireland poets—in spite of the amount of poetry which Ireland had given to the world, and which was read with admiration by English and Scotch, and all other people who had any respect for National aspiration. They would find in these National School Books given to the youth of Ireland poems of Campbell, and such verses as—

"Ye mariners of England who guard our native seas,"

and poems of that kind, which, as far as literary merit was concerned, were about on a par with—

"We don't want to fight; but by jingo if we do," &c.,

but none of the productions of Mangan, who was, to his mind, one of the most remarkable men of the century that Ireland or any other country had produced. He had a very serious purpose in making all these quotations, and that was this—he wished to put it to the Committee whether they could expect the Irish people to regard the Government of England in Ireland as anything but hostile and anti-national when they compelled Irish children to read books which teemed with insults to their nationality and sometimes to their religion, which was even a more susceptible point. He hoped he had touched the sympathetic bosom of the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary opposite on this point. The right hon. Gentleman himself had contributed many notable books, which he believed would live, to the literature of this country—he would ask him, therefore, were the books to which he had referred, from the point of view of literary merit, or good sense, or decency, such books as should be imposed on the rising generation in Ireland?

MR. TREVELYAN said, he should be sorry to express an opinion on the books from which the hon. Member had quoted until he had had an opportunity of studying them. He must say he was thankful for such a speech as had just been delivered on the 17th of August—at such a time the interest of the House of Commons in speeches of hon. Members had already flagged, and they were not treated to such amusing dissertations very often. Even from the specimens which the hon. Member had given them, he should not care to give a criticism of

these books. When the hon. Member had referred to Moore and Mangan he could not suppress a cheer. With Moore he had long been acquainted; but it was only within the last year that he had got a strong feeling for Mangan's poetry. But the latter was poetry for mature years, and the poetry of Moore was hardly poetry which one would care to put in the hands of youth. He thought the hon. Member had quoted, with a certain amount of unnecessary depreciation, the poetry of Campbell and Cowper; for the sort of reading to which the hon. Member had treated the Committee did very well, and was very intelligible to children under the age of 12—certainly, quite as intelligible to them as would be the poetry of Mangan. And as to the books the hon. Member had read from, geographical works, and works descriptive of the different nationalities, they appeared to him very much the sort of reading his own youth was nurtured up to about the age of 10. The gentleman who described Wales as the hon. Member had pointed out would, no doubt, describe the typical Irishman as dressed in a swallow-tail coat and brass buttons, and with knee-breeches; and would describe the Englishman similarly costumed, but with top boots. Still, that was the kind of reading that did very well for children up to about 10 years of age. He had read with very great interest some of the books of the Christian Brothers; and if the hon. Member brought before him some of those books, and asked why they were not used in the higher classes, he should find it very hard, perhaps, to answer, because it seemed to him that they possessed very great literary merit, and he was unable to see that they could do any possible harm. The particular suggestion of the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy), that the evils of Ireland were produced not by those causes which produced evils in all other countries—that was to say, by the moral defects of the inhabitants—which were the same in Ireland as elsewhere, but were produced by the presence of landlords, was a proposition which he did not think it would be proper to set forth in a school book. If the hon. Member for Monaghan wished to follow up the subject, he should be very glad to have a talk with him upon it; and if the hon. Member knew of any book which was excluded from

the National Schools on account of two or three excerpts from the National literature, or from the passages being of a somewhat more interesting kind than people usually put in school books, he should be glad if the hon. Member would mention them, so that he might consider whether they could not be included in the National *répertoire*. As to the Model Schools mentioned by the hon. Member opposite (Mr. Dawson), he was not going to commit himself to a general opinion with regard to those upon the present Vote. If the hon. Member would move a reduction of the Vote, then he would meet him as necessity required; but when they had schools which commanded the confidence of a considerable portion of the population, and which occupied a certain position—a position rather dubious and amphibious perhaps—between the middle class schools and the elementary schools, he thought Parliament ought to be very slow before it refused to grant money for their support. It might be that as elementary schools they were expensive; but that would not be the case if they were regarded as middle class schools. As middle class schools they were extremely cheap, and as institutions which kept up a very high standard of education in different parts of Ireland, he must say that a change which more thoroughly sustained, and one that recommended itself more strongly in its details to the general sense of Parliament, would have to be brought before Parliament before the House would refuse to pass this Vote. He did not think on this occasion he could give any more definite statement than this.

COLONEL NOLAN said, he wished to put a question to the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant with regard to an establishment for the purpose of teaching agriculture at Glasnevin which had existed for some time under Professor Baldwin. There was great want of agricultural education over a large part of Ireland. The Government were teaching it at Glasnevin; but it appeared to him that it was their duty to teach it in other parts of the country on the Glasnevin model, for the purpose of showing the people how properly to farm. His hon. Friend the Member for the borough of Galway (Mr. T. P. O'Connor) had read out a contrast between the Irish peasant

and the Belgian peasant. Children were taught, as the hon. Member had shown, that the Belgian farmer was a much better farmer than the Irish peasant. If the Government taught that in the schools, the least thing they could do would be to give the Irish peasant some slight chance of competing satisfactorily with the Belgian peasant. If there were a few more agricultural schools over Ireland it would do a great deal of good, in the manner in which Glasnevin was doing good. He would, therefore, ask the Chief Secretary if he could hold out any hope that they would put some of those schools, say, for instance, in the part of Ireland where there used to be some, but which, he was sorry to say, the English Government had not persisted in, and had abolished some 10 or 12 years ago. Then there was another question to which he wished to draw attention. He had several times alluded to the fact that, unless the Government produced good agriculture in Ireland, they would have another famine in the course of seven or eight years—it might come in four or five years, and, perhaps, not for 10 or 12 years; but, unless something was done, come it assuredly would. Prizes were being given for the development of good potato seeds to National schoolmasters—they were acting in the most frivolous manner with this most grave subject. They were spending about £200 or £300 a-year in looking after a new variety of potato. He would suggest to the Government that they should prosecute their operations as to the cultivation of a new variety of potato, and try how far the Scotch varieties answered in Ireland on a more extended scale. They were at present doing it on a very small scale. The Committee, which had sat upon the subject, had pointed out that individuals could not do a great deal in this matter—they had shown that, in order to be successful, the thing must be done upon a large scale. The Highland Society had taken the matter up in Scotland; but the Government had refused to help them, for which he was very sorry, because the solution of the question in Scotland would be extremely useful in Ireland. But even if the Government did something in this matter in Scotland, he thought they should also do something in Ireland. He believed that the Government, at the present moment,

in neglecting to look after the potato crop, and prepare a fresh variety against the failure of the present variety, were flying in the face of warnings which had been often repeated. This might be a dull subject; but it was necessary to speak about it two or three times a-year, in order that the Government might be impressed with its importance, and might be impressed by the arguments adduced. He wished to know from the Chief Secretary what was being done in Ireland—he wished to hear from him whether any new varieties of potatoes were being acclimatized in the Island; and, if so, when these new varieties would be ready? He might inform the right hon. Gentleman that he intended to make three or four speeches upon this subject until he received an answer.

MR. TREVELYAN said, that experiments were being carried out in all the schools; and the Report of what had taken place last year was before the House of Commons. He knew that two or three months must elapse before the next Report could be issued. The experiments were being carried out as far as the capabilities of the farms would allow; and he had every reason to believe that the same activity which was at present being expended had been expended upon them for the last four years. The Government would take care that the hon. and gallant Gentleman was as well satisfied on this point this year as he had been in previous years. The Government, as the hon. and gallant Member justly observed, had done nothing; but in Ireland experiments were being conducted on two farms.

COLONEL NOLAN said, the right hon. Gentleman had not answered one question, as to whether he would do anything to establish new schools of agriculture in the more remote parts of Ireland?

MR. TREVELYAN said, the tendency of the action of the Government went rather in an opposite direction to that contemplated by the hon. and gallant Member. The idea of the Government was to keep up those establishments they had in the best condition, and to spend what money they could upon them. Their efforts had been at concentration—at diminishing the number of schools, instead of keeping them up in large numbers.

Vote agreed to.

(11.) £1,040, to complete the sum for the Teachers' Pensions Office, Ireland.

(12.) £410, to complete the sum for the Endowed School Commissioners, Ireland.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR said, he would ask the right hon. Gentleman if he could state whether these Commissioners continued to hold over the heads of their tenants the rents due since the Famine year? They had admitted in their Report, the year before last, that they still continued the system which had been abandoned by every respectable landlord throughout Ireland. He would like to ask the right hon. Gentleman if he had put a stop to that course of proceeding; and next, he should like to ask him if the Government had come to any decision as to what was to be done with the Endowed Schools throughout Ireland?

MR. TREVELYAN said, the hon. Member had better put this Question to him at Question time, particularly as to the arrangement of these estates by the Endowed Schools Commissioners. The account they gave in their Report was that they had in two successive years struck off a considerable amount of the old arrears, but that a very large quantity of arrears of rent had recently accrued. He did not know what their relation was with regard to the Arrears Act; but if the hon. Member would remind him of it by a Question, he would make all necessary inquiries. The hon. Member would be more likely to get an answer if he would do this. As to the more special duty, which it was their province to superintend, it was one of those questions which the Government had been unable to bring before the House, in the shape of a Bill, this Session, through want of time. No one would say that the state of the Endowed Schools in Ireland was satisfactory; but legislation, to put them to rights, must be of a very drastic description—much more so than any existing legislation. His earnest hope was that, after the Session after next, when arrears of legislation were a little cleared off, they might be able to look back to this question, and do something for Ireland in the same nature as that which had been done for Scotland.

MR. HEALY said, that as the subject of Endowed Schools was a subject which could rise very little friction, would not

the right hon. Gentleman give them a distinct pledge that next year he would deal with it?

MR. TREVELYAN said, the hon. Member for Monaghan must be very sanguine if he thought that the question was one which would not raise controversy. There were some parts of it which they could deal with, with the almost universal concurrence of the House; but there were a great number of schools which stood between the national and undenominational schools, and of schools which would be claimed by a denomination—and in Ireland a large number came under that latter category. He thought a great deal of good might be done by legislation without more friction than was necessary to pass an ordinarily important Bill.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR asked whether the right hon. Gentleman knew that these Commissioners were not paid at all? They themselves had stated last year that being unpaid, and having important duties to fulfil, they could not possibly look after the schools, and could not be responsible for the estates—they said they knew nothing at all about the one or the other, and desired to be relieved of their functions. They admitted that the accounts had never been kept by anyone—in fact, the Secretary had been able to invest thousands of pounds without its being known for years. In one Report, a short time ago, they had stated that they had not sufficient funds to enable the estates to be visited; and the consequence was that they sent a clerk round to several, and got him to furnish the account and Report. They were unable to diminish the expenses, and it was perfectly scandalous that this kind of thing should be allowed to go on.

MR. TREVELYAN said, it was obvious that more drastic and effective administration in regard to these matters was necessary. Undoubtedly, the Endowed Schools of Ireland were not under the supervision of a Commission which had power to do what was required. He (Mr. Trevelyan) had gone into the question this year.

Vote agreed to.

(13.) Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That a sum, not exceeding £1,029, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary

to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the Salaries and Expenses of the National Gallery of Ireland, and for the purchase of Pictures."

MR. CAVENDISH BENTINOK said, there were some omissions in this Vote which made it highly desirable that the attention of the Committee should be called to the matter. It struck him as a very remarkable circumstance—and he had already called attention to it—that there was no Report from the Trustees, or whoever was responsible for the carrying on of the National Gallery in Ireland. No doubt, in the case of Ireland, that information, for reasons already assigned, might be dispensed with. As far as he could understand the National Gallery of Ireland, it was precisely on the same footing, and stood in the same position, and was worked on the same principle as the National Gallery of England. Therefore, he could not conceive how the money had been expended—and there had been no Report from those responsible for the conduct of it. He would ask the hon. Gentleman (Mr. Courtney) to give them some reason why there had been no such Report for some years past, and also to give them some undertaking—which he was sure he would do—that in future years these omissions would be supplied. That was not the only matter which seemed to him to require comment. There was, in the first place, a sum in the Estimate for the purchase of pictures. They were entirely without information, that was to say, whether these pictures were such as were approved by the Committee or not. Then they came to the question of travelling expenses—that being a question on which the Chairman himself (Sir Arthur Otway) had taken a great deal of interest, with such good results to the country. It had been said that £150 in the English Vote was by no means an unreasonable sum for the travelling expenses of a Director of the National Gallery. [MR. COURTNEY: The maximum sum.] The hon. Member would have an opportunity of expressing his view upon the matter, and perhaps he would allow him (Mr. Cavendish Bentinok) to finish his observations first. There was no return from the Exchequer. What did the hon. Gentleman tell them last year, when £150 was granted to a Director of the English National Gallery

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for travelling expenses abroad?—a system which he (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) had ventured to comment on, as well as the lateness of the hour and Her Majesty's Government would allow him to do. But what he wanted to know was, how did the Director of the Irish National Gallery spend £150 a-year in travelling expenses? Surely he did not go on those roving expeditions which he (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) had pointed out as having been so fraught with evil in times past, and which probably, as history repeated itself, would occur again in future. He should like to have some reason how in the world the Director of the Irish National Gallery spent £150 in buying pictures which were only worth £750? £150 was a large percentage on £750. There was another matter to which he had been unable to draw attention yesterday, but which he should have mentioned had time and Her Majesty's Government permitted. It was in reference to the English Vote; but the point arose again on the Irish Vote, and he should now be bold enough to mention it. He condemned entirely the system of sensational sales, and spending money lavishly in one direction, when it might be more advantageously expended in another. The Committee would observe that £2,000 was spent in this Vote, and of it £1,000 on the sensational sale known as the Duke of Hamilton's sale. To the astonishment of all attending the sale, the Directors of the Irish National Gallery bought a picture by Nicholas Poussin for £400 or £500. He (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) was sorry the hon. Gentleman the Member for South-East Lancashire (Mr. Agnew) was not now in his place. The hon. Gentleman, who seemed to disappear when he was most wanted, was a well-known authority on pictures, an expert in these matters, and who was a witness before the Committee of which he (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) was a Member, and who had said his "turnover" in pictures was something like £1,000,000 a-year. Well, this gentleman, if he would rise in this place, would say, that a more unfortunate purchase was never made—first of all, because, although the master was one for whom they might all have an admiration, he was, at the same time, one whose works did not fetch a high price, because, not long before, a picture by the

same master was knocked down for 25 guineas. He should like to know, therefore, why, if the Irish National Gallery had been anxious to purchase a picture by this master, they had not gone to a smaller exhibition to buy a picture at a reasonable rate, instead of rushing in to buy one like this? The explanation of this somewhat singular conduct would be found, he believed, in what was now stated—that was, that when the Government were unwise enough to allow the Trustees to have a sum of money, then the latter, like boys with money to spend, or sailors just paid off, were never satisfied until they had got rid of the whole of it. He had been told by an authority whom he respected that the Trustees of the Irish National Gallery could find nothing else to suit their purpose, so they rushed into this expenditure and let off their £500. He sincerely trusted there would be no repetition of this on the part of a body entrusted with public money. Another point he would refer to was of a more technical nature. He wished to ask, in the absence of any Report from the Trustees or Director, who were the Trustees of the Irish National Gallery and what power they had? The hon. Gentleman the Secretary to the Treasury and himself last night, on the subject of the English Gallery, came to a difference as to a question of fact; and since then, probably, the hon. Gentleman had inquired more minutely, and discovered that the Director of the National Gallery was really the person responsible for purchases. Then, he hoped he would once more consult his means of information, and find out who were the Trustees of the Irish National Gallery, and what were their powers. Did they exercise greater or less power of control over the purchase of pictures, or did the whole power rest with the Director, and was he alone responsible? This disposed of all the points he wished to put before the Committee; and he hoped the Secretary to the Treasury, in giving the information, would also undertake that in future years there should be a greater amount of information given to the Committee on the subject of the Irish National Gallery, embracing all the details to be found in connection with the English Gallery.

Mr. COURTNEY said, the right hon. Gentleman had repeated what he said the day before in reference to the Na-

tional Gallery; and though he did not think it was desirable to give a pledge, he thought such a Report as the right hon. Gentleman asked for was desirable at short intervals—he would not say annually.

MR. CAVENDISH BENTINCK said, it ought to be retrospective.

MR. COURTNEY said, it would give an account of what had been done in the year past. The right hon. Gentleman, in reference to the purchases made, questioned whether they had been worth the money expended; but, as to this, he could appeal to the experience of those who had seen the Gallery, and say it was extraordinary what an admirable collection of pictures had been got together with such a small amount of money. The amount devoted to the purpose this year was less than the usual annual sum in consequence of the extra increase last year, and this increase would be repaid by deductions in the annual grant. And here he would correct a misapprehension of the right hon. Gentleman, who spoke of the Trustees of this, as of the National Gallery, as boys with money in their pocket, or sailors with their pay which they must spend. No doubt it was so at one time. A certain sum was voted each year for the English and Irish Galleries; and if that was not spent in the year it was paid back into the Treasury, and not taken into account in future Votes. Under that system, no doubt, there was a great temptation to spend up to the sum voted; but all that was now altered. The Treasury now laid down the principle not to allow the money to accumulate in the hands of the Trustees; but they recognized the principle that if, over a series of years, the sum expended was lower than the amount voted, the unspent portion of the Vote was looked upon as a reserve to be drawn upon in the event of the expenditure in other years being above the amount of the annual grant. If not spent, the balance of a Vote was treated as a sum to be drawn upon in future. The right hon. Gentleman asked who were the Trustees, and he was sorry to say he did not happen to have a list. He knew Lord Hardinge was a Trustee, and that he took the greatest interest in matters connected with the Gallery. In the purchase of pictures, the Trustees and the

Directors in Ireland, as in England, worked together, and a purchase was a matter of joint consultation between them; and he believed he was right in saying that no purchase was made without the approbation of the Trustees, and not on the mere motion of the Director. Then the right hon. Gentleman referred to the allowance for travelling expenses. The allowance was made as it was to the Director in London, and it must be borne in mind that the Director had other duties to fulfil besides the purchase of pictures; he must keep up to the level of what was being done in other Galleries; he must keep up his mind to that activity required in the Director of a Gallery; he must make himself acquainted with the means by which a Gallery was made available for the purposes of the student and of the public; and his position required he should have the advantage of a knowledge of other pictures in other Galleries, and the arrangement and management there.

MR. CAVENDISH BENTINCK said, he did not find fault with ordinary expenditure; his objection was to extraordinary Votes for purchases at sensational sales, when numbers of questionable pictures were bought for the nation at high prices. It was to the extraordinary, not the ordinary, expenditure he referred. He was bound to say the explanation of the Secretary to the Treasury with regard to the travelling expenses was so very unsatisfactory that he should move the reduction of the Vote by that amount. He never heard of such a thing as that a Director of a Gallery should spend £150 a-year to visit Foreign Galleries. There was very little advantage he could get from that. What number of Galleries could he visit year after year? Was a gentleman to be selected as the Director of a National Gallery, and to travel like a commercial man? He should have thought that the first thing anyone who chanced to have the patronage of such a post would do would be to appoint a gentleman suited to the duties—not one who would have to learn the ordinary duties of his office by travelling year by year at a large expense to the country. The present Chairman of Committees succeeded in past years in knocking off the expenses of a travelling agent for the

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National Gallery. That was only £300; but now there was £150 for the travelling expenses of the Irish Director, and the same for the English Director, and the Secretary to the Treasury, who he believed was a great mathematician, would agree that was £300; so there was absolutely the very abusive system the Chairman condemned in former years. Why, if it was necessary, should not one Director go on his travels, and on his return impart his information to his colleague, who in turn could make the visit to the Continent the next year, and so on alternately. At all events, that would save the country £150 a-year. As a matter of principle, and in the interests of economy, he would move the reduction of the Vote by £150.

Motion made, and Question,

"That a sum, not exceeding £879, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the Salaries and Expenses of the National Gallery of Ireland, and for the purchase of Pictures,"
—(*Mr. Cavendish Bentinck*.)

—put, and *negatived*.

Original Question put, and *agreed to*.

(14.) Motion made, and Question proposed.

"That a sum, not exceeding £10,728, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, in aid of the Expense of the Queen's Colleges in Ireland."

Mr. PARNELL said, the Act under which the Royal University of Ireland was founded had been in operation since 1879. He thought it was reasonable to suppose that the Government, in the interval, had made up their minds with regard to the continuance or the determination of the anomaly which had been pointed out and recognized in the discussions which had taken place in the House with reference to the provisions of the Royal University Act. It was pointed out that while it was proposed, under the provisions of that Act, for the foundation of the Royal University of Ireland, that Scholarships, Exhibitions, and other academical prizes should be founded for the purpose of public competition by the matriculated students of the Royal University, that

to the Queen's Colleges were left the Exhibitions, Scholarships, and other prizes which they received and were endowed with before the foundation of the Royal University, and that consequently, while the prizes of the Royal University were open to the students of the Queen's Colleges, as well as to the students of other unendowed Colleges in Ireland, or having no endowments to compare with the Queen's Colleges, the students from the latter class of Colleges must necessarily compete to great disadvantage, for the prizes, so-called, of the Royal University, with students coming from the endowed Queen's Colleges. It was felt by many people at the time that the Royal University would have an unanswerable claim to the benefits of the Queen's Colleges, and the transfer of the endowments and prizes to help it, as well as the fund out of which the comparatively poor Scholarships and other prizes were given for competition to the matriculated students of the Royal University. The value of these Scholarships, Exhibitions, and Prizes, thus strictly reserved for competition by students of Queen's Colleges, were found in the present Vote under Sub-heads A, B, and C, and amounted to £4,800; and he proposed, at the conclusion of his remarks, to move the reduction of the Vote by the amount under these three sub-heads. An eminent authority, writing on this subject, said—he quoted from the remarks of Mr. J. Peabody at the examinations at the close of the session at Queen's College, Galway—

"The students of the Queen's Colleges can compete in the examinations with students of unendowed Colleges for Exhibitions and Prizes; and if the student of the Queen's College wins it, he gets it; but if not, he has only to return to his College, and there he will find preserved for him at the public expense a consolation prize as valuable, or more valuable, than that for which he unsuccessfully competed."

What ought to be done, continued Professor Peabody, was this—

"The entire sum now granted to Queen's Colleges for Scholarships and Prizes should be added to the Royal University Prize Fund.

That was the argument he should use to the Committee in moving to reduce the amount to be voted to the Queen's Colleges by the sum of £4,800, which went to make up the prizes so much objected to. It was a monstrous anomaly

that could not be defended that, while a Royal University for Ireland was founded ostensibly for the object of opening University Education to all classes and all sects in that country, yet the State refused to endow the Catholic Colleges, from which the greater proportion of the matriculated students were taken, and to meet whose wants the Royal University was mainly founded; while to the Queen's Colleges were left the old endowments, which they had received as a portion of the University system of Queen's University, which existed previous to the Act under which the Royal University was founded. It was impossible for any Government to contend that the students coming from unendowed Colleges in Ireland were treated fairly, and education as regarded the Royal University failed, while it admitted such competition as at present existed on the part of the students of the Queen's Colleges of Cork, Dublin, and Belfast. Two courses were open—either to prevent students in Queen's Colleges from competing at the Royal University, or to throw into a common fund of the Royal University the prizes and endowments given to support the Queen's Colleges. It was an absurdity to maintain the College system apart from the University under the system that existed by this Vote. The Royal University had been endowed and offered as a system for the satisfaction of the Catholics of Ireland; but he maintained that it could not be held to be that satisfaction—that proper and suitable offer it was intended to be—so long as these endowments of Queen's Colleges, which formed no part of the University system, were maintained by an anomaly not equalled in the educational system of any other country. He would not detain the Committee at length; and he would conclude by saying he thought the Government ought to have formed some opinion in its own mind as to whether they intended or did not intend that the anomalous system of Queen's Colleges in Ireland should continue. In any case the Royal University had a claim for a large augmentation of the prizes it was now able to give; and there was no better source from which to satisfy that claim than that he had mentioned—namely, the transfer of the Scholarships, Exhibitions, and Prizes of the Queen's Col-

leges to the fund of the Royal University.

Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That a sum, not exceeding £5,928, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March, 1884, in aid of the Expense of the Queen's Colleges in Ireland."
—(Mr. Parnell.)

SIR LYON PLAYFAIR: I ventured three years ago to predict that the establishment of the Royal University of Ireland would be no settlement of the Collegiate Institutions of that country, and that constant claims would be made upon our attention in regard to the Queen's Colleges. The House did not then believe this warning, and thought it had protected itself by putting into the Act these words—"Nothing in this Act shall in anywise affect the Queen's Colleges." But already we have assaults made upon their outer buttresses, and when these are knocked away the walls will be more easy to attack. If hon. Members from Ireland refer to my speeches on Irish education, they will find that I have been as warm an advocate as any of them for the systematic higher education of Roman Catholics in well-ordered Colleges; and I have never shrunk from advocating endowments to a well-ordered Roman Catholic College. Nor am I sorry to see that the effect of the rules laid down as to Fellowships by the Royal University has already been to endow the Roman Catholic College of St. Stephen's Green in Dublin with £3,600 a-year; and that, when three more Fellows are appointed, it will be practically endowed with £4,800 paid to 12 Professors, who will aid in making the instruction more thorough and systematic than it is at present. I have made these preliminary remarks, because I wish Irish Members to feel that, in opposing them on the present occasion, I do not do so from any narrow view of what is required for the higher education of a people three-fourths of whom are Roman Catholics; but this present opposition to the Scholarships of Queen's Colleges would, if successful, be most disastrous to the higher education of Ireland. They speak of the Scholarships as being extravagant in number and unnecessary for the Queen's Colleges, though they

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think they might be properly transferred to the Examining Board called the Royal University. An Examining Board has only an indirect influence on education; it is not in any sense a teaching College. But the three Queen's Colleges are well-ordered and thoroughly efficient teaching Colleges. [*Cries of "No, no!"*] Their results give the proof. Their graduates have been numerous and singularly successful in all open competitions of the Public Service. They fill very high positions both at home and abroad. The Queen's University is now merged in the Royal University; but what was the work of the Colleges before it was extinguished? Oxford and Cambridge have one graduate to every five students in attendance, the Scottish Universities one to seven, the London Universities one to eleven, and the Queen's Universities of Ireland had one to three. The Queen's Colleges, therefore, did their work admirably. Of 2,850 matriculated students, 1,247 graduated, 735 being graduates in Arts, and the rest in Medicine and Engineering. The fact that so many of the students graduate in Professions is the greatest proof that the Colleges are doing their proper work in a poor country. It is the same in Scotland as it is in Ireland. The Universities of both countries must chiefly rely on preparing the youth of their country for productive life, or they miss their chief function. It is from these Colleges, which have done their work so well for students of all religions, that hon. Members desire to remove their Scholarships. Of course, the object of such Scholarships is to enable the deserving poor to obtain Collegiate education. Our Colleges in Scotland would be in a very poor way indeed if they were not supported by such Scholarships, which we call bursaries. Let me compare the Queen's College in Belfast with the College of Aberdeen, and you will then be able to judge whether the Scholarships in the former are abnormally large or extravagant. In Belfast, as well as in the other two Colleges, a sum of £1,180 is set apart as prizes to undergraduates. Deducting class prizes of books, amounting to about £100, this sum is divided into Scholarships of £24 each, tenable for one year. In this respect they are on a different tenure from other Colleges, and cannot be

compared. If you arrange them to be held as in Oxford and Cambridge, or as in Scotland, during the entire course of Arts, there would be 10 Scholarships of £24 each to 200 students, while in Aberdeen there are 80 to 200 students, or eight times as many as in Belfast. The only difference between them is that the bursaries in Aberdeen have been founded by private liberality, and the Scholarships in Belfast are supplied by Parliament; but, however provided, they are absolutely essential to the success of high education in a poor country for the purpose of enabling persons of humble means to become educated when their talents fit them for Professions based upon learning. Even Oxford and Cambridge could not live without such Scholarships. Belfast has one curriculum scholar to every 20 students; Oxford has one of three times the value for every three students. Irish Members say they only desire to transfer the Scholarships from the Queen's Colleges to the Royal University, and open them to the competition of the whole nation. In other words, they wish to divest them of their essential condition—that they must be held in well-ordered Colleges with a distinct curriculum, and give them as prizes for mere examinations which may be the result of unmitigated cram. To my mind, nothing would be more disastrous to the higher education or to the material prosperity of Ireland than such a course. I wonder how Roman Catholics would relish the proposal, if I were to make it, to transfer the Scholarships of Maynooth, which has been founded with £370,000 of public money, and transfer them all to the new University? The Queen's Scholarships are open now to every undergraduate of the Royal University; provided that he will go through a well-ordered curriculum of education at a Queen's College. Thus, last year, more than 100 undergraduates of the Royal University entered Belfast College, and eight of them won Scholarships. I have not seen the Returns relating to Cork and Galway. The complaint is made that while students of a Queen's College can compete for Scholarships at the Royal University, the undergraduates of the latter cannot compete at the Queen's College unless they take the curriculum. That is quite true as to the last assertion, and is absolutely necessary to the

very idea of a teaching College; but it is not true that the students of Queen's Colleges can add Royal Scholarships or Exhibitions to those which they already possess. If an undergraduate at a Queen's College wins an Exhibition at the Royal University, he must elect which he will hold, for he cannot hold both. They, therefore, have no advantage whatever over any other undergraduate. Hon. Members who may continue this debate will, no doubt, reproduce an attack on the students of the Queen's Colleges at the late examinations contained in a lengthy pamphlet, of which Dr. Welsh, the Rector of Maynooth College, is the reputed author. This is a big pamphlet on a very small foundation. The Royal University has only been in partial operation for one year, and in full operation for another year, and has given 12 Scholarships during these two years; and of these, eight have been won by the diocesan and other Roman Catholic Colleges. I am very glad that so many have been won, and it is quite natural. They are regular schools, which systematically prepare for matriculation, and they ought to be successful. The Queen's Colleges only commence at matriculation, and do not prepare for it at all. Their purpose is to teach students who have matriculated. Students entering the Queen's Colleges for the purpose of study begin their connection with them by, and are not prepared by them for matriculation. Even were the Queen's Colleges preparatory schools, which they are not, the conclusions upon which this demand is now made are on a very narrow foundation. The Scholarships given by the Royal University have as yet been only 12 in number, and of this the diocesan and other schools won eight; but it is only as regards the last six that students from Queen's Colleges came into the field, and the candidates from all Ireland won only 20 in all, nine of these being for modern languages. It is absurd, from such a small number, to form any conclusion whatever, and still more absurd to base upon it the demand for the subversion of the Queen's Colleges. The test of the future success of the Colleges under the new University will not be honours in matriculation, for which they have no means of preparation, but the honours which they take in graduation. If they do not sustain their position on

the roll of graduates, then will be the time for Irish Members to attack them. I observe, on looking at the Reports just issued of Belfast and Galway Colleges, that the results are full of promise. The Report for Cork I have not seen. Dr. Porter, speaking of Belfast in relation to the new University, says—

"From the tables it will be seen that our students are taking in the Royal University the same high place which they so long maintained in the Queen's University. Two obtained first-class honours for the degree of L.L.B.; four obtained first-class honours for B.A.; six at the second examination in Arts; three at the first examination in Arts; two at the second examination in Engineering; and three in Medicine. In addition to those first-class honours, 16 obtained honours of the second class."

It would be difficult indeed to surpass such a record. At Galway, the President tells us that out of seven degrees of M.A., three passed with honours; out of 12 B.A.'s, six passed with honours. These are promising results, and the future will show whether they are sustained. Irishmen ought to be proud of the success of this Queen's College. They may not educate their students on the purely denominational system which the Roman Catholic Hierarchy prefer; but as mixed Colleges they are eminently successful. In Cork College, the Roman Catholic students already outnumber those of other denominations. For last year, to 181 Protestants, there were 221 Roman Catholics. In Galway, the Roman Catholics were 42 per cent; and even in Protestant Ulster, Belfast had 4 per cent of Roman Catholics. Do not let those who at heart desire higher education in, and the material prosperity of, Ireland damage these excellent Colleges. A mere Examining Board like the Royal University can never do the work of a teaching College. This University has started its career fairly and honourably; its Statutes are impartially framed; and its action has been wise and full of promise. But it cannot go beyond its function of being a mere Examining Board, and it must depend upon well-ordered Colleges for its ultimate success. There are, no doubt, many Roman Catholics who will not go to mixed Colleges. In myself and many others of this House, they have friends who wish to see them have colleges of their own persuasion; but, in their efforts to obtain these, do not alienate their supporters by trying to

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destroy the Queen's Colleges, which have done, and are doing, such excellent work. All of them, and more still, are required to promote the material prosperity of Ireland. Let us aim at construction, and not at destruction, in our efforts to promote the higher education of the Roman Catholic population of Ireland.

COLONEL COLTHURST said, he would remind the Committee and the right hon. Gentleman (Sir Lyon Playfair) that the Roman Catholics of Ireland were in no way responsible for the present state of affairs. The O'Connor Don proposed, on behalf of the Catholics, that there should be a separate University; but that solution, which left the Queen's University and the Queen's Colleges absolutely intact, Parliament, in its wisdom, refused to adopt; instead of building up a separate University they threw open the Queen's University. Surely, it was not now for Parliament to turn on the Catholics of Ireland and say—"You want to destroy, and not to construct." Parliament refused to construct when the Catholics suggested they should. In 1879 the present Secretary to the Treasury (Mr. Courtney), who had now to defend those endowments, said the Government ought not to put the University on a basis it would be impossible to maintain; they could not maintain the endowments of the Queen's Colleges. Hon. Members in various parts of the House had then pointed out that the Queen's Colleges could not be maintained in their present position. But the hon. Member for Cork City (Mr. Parnell) made no attack upon the endowments of the Queen's Colleges; he simply attacked the prizes, the prizes which they now had to the exclusion of all others. Whether it was true or not that students had gone up to the Royal University, there failed, and then gone back to their own Colleges and taken prizes, there was still an inequality, and there would be an inequality so long as there were three Colleges in Ireland, which, besides being richly endowed, had at their disposal £4,800 a-year for prizes, while the whole prizes at the disposal of the Royal University only amounted to £1,800 a-year. To establish equality it was not necessary to take away the prizes; but they must be made available to all students of the University. The right hon. Gentleman had referred to Maynooth; but it stood on an entirely different footing. Maynooth

had no prizes, but it had an endowment from the Church Funds. Why was it endowed at all in 1791? Simply as a kind of set-off against the ecclesiastical inequalities in Ireland. The whole of the Church endowments in Ireland were then in the hands of the minority, and a small endowment was made for the education of the priesthood of the majority. When the Church was disestablished and disendowed, out of the funds of the disendowed Church Maynooth was re-endowed, in the same way that the Protestant and Presbyterian Churches were re-endowed; not otherwise. The case of Maynooth, therefore, was not apposite to the present discussion. He hoped the hon. Member (Mr. Parnell) would press his Amendment to a Division.

MR. SYNAN said, this question had occupied the attention of Parliament for three years, though it was only the fringe of the University Question. In the interest of Collegiate education the greater the competition the better, and that system must be a vicious one which was buttressed by a kind of monopoly in Exhibitions, Scholarships, and Prizes. In the one case there was a sort of walk over, while in the other case there was a substantial competition. What would be thought if the stewards of a race meeting had two sets of prizes, one set for general competition, and another for their own horses to run for? Would that not shock the sense of justice of the people of any country? As unfair a state of things in regard to higher education prevailed in Ireland. The students of the Queen's Colleges were not satisfied with the prizes of their Colleges, but must go to the Royal University to compete for the prizes there. He did not object to the Queen's College students winning prizes if they were able to do so; but he thought the prizes should be won in fair competition among all the students of the University, and that they ought to be more evenly divided between the different educational establishments. £4,800 a-year was given in prizes at the Queen's Colleges, and only £1,800 to the unendowed schools. What was the amount given in support of the Queen's Colleges? They got £21,000 a-year from the Consolidated Fund, they received another £16,000, and they got £3,000 a-year from the Board of Works for repairs and ornamentation—in all

£40,000 a-year. And that for how many students? For about the same number of students who attended the unendowed schools, and the unendowed schools of the Royal University had only £20,000 a-year for all purposes. And out of the £20,000 the sum appropriated to Scholarships and Exhibitions was shared by the students in the Queen's Colleges. Such a state of affairs ought not to be tolerated longer. The right hon. Member for the University of Edinburgh (Sir Lyon Playfair) boasted that 40 per cent of the students of Galway College were Roman Catholics; but what was the Roman Catholic population of Connaught? It was 95 per cent. Where did the 58 per cent of Protestants come from? From other parts of Ireland to win cheap prizes. Was that a fair system? Was it not fair that the students educated at their own expense should compete on the same terms with the students who were educated at the public expense? He contended that this inequality should be removed, because to say that competition in the matter of education should be different to any other competition was a thing which shocked reason and common sense.

COLONEL NOLAN said, the right hon. Gentleman the Member for the University of Edinburgh (Sir Lyon Playfair) had always something to say upon educational subjects which the House listened to with pleasure, and with the respect due to his authority. But they had not to go beyond the figures of the right hon. Gentleman to see that a great injustice was being committed in Ireland in the matter of the Queen's Colleges. There was the sum of £40,000 given for the purposes of mixed education in Ireland, which the Roman Catholics heartily disliked, as well as a large sum to Trinity College, which was only open in a certain sense to Roman Catholics. He would ask the Head of Her Majesty's Government if he believed that the Roman Catholics of Ireland would be satisfied as long as £40,000 a-year was given for mixed education, and only £4,000 a-year for Roman Catholic education? His right hon. Friend, who well knew the difficulties with which young men in Ireland had to contend with on the road of education, said—"You had better take the money as long as you can get it. Young men must go to these Colleges, even if they are Roman Catho-

lics, if they want a start in life." However that might be, it was perfectly impossible that satisfaction could be expected from the present anomalous system; and he urged upon the Prime Minister the desirability of finding out some way by which equivalent endowments would be given to Roman Catholic Institutions. Their only plan to get redress in this matter was to attack these Queen's Colleges in Ireland, and continue attacking them until it was obtained. He was not disposed to push this question very far on the present occasion; but next year Her Majesty's Government must expect that the Vote would meet with a most determined opposition unless some efficient and satisfactory steps had been taken in the direction he had indicated. There was no wish to attack the College at Belfast; but they did intend, if possible, to have the Colleges at Cork and Belfast re-modelled. He concluded his remarks by assuring the right hon. Gentleman the Member for the University of Edinburgh that his able speech, although they had listened to it with great interest, was not sufficient to satisfy Irish Members that the Queen's Colleges, as at present constituted, were indispensable to the course of education in Ireland.

MR. DAWSON (LORD MAYOR OF DUBLIN) said, he was not an apologist for what was known as the Royal University; and, so far as that appellation was concerned, he regarded it as a misnomer. It was unnecessary to say that, in the opinion of the educated body of Irishmen, it did not fulfil the requirements of the people. The Institution in question had left the Irish people in this position—the Episcopalians, who were small in number, had Trinity College; the Presbyterians had Belfast; the Secularists had Cork and Galway; and the only body who were deprived of everything necessary for academic education and culture was the vast majority of the Irish people. He was surprised to hear the right hon. Gentleman the Member for the University of Edinburgh (Sir Lyon Playfair) say that the Queen's Colleges should not be judged by the number of matriculations at the Royal University, but by the number of the graduations which took place there. When the students who came to matriculate were first passed through the Queen's Colleges, surely the teaching of

these Colleges was tested by the Royal University Matriculation Examination. They had been told that the Queen's Colleges had produced great results; but it was a curious fact that the first time they came into open competition, with the exception of Belfast, they did nothing at all. At the M.A. examination of the Royal University, of the eight successful candidates from the Queen's Colleges, none succeeded in taking first honours, and to only two were second honours awarded. In the first honour list, only one student from the Queen's Colleges won a place, and that was the last one; while the first, second, and third places were gained by Catholic students of the unendowed schools. Coming to the matriculation examination, he found that while the students from the Queen's Colleges obtained 23 honours and Exhibitions, the students from the unendowed schools won 56. On examination of the lists it would be found that the unendowed schools showed better results than the Queen's Colleges; and, therefore, he said that the reduction of this Vote was necessary, on the ground that the entrance to the Royal University ought to be made as attractive to students as that to the Queen's Colleges. There was, in his opinion, an unanswerable claim on the part of his hon. Friend to reduce the Vote, his object being to do away with the anomaly and injustice which had been shown to exist. His answer to the right hon. Gentleman the Member for the University of Edinburgh was that the real need of the Catholics of Ireland was sufficiently - endowed Colleges to which they could go; and he would ask how often had the late Member for Limerick (Mr. Butt) brought in Bills beseeching Parliament to do justice to the people of Ireland in that respect? The Queen's College Scholarships, which were not open to the students of the Royal University, were nothing else than consolation prizes for those who did not succeed at the University examinations. There was compensation in Cork, and Galway, and Belfast; so that the students of these Colleges, when they failed at the Royal University, could go to their own Colleges, and, without any competition at all, gain prizes. He trusted the Vote would be reduced by the amount moved by his hon. Friend the Member for the City of Cork.

MR. DALY said, these Scholarships were originally instituted as a bribe to enable persons who had conscientious scruples to pass without danger to their conscientious principles. The Irish people said that, although the Scholarships might have been useful at the inception of the Queen's Colleges, they were now 37 years old, and the same state of things no longer existed. One feature in connection with the Motion of his hon. Friend was that, when it was said that the amount in question should be taken away from the Queen's Colleges, it was not meant that it should be taken away absolutely. If the College system of teaching was a good one, the grant would, so far as they were concerned, only be deferred; because the students would have the same chance of obtaining the prizes as the students from the unendowed Colleges, and if the teaching were superior they would still be secured to them, because the best men must win them. He considered the word "bulwark," as applied by the right hon. Gentleman the Member for the University of Edinburgh (Sir Lyon Playfair); singularly infelicitous, because if they could not stand without State aid, after 37 years of existence, they had better go down. There could be no doubt that the students who were obliged to go to the Royal University were unfairly treated in this matter; and he contended that the present system of endowments of the Queen's Colleges, as a means of promoting the cause of higher education amongst the great body of the Irish people, would not bear five minutes' examination. The truth of this was so manifest that, although they might not be so fortunate as to alter the amount of the Vote in Committee, he was confident this question would have to be settled at no distant period. He considered that the demand of the hon. Gentleman the Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) was based on the inimitable principle of justice that, where there was any public money to be competed for, all persons had an equal right to contend for it; but it was nothing else than a system of nursing to continue this grant to the three Colleges in the manner in which it was applied at present, and he was satisfied that a few more experiences would put an end to it altogether.

MR. O'BRIEN said, this was necessarily only a fragmentary discussion. He regarded the condition of University Education in Ireland as so anomalous and unsatisfactory that the whole question would very soon have to be raised. It was recognized by the Act of 1879 that the Catholics of Ireland would not, under any circumstances, accept this system of education. There was not a single endowed College for Catholics—Trinity College was a Protestant Institution, and had a revenue of £75,000 from Irish money; and the only thing left for the Catholics was that they should take part in the tooth-and-nail scramble for prizes which took place every year at the Royal University, and which really absorbed the energies of both teachers and pupils. Like the right hon. Gentleman the Member for the University of Edinburgh, he should be glad to level up instead of levelling down in this matter of education; and he would like to see in Ireland some great central institutions where competitive examinations could be carried on, and something like higher culture created amongst the people of the country. As long as the present system continued dissatisfaction would exist; because it was most unfair that, when the students of the Queen's Colleges broke down at the Royal University, they should be able to fall back upon another set of prizes. He protested against the continuance of the Votes, and he was sorry it was not earlier in the Session, so that Irish Members might have carried their objection to them to a greater length.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR said, he thought it better not to enter into the discussion of the general question, because he did not think he represented the views of anyone but himself. But there was a point in connection with the salaries of the Professors at the Queen's Colleges which he wished to raise. He was himself an ex-Queen's College student; and for those institutions, as well as the learned Professors who assisted at them, and who had suffered greatly in a pecuniary sense by the institution of the Royal University, he wished to speak. Those learned men were certainly entitled to better treatment than they had met with, for it was perfectly well known that their duties had been discharged in a most satisfactory manner; but he had received letters from several of them

which showed that in the case of three Professors their incomes had been reduced by one-half, or even more, owing to the effect of the University system on their class fees. The fact was that the Royal University system was the most stupid arrangement ever passed through Parliament by a set of sensible men trying to make their way through idiotic prejudices. When the Prime Minister was in Opposition he attempted, in a bold and statesmanlike way, to deal with the question of Irish Education; but the right hon. Gentleman the Postmaster General and several others grumbled and obstructed the proposal of the right hon. Gentleman; the consequence was the establishment of the Royal University, by which the unfortunate Professors he had alluded to were deprived of a great part of their incomes, and a state of things was originated which was prejudicial to the interest of education in Ireland. The whole question of education would have to be opened up and settled upon a rational basis; and as to future legislation on the subject, he thought that would be made easier by the enormous advance of English opinion, which would clear away bigotry.

MR. TREVELYAN said, the hon. Member for Galway, who was certainly at this moment both physically and mentally better able than he was to make a brilliant speech, had told the Committee, rather to their relief, that he had spared them; but, to his disappointment, the hon. Member sat down rather prematurely. But after the hon. Member's forbearance he should certainly not detain the Committee at this hour more than to announce the intentions of the Government. The case for the Queen's Colleges was completely stated, and some hon. Members thought it had been overstated by the right hon. Gentleman (Sir Lyon Playfair), and he was willing to adopt the right hon. Gentleman as an advocate of the cause. The hon. Member for Limerick (Mr. Synan) made one or two remarks to which he must take exception. He had several times described the Vote for the Queen's Colleges as £40,000 a-year; but he counted in that the £26,000, which was composed of £21,000 from the Consolidated Fund, and £5,000 taken in the Estimates, and he included also a sum which, no doubt, was correctly stated,

from the Office of Works, he presumed, and also a sum of about £10,000 a-year, which was equivalent to the students' fees. In the last item the Government could not agree. In speaking of the endowment of the Colleges, he was willing to place that at £30,000, and the question was whether that was too much. If it was not too much for the purpose for which it was allotted, then they would be adopting a course to which great exception could be taken if they cut away from that already not superfluous sum an amount to be devoted to any other purpose. It was not enough to say that the Royal University was not sufficiently endowed, unless, at the same time, it was said that the Colleges were over-endowed. The hon. Member for the City of Cork proposed to deduct a certain sum from the Vote—namely, £4,800; but the hon. Member was, no doubt, aware that that was not the Prize Fund of the Colleges. The Prize Fund was derived from the £21,000 per annum which was charged on the Consolidated Fund; but, considering that some small portion of the savings on the ordinary expenses of the Colleges went annually to the Prize Fund, it was, perhaps, not an excessive calculation to put that at about £4,800, although, as a matter of fact, it was not so much as that. He believed it rarely exceeded £1,180. Was that excessive? There were 350 undergraduates, and the £1,180, divided among them, gave £3 each in Prizes, Exhibitions, &c. At Belfast there were 500 undergraduates, and they really got only a little over £2 a-head. If young men, on leaving school and going to Oxford or Cambridge, were told that the prizes amounted to £2 or £3 per head, they would say the conditions of higher education in England were certainly different from those they had been brought to look forward to. Even at Galway the Prizes and Exhibitions did not amount to more than £6 a-head. He believed that at Oxford not less than £80,000 a-year was given in Prizes, Exhibitions, and Scholarships; and it must be remembered that over and above that there were at Oxford and Cambridge Fellowships which were much more easily obtainable than at the Queen's Colleges, so that, in reality, a successful student had much more to look forward to. Supposing there were 2,000 students at Oxford, the £80,000

would give £40 a-head, as against £2 or £3 a-head at the Queen's Colleges.

Mr. PARNELL asked whether the right hon. Gentleman was referring to College prizes?

Mr. TREVELYAN said, there were very few Scholarships at Oxford, and these would be almost entirely College prizes. The students at the Queen's Colleges might be set down at 800 in number; but the endowments only amounted to £30,000 a-year. The most successful College—at any rate, patriotism would lead him to call it so, taking the whole history of the Colleges at Cambridge—was Trinity College, where there were 500 students, and where the endowment, he believed, was not much less than £40,000 a-year; and he thought it would be allowed that Trinity College did not suffer from the evils of over-endowment, or any of the corruptions which might be supposed to result therefrom. The hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) said these were not the Colleges of the people of Ireland. To that observation, in one sense, he must take exception. It was very much to the credit of the people of Ireland that they had such a very large amount of high instruction; but at the two English Universities there were about 5,000 students in a population of 25,000,000, while, setting aside the Royal University, there were in Ireland in this single set of Colleges 800 students in a population of 5,000,000. He could not see that Colleges containing that number of students could, in any sense, be called not the Colleges of the people of Ireland. The hon. Member for Limerick (Mr. Synan) used a simile which he found it difficult to accept in regard to educational questions. He talked of the "walk over" of All Saints, and of one College being hand-capped as against another. If he might be allowed to say so, he would say it was this fallacy that underlay the whole of the defects. Hon. Members were naturally pained at finding that large Colleges attached to the Royal University, in which they took great interest, were not so well endowed as Colleges that fulfilled the real functions of Colleges ought to be; and, therefore, they endeavoured to find a comparison between them and other Colleges, and they desired to take away some of the emoluments and endowments. In that he

thought they made a great mistake. When anything worked fairly well it was better not to pull it about, but to let it go on working. By adopting the recommendation of the hon. Member for the City of Cork they would injure, and cruelly injure, the Queen's Colleges, because the prizes and Scholarships were as much a part of the life of a College as the rooms in which the young men met. They were part of the life which bound them together in intellectual intercourse, which was by far the most valuable element in College life—far more valuable than the lectures, books, and examinations. It was the effect which young men who, with all the ardour of opposing intelligence, produced upon each other, which could only be secured by living together in some one institution, that formed one of the most valuable parts of University life. No doubt hon. Members recognized that, and they said they would like to extend these advantages to other Colleges than the Queen's Colleges. He should be very glad to see these advantages extended; but he could not admit that that should be done at the expense of Colleges which had done very good work in Ireland. Such a step could be in no sense to the public interest of Ireland or the interest of the country at large.

Mr. HEALY said, he had expected to hear the right hon. Gentleman wind up by saying that, while he could not take away a single penny from the Queen's Colleges, yet, so greatly did he recognize the benefit of their Halls and Colleges and University of Ireland, that the Government intended to propose a handsome Vote for the Royal University. But the right hon. Gentleman had sat down without saying anything of the kind; and while he maintained that this sum was necessary for prizes for the Queen's Colleges, he seemed to be in the dark as to there being the same interest in the other institutions. He had managed to get through his speech without saying a single word in reference to the fact that there were barriers which shut out the bulk of the people from these Colleges. They might, in his view, have been artificially imposed or not; but hon. Members must recollect the prejudices of the people of the country, and the country and its conditions. The people of Ireland were shut out from the Queen's Colleges to a

large extent, because their religious superiors had ordained that it was not desirable that they should receive instruction at these Colleges. The Government wanted to drive the people in the teeth of what they considered absolutely impossible for them, when their religious superiors desired that they should not enter these Colleges. He did not grudge the Colleges all the money proposed for them, provided the Government gave the other institutions a fit sum; and he was surprised that the right hon. Gentleman had given no sign in that direction. It was proposed the other day to sink £8,000,000 in the sands of Egypt, and here Ireland could not get £100,000 for Colleges to which the bulk of the people could resort. They had money scattered broadcast on institutions which they did not require, and which they protested against; but the Government insisted upon cramming them down their throats, and would not give them a few thousand pounds for the University. This was not statesmanship. Had the right hon. Gentleman such a dreadful terror of the Secretary to the Treasury that he could not say that in a few months he would propose an enlargement of the Vote, so that the Royal University should get some of it? This Treasury bugbear was always being flung at them. He hoped the right hon. Gentleman would see his way to an enlargement of the University Vote.

Question put.

The Committee divided:—Ayes 23; Noes 72 : Majority 49. — (Div. List, No. 297.)

Original Question put, and agreed to.

(15.) £1,200, to complete the sum necessary for the Royal Irish Academy.

Mr. HEALY said, an important question had lately been decided with respect to certain manuscripts; but he should like to hear some defence of what had been done. He could not see what was the use of sending Irish manuscripts to London, where people did not understand them. There were plenty of people who could read Mr. Shapira's manuscripts; but he did not hear of any of these scholars wanting to have these manuscripts, while there were a larger number of gentlemen in Ireland who were interested in them, and they complained very strongly of what had been done.

Mr. Trevelyan

Sir Samuel Ferguson was President of the Royal Academy, and was Keeper of the Records in Dublin, and in that position he did not think he was strictly impartial. He did not see why they should not have these manuscripts in Dublin, where they would be more studied than in the British Museum.

Mr. COURTNEY said, they were going to Dublin.

Mr. HEALY said, the Prime Minister had stated that half of them were going to Dublin.

Mr. COURTNEY said, the Stowe Collection consisted of a great variety of manuscripts, of which a certain number were Irish, and would go to Dublin.

Vote agreed to.

CLASS V.—FOREIGN AND COLONIAL SERVICES.

(16.) £6,894, to complete the sum for the Suppression of the Slave Trade.

(17.) £2,671, to complete the sum for Tonnage Bounties, &c. and Liberated African Department.

(18.) £18,801, to complete the sum for the Colonies, Grants in Aid.

Sir HENRY HOLLAND said, he saw no Estimate for the High Commissioner of the Western Pacific, Sir Arthur Gordon. This was a very important post, and he wished to know who was performing the duties?

Mr. EVELYN ASHLEY replied, that the Governor of Fiji was at present performing the duties; but the whole matter was under consideration.

Vote agreed to.

(19.) £17,300, to complete the sum for Telegraph Companies (Subsidies).

(20.) Motion made, and Question proposed.

"That a sum, not exceeding £5,000, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, as a Grant in Aid of the Revenue of the Island of Cyprus."

Mr. ARTHUR ARNOLD said, when he last addressed the Committee on this subject, the Prime Minister said the time had not then come when they could appreciate the real value of Cyprus with regard to Egypt. The time had now come, for the crisis in Egypt was over, and it had shown that with reference to

Egypt Cyprus was of no value whatever. It was of no value to the Empire in any respect. The fact that we had now practically a Naval command in Egyptian waters rendered Cyprus utterly useless. Whatever might be the policy of the Government with regard to the withdrawal of our Army, he apprehended that the time was far distant, and could not be foreseen, when the Naval power of this country would cease to be used for the protection of the Egyptian shores. The present Minister for War, when addressing his constituents in Lancashire last year, spoke of Cyprus as a useless Island. If, in the opinion of the Secretary of State for War, this Island, which was to be a "place of arms," was useless, he need not make any long appeal to the Committee in asking them to join with him in rejecting this Vote. Since he last addressed the Committee on this subject there had been another change in the Colonial Office; and he would offer his respectful congratulations to Lord Derby on the reduction he had effected in Cyprus. He had the utmost confidence in Lord Derby, and if he could believe that Lord Derby would remain at the Colonial Office for a great number of years he should feel quite sure that at no distant time the resources of that Island would be equal to its requirements, and that Lord Derby would not engage in any useless and experimental expenditure, which would only lead to unsatisfactory results. Lord Derby had, to the great service of the country, put forward a statement of what had been the real cost of Cyprus to this country during the five years of our occupation. He showed that Parliament had voted altogether £550,000 for Cyprus, or £110,000 a-year. Lord Derby also stated that he had before him Estimates for the so-called development of the Island, amounting to more than £1,000,000. Railways and harbours were recommended to Lord Derby as means of improving the Island, and what was his comment upon the proposal? He said, as so sensible a Minister would be expected to say, that it should be announced once for all that there was no thought and no prospect of Cyprus being developed by the bounty of Parliament; and he (Mr. Arthur Arnold) was perfectly convinced that so long as Lord Derby was at the Colonial Office there would be no thought of such

a scheme. But Lord Derby would not always be at the Colonial Office. Some day or other there might be a change in the Government; and he should look with dismay on the future of Cyprus when it was committed to the hands of a Conservative Administration. He was fearful that if this country retained its present possession of Cyprus many years would not pass before proposals would be made for the expenditure, perhaps, of £1,000,000 in the Island; and, therefore, it was advisable on all grounds not only that the valuable economy which Lord Derby had practised should be continued, but that a policy should be adopted which would ultimately relieve us from this charge. It was highly dangerous, in face of these schemes for improving Cyprus, to keep the Island. Certainly, while it remained in our hands the Colonial Office might take means to so reduce the expenditure that it might cease to come to that House for grants. He believed such means would be taken; and he hoped the Committee would, by supporting him to-night, stimulate Lord Derby to take further steps in that direction. In order to strengthen the hands of the Colonial Office in that good work, he should oppose the Vote.

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE said, the hon. Member had, at the conclusion of his speech, not informed the Committee of the policy which he wished Parliament to follow with regard to Cyprus.

MR. ARTHUR ARNOLD said, he had done so last year and the year before.

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE said, he thought it was quite impossible to propose to hand over the population of Cyprus to Turkish rule. On the other hand, the hon. Member spoke of compounding with the Turkish Government for the surplus revenue; but if that were done it would amount to a proposal for the expenditure of a very large sum of money, and he doubted whether Parliament would be prepared to pay that large sum to the Turkish Government. Therefore, they seemed to be no more forward this year in regard to Cyprus than they were in previous years. The proposal that this money should be raised at once and paid to Turkey, even if the Turkish Government were prepared to assent to the proposition, was not one which Parliament could entertain; and, therefore, they were face to face with

Mr. Arthur Arnold

the question whether it was necessary to go on paying these charges for Cyprus. The Government were expecting from that Island a considerable sum of money with which to pay the working expenses; and the real question to consider was, whether the sum now asked for was excessive, and whether it was possible to carry on the government of the Island without asking Parliament for a grant? He believed that Lord Derby had made every reduction that was possible.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL said, he heartily agreed in the view that Cyprus was useless, and worse than useless; but he also agreed with the right hon. Gentleman that we could not get rid of it at once. The Island was now as self-supporting as we could expect it to be. They were asked to vote £45,000, and there was also a charge of £51,000 for troops—together £96,000, which we had to pay as tribute to Turkey. Therefore, the Island was practically self-supporting. The utmost economy, under these circumstances, had been practised; and as we could not get rid of this White Elephant, he hoped the hon. Member would not press his opposition to the Vote.

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY said, he wished the hon. Member would take the trouble to read the Papers before he discussed these affairs, as he would then see that the Vote asked for was £30,000, and that, as a fact, the Island was a great deal more than self-supporting. He would take care that the complimentary observations of the hon. Member should be conveyed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies; but, at the same time, he thought it was due to those who worked under the Secretary of State that he should mention the name of Mr. Fairfield, to whom they were much indebted. He had gone to Cyprus, and had taken a great deal of trouble in this matter. He had shown great ability, and by his exertions the expenditure had been largely reduced.

MR. ARTHUR ARNOLD said, the previous Divisions had been so beneficial to the finances of the Island that he felt bound to repeat the process.

Question put.

The Committee divided:—Ayes 66; Noes 20: Majority 46.—(Div. List, No. 298.)

(21.) Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That a sum, not exceeding £11,246, be granted to Her Majesty, to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the repayment of the balance of the amount advanced out of the Civil Contingencies Fund for payment to the United States Government in settlement of the Fortune Bay Fishery Claims."

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL said, this Vote involved most serious and difficult questions, and he did not think it ought to be taken at that hour. It would be much better to defer it, and he should move that Progress be reported.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Chairman do report Progress, and ask leave to sit again."—(*Sir George Campbell.*)

MR. COURTNEY said, he hoped the hon. Member would not persist in this Motion.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he hoped the Committee would go on.

Motion, by leave, *withdrawn*.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL said, this Vote involved a most serious principle. Newfoundland was enjoying responsible Government. It had complete Home Rule, except that it was linked to this country by allegiance to a common Crown. Newfoundland and the United States had a difference about the fisheries, and the Crown was called upon to go into the question. The question was gone into, and it was settled that £15,000 was to be paid. The result was that the British taxpayers, who had nothing to do with the quarrel, would have to provide by far the greater part of the sum. That was a monstrous proposition. What was to be our relation to this Colony? We were called upon to pay £11,000, and the principle would be established that the unfortunate taxpayers of this country had to pay for quarrels with which they had nothing to do. As the people of Newfoundland had a Parliament of their own, and were really the aggressors in this case, but would not pay the money, it was not right that this country should have to pay it.

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY said, he regretted that the Papers with reference to this matter had not been distributed; but they would be in a day or two. No

doubt, there were large principles involved in all these cases; but it was not the fact that £15,000 had to be paid. That was one of the strong grounds of the refusal to pay by Newfoundland. They said that, whether rightly or wrongly, they would have liked to have the matter settled by arbitration; but the British Government had, for reasons of their own, negotiated directly with the United States. They considered the sum awarded too much, and they fortified their view by opinions given in great detail by Judge Barry, a man of great experience and skill, who was consulted by the Colonial authorities as to what should be paid. He said the sum should be about £3,000; but, after consultation between the Colonial Office and Newfoundland, the Colonial Office undertook to pay part of the amount awarded; and he thought, on the whole, they were wise in doing so.

SIR HENRY HOLLAND asked whether the points of law had been settled between Newfoundland and the United States with respect to the infringement of the local laws by the fishermen of the latter country?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: No.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL said, it was most unfortunate that the Committee should have to pass this Vote without having seen the Papers. It was all very well to say that the cost had been divided; the Colonies only paid a small part at their own good pleasure. But, whatever the state of the case was, what had the taxpayers of this country done that they should have to pay this money? They were simply asked to pay because other people who were concerned in the matter would not pay.

Original Question put, and *agreed to*.

CLASS VI.—NON-EFFECTIVE AND CHARITABLE SERVICES.

(22.) £210,737, to complete the sum necessary for Superannuations and Retired Allowances.

(23.) £10,800, to complete the sum necessary for Merchant Seamen's Fund Pensions, &c.

(24.) £442,500, to complete the sum for Pauper Lunatics, England.

(25.) £51,500, to complete the sum for Pauper Lunatics, Scotland.

(26.) £7,000, to complete the sum for Pauper Lunatics, Ireland.

(27.) £8,725, to complete the sum for Hospitals and Infirmaries, Ireland.

(28.) £48,588, Friendly Societies Deficiency.

(29.) £1,888, to complete the sum for Miscellaneous Charitable and other Allowances, Great Britain.

(30.) £2,722, to complete the sum for Miscellaneous Charitable and other Allowances, Ireland.

(31.) £8,422, Commutation of Annuities.

(32.) £1,000, for Cochrane's Deposits.

CLASS VII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

(33.) £19,523, to complete the sum for Temporary Commissions.

(34.) £2,912, to complete the sum for Miscellaneous Expenses.

REVENUE DEPARTMENTS.

(35.) £810,785, to complete the sum for Customs.

(36.) £1,438,366, to complete the sum for Inland Revenue.

(37.) £3,683,218 (including a Supplementary sum of £339,466), to complete the sum for Post Office.

(38.) £486,285, to complete the sum for Post Office Packet Service.

(39.) £1,226,073 (including a Supplementary sum of £200,000), to complete the sum for Post Office Telegraphs.

(40.) £500,000, Afghan War (Grant in Aid) 1883-4.

CLASS I.—PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS.

(41.) £4,000, Supplementary, Royal Palaces.

(42.) £4,895, Supplementary, Houses of Parliament.

(43.) £5,323, Supplementary, Harbours under the Board of Trade.

(44.) £500, Supplementary, House of Commons Offices.

MR. SHEIL said, he thought the Committee were entitled to some explanation of this Vote. He protested

against the charge of £500 if it related to the Kitchen Department.

LORD KENSINGTON said, he regretted the absence of the right hon. Gentleman the Chairman of the Kitchen Committee on that occasion; but would himself endeavour to give an account of the circumstances which had led to the present Supplementary Vote being presented. It had been alleged that during the course of last Session the receipts of the contractors had greatly fallen off, and that they were, in consequence, out of pocket by the arrangement into which they had entered. A Sub-Committee was appointed, who went into the contractors' accounts; and, after a full and careful investigation of the whole matter, they reported that there was a serious loss. That loss was considered to be due to two causes. In the first place, the great number of Morning Sittings which were held last Session had largely decreased the number of dinners sent down; and, secondly, the extra accommodation provided in the Dining Room and new Smoking Room had necessitated the employment of a larger staff of attendants. The Committee, under the circumstances, recommended that the extra sum of £500 should be granted to the contractor. The Committee had issued two Reports on the subject, one in August last year, in which they said that a large increase of expense had been entailed on the contractor, although they made no recommendation; the other at the commencement of the present Session, in which there was a recommendation for this increased grant. He begged to assure hon. Members that the Kitchen Committee had gone carefully into the whole subject, and in this they were greatly assisted by the Sub-Committee to which he had alluded. He might just mention, in connection with the first cause of the deficiency—namely, the falling-off in the number of dinners consequent upon the Morning Sittings—that whereas the number of dinners supplied in 1881 was 10,500, it fell in 1882 to 6,100, and again in the present year to 5,600, the luncheons served having been on the same diminishing scale. He believed that several hon. Members would bear him out in the expression of his personal opinion that the amount of the proposed grant would barely cover the loss incurred by the contractors.

MR. CAINE asked if the whole refreshment department of the House came within the statement of the noble Lord?

LORD KENSINGTON replied, that it related to the refreshments served in all the saloons, and at the bars upstairs.

MR. CAINE said, he thought the sooner the House took the matter into its own hands the better. If they did so, there would be a saving of money, and a lower tariff than there was at present. It was most objectionable that Members should have to pay 9d. for a cup of tea that they could get in any club-house for 4d. He should feel it his duty, on another occasion, to move the reduction of the Vote.

Vote agreed to.

MR. SHEIL said, he begged to second the Motion of the hon. Member opposite.

MR. COURTNEY said, the hon. Gentleman had not moved.

MR. SHEIL said, he had understood the hon. Member to move the rejection of the Vote. He entirely agreed with the view taken of this question by the hon. Member, who had expressed a great deal of what he himself had intended to say. He brought no charge against the Kitchen Committee, nor did he wish to make any against the contractor, who, he was willing to admit, had done his duty towards the House; but he contended that, in view of the large allowance received and the high prices charged, the profits must be considerable. He understood the noble Lord to say that the Chairman of the Sub-Committee was not present; and, that being so, hon. Members were left practically in the dark as to how the Sub-Committee had been guided to the conclusion they had arrived at.

LORD KENSINGTON: I think I stated that the Sub-Committee made a most careful investigation of the whole matter, the contractor's books having been examined.

MR. SHEIL said, it was unfortunate that the Chairman of the Sub-Committee was not present, because the noble Lord was not as well acquainted with the facts as the Committee would have liked. He pointed out that in the case of all the Select Committees of the House a shorthand writer was employed, who took down everything that

was said, and from his notes a Report was made to the House, which was then able to form its own opinion. He thought the same plan should have been adopted in the present instance. They were told by the noble Lord that the contractor's accounts were examined; but there was nothing to show that the accounts had been properly kept. He begged to move the rejection of the Vote.

THE CHAIRMAN said, that the Motion could not be put, as the Vote had been passed. The hon. Member could move on Report.

MR. SHEIL said he would avail himself of the opportunity suggested by the Chairman.

CLASS II.—SALARIES AND EXPENSES OF CIVIL DEPARTMENTS.

(45.) Motion made, and Question put,

"That a sum, not exceeding £10,200, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for Her Majesty's Foreign and other Secret Services."

The Committee divided:—Ayes 63; Noes 16: Majority 47. — (Div. List, No. 299.)

Resolutions to be reported *To-morrow*.

Committee to sit again *To-morrow*.

TRAMWAYS AND PUBLIC COMPANIES (IRELAND) BILL.—[BILL 286.]

(*Mr. Trevelyan, Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Attorney General for Ireland, Mr. Courtney.*)

COMMITTEE. [*Progress 17th August.*]

Bill considered in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 12 (Advances by Land Commission).

MR. PARNELL proposed in page 7, line 30, after "holdings," insert—

"And for the purpose of assisting the removal thereof of persons or families as provided by Section 11 of this Act."

He intended subsequently to move to insert, after "advances," in line 31—

"Where the estate or estates are purchased solely for the purpose of re-sale to the tenants."

Amendment proposed,

In page 7, line 30, after "holdings," insert "and for the purpose of assisting the removal thereof of persons or families as provided by Section 11 of this Act."—(*Mr. Parnell.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, the hon. Member had an Amendment on the Paper, the object of which, no doubt, was more fully carried out by the words now proposed. The Amendment on the Paper was to insert, after "holdings," "and for such other purpose or purposes as the Lord Lieutenant may approve." Now, those words seemed extremely vague, and gave large powers to the Lord Lieutenant, which might have subjected him to all kinds of applications. The words which had now been suggested by the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) would not only sufficiently carry out the object of the hon. Gentleman, but they would, he (Mr. Chamberlain) thought, meet the views of the hon. Member for Mayo (Mr. O'Connor Power). The Amendment was one of which the Government had already approved, and they would be glad to accept it.

MR. O'CONNOR POWER said, he was glad the hon. Member for the City of Cork had altered his proposal, because really, as the Amendment stood on the Paper, the Lord Lieutenant could advance money to Companies for every conceivable purpose. His (Mr. O'Connor Power's) Amendment lower down, however, was not affected by the present proposal. His Amendment had reference to advances generally; but the Amendment of his hon. Friend (Mr. Parnell) had reference only to the £50,000 which the Lord Lieutenant had at his disposal.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

On the Motion of Mr. PARNELL, Amendment made, in page 7, line 31, after "advances," by inserting—

"Where the estate or estates are purchased solely for the purpose of re-sale to the tenants."

MR. O'CONNOR POWER said, he was not quite clear that the Lord Lieutenant and the Land Commission were fully empowered, by what the Committee had already done, to make advances for the purpose of carrying out migration; and he wished to say, in explanation of the Amendment which stood in his name on the Paper, that he contemplated the lending of money to a public Company for the purpose of carrying

out migration only, because that was the only form in which he could introduce the question of migration upon this Bill. In his judgment, migration could not be successfully carried out by public Companies; and the creation of a peasant proprietary contemplated by the Chief Secretary in this Act, through the agency of public Companies, would never be carried out. Entertaining these views, he was only anxious to test the opinion of the Government with regard to the agency of these public Companies. The Government believed, according to the general scope of the Bill, that public Companies could be utilized for the creation of a peasant proprietary in Ireland. If that was true, it was equally true, in his judgment, that public Companies could be used for the purposes of migration; but he should never have thought of making the proposal himself. He had so much interest in the question of migration, that he did not want it to be said by-and-bye that he silently assented to a scheme of this kind, and that he was willing to have a scheme of migration tested upon any such grounds as these. If, however, the Government and his hon. Friend (Mr. Parnell) thought differently, he would be quite willing to see the proposal tested, and he should rejoice if they succeeded.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he did not understand the last remark of the hon. Gentleman (Mr. O'Connor Power), because his own proposal—the proposal they now had before them—was a proposal to lend money to public Companies for the purposes of migration; and it was evident the hon. Member himself contemplated the lending of money to public Companies as an alternative scheme. They were dealing with a proposal to lend money for the purpose of purchasing estates and re-selling them to tenants, and they had just accepted an Amendment which carried out in principle the Amendment standing in the name of the hon. Member (Mr. O'Connor Power), and which, if any cases arose, would enable the Government to lend money for the purchase of estates, not only for the purpose of re-selling them to the tenants already in possession, but also for the purpose of settling upon them persons who might be removed from congested districts. The only difference between the Amendment the Committee had accepted and

the Amendment of the hon. Member (Mr. O'Connor Power) was that the hon. Member's Amendment did not limit the amount. The Government had all along said this was an experiment, and that the amount to be advanced should be limited to £50,000.

MR. O'CONNOR POWER said, he was then to understand that the Lord Lieutenant could only advance a limited amount. He wanted to know exactly how matters stood. Had the Land Commission and the Lord Lieutenant power jointly or separately, with the consent of the Treasury, to make advances? It was a mistake to say that the advances were not limited, because all the advances made under this Act, like all the advances made under the Land Act, were limited by the 31st section of that Act, which said that—

"The sums annually advanced for these purposes shall not exceed the sums annually voted by Parliament."

Parliament had to vote the money from year to year for these purposes; and, therefore, the advances were limited. He had understood that if his hon. Friend's (Mr. Parnell's) Amendment were adopted in its altered form the Land Commission would be free to make advances.

MR. TREVELYAN said, that what was proposed was, in the first place, where the Lord Lieutenant recommended and where the Treasury approved, a Company might purchase land for the purpose of settling families on it, the purchase money being lent in the same manner as it would be lent to a Company purchasing land for the purpose of re-sale. Special words had been used in order to show that whatever was done would be carefully examined. Secondly, a Company having purchased land would be able to borrow money under the 31st section of the Land Law (Ireland) Act, the provisions of which were well known; and, thirdly, the sum of £50,000 would be granted altogether to public Companies for the purpose of aiding in carrying out migration. That would not be a loan, but a grant.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does the hon. Member for Mayo (Mr. O'Connor Power) move his Amendment?

MR. O'CONNOR POWER said, that, until the matter was cleared up, the best course for him to pursue would be to move his Amendment *pro forma*. The

Chief Secretary and the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Board of Trade, and his hon. Friend (Mr. Parnell), did not seem to agree in the matter. He was told that the amount of money to be advanced was limited to £50,000. Was that so or not? He would like a straightforward answer.

MR. TREVELYAN said, he could only repeat what he had said—namely, that grants in the shape of grants, and not of loans or advances, could only be made to the extent of £50,000; but, besides that, advances might be made for the purpose of purchasing estates with the object of re-selling them to the tenants, and under stricter supervision for the purpose of preparing the land for migration.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does the hon. Member move?

MR. O'CONNOR POWER said, he would move, because he would like to know what the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Board of Trade (Mr. Chamberlain) meant when he said there was a difference between his (Mr. O'Connor Power's) proposal and the proposal of the hon. Gentleman the Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell); because, if there was a difference between what had been accepted and what he proposed, it was not correct to say that his object had been attained by what had been accepted. The right hon. Gentleman subsequently said the difference was that there was no limit to the advance in his proposal. Did the right hon. Gentleman still adhere to the statement that he (Mr. O'Connor Power) had come down to the House of Commons to make a proposal giving unlimited power to make advances?—because, if he did, he had misunderstood the proposal.

Amendment proposed,

In page 7, line 34, after "company," insert—"Provided, That, whenever the company propose to purchase estates for the purpose of settling upon them tenants removed from more thickly-populated lands, the Land Commission may advance to the company, for that purpose, such sums as the Treasury think fit; but such sums shall not exceed the amount annually granted by Parliament for the purpose, and no advances shall be made to such company without proper security that those advances shall be expended for the purpose aforesaid."—(Mr. O'Connor Power.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he ought to have said there was a limit in the proposal, because it contained the words—

“The Land Commission may advance to the company, for that purpose, such sums as the Treasury think fit; but such sums shall not exceed the amount annually granted by Parliament for that purpose.”

Therefore, of course, the amount advanced would be limited to whatever sum might be fixed by the Treasury and approved by Parliament.

MR. MACFARLANE said, there was some misunderstanding between his hon. Friend (Mr. O'Connor Power) and the Treasury Bench. In the one case a grant of £50,000 was to be made; and in the other case a sum of money was to be granted, limited only by the will of the Treasury. There was, therefore, no substantial difference between the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Board of Trade (Mr. Chamberlain) and his hon. Friend (Mr. O'Connor Power).

MR. O'CONNOR POWER asked what the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Board of Trade (Mr. Chamberlain) meant when he said that the advances under his (Mr. O'Connor Power's) proposal were not limited? Why was he told that his Amendment could not be accepted, because it was unlimited in character?

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he had misunderstood the hon. Gentleman's proposal; and after the hon. Gentleman's explanation he would withdraw the remarks he made at the outset. He pointed out what seemed to be a slight difference between the wording of the two Amendments. In the Amendment the Committee had just accepted they had practically accepted, and intended to accept, the spirit of the Amendment which the hon. Member for Mayo (Mr. O'Connor Power) had moved. He thought he was bound to correct that, by saying there seemed to be a slight difference, which he mentioned, between the hon. Gentleman's proposal and that of the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell); and after the hon. Member's explanation he thought that slight difference had disappeared.

MR. O'CONNOR POWER said, that, if the object he had in view were attained, he was quite satisfied. He was very glad that the Government, who so very recently described his migration

scheme as impracticable and visionary, had now faith in the scheme.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

On the Motion of MR. PARNELL, Amendment made, in page 7, line 36, after “shall,” by inserting “so far as concerns the re-sale of their holdings to the tenants thereon.”

MR. O'CONNOR POWER proposed, in page 8, line 2, after “holdings,” to insert—

“Excepting always estates purchased for the purpose of settling upon them tenants removed from more thickly-populated lands.”

It seemed to him that this Amendment was consequential upon what had been agreed to.

Amendment proposed,

In page 8, line 2, after “holdings,” insert “excepting always estates purchased for the purpose of settling upon them tenants removed from more thickly-populated lands.”—(Mr. O'Connor Power.)

Question proposed, “That those words be there inserted.”

MR. PARNELL said he thought his hon. Friend the Member for Mayo (Mr. O'Connor Power) would, on further consideration, see that his Amendment was not necessary in view of the Amendment which had just been accepted. The Amendment provided, in another way, and in other words, what had just been agreed to by the Committee.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

On the Motion of MR. PARNELL, Amendment made, in page 8, line 21, by leaving out all after “Treasury” to end of sub-section, and inserting “and on the recommendation of the Lord Lieutenant.”

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*, and ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clauses 13 to 18, inclusive, *agreed to*.

Clause 19 (Amendment of s. 31 of Land Act).

DR. LYONS proposed to add, in page 11, at end of clause—

“The Board of Works in Ireland may, with the consent of the Treasury, constitute an ‘Office of Forestry,’ to consist of one or more persons.

“The Office of Forestry shall be supplied with a series of the Ordnance Survey Maps of Ireland, with a copy of the Official Valuation of

Ireland, and with such geological, climatological, and like publications as are issued by authority of Government.

"It shall be the duty of the Office of Forestry to examine any schemes submitted for loans for the purposes of planting by individuals or Companies, and report on the same to the Treasury.

"It shall also furnish all available information to persons about to plant as to the best variety of timber trees, seeds, and seedling trees suitable for each locality. It shall have power to employ one or more practical foresters for the purposes of inspection, report, and advice on the subject of intended plantations.

"There may be employed in the Office of Forestry a person skilled in the science and practice of forestry for any or all of the above purposes, and to give instruction in forestry. There may be associated with the Office of Forestry an unpaid Commissioner to advise with the Department on the subject of forestry in Ireland. There may be paid to the officials of the Board of Works such reasonable remuneration for any additional duties hereby imposed on them as the Treasury may determine.

"It may be lawful for boards of guardians in Ireland, with the consent of the Local Government Board in Ireland, to apply for loans in the same manner as a Company, for the purpose of planting, such loans to be secured on the rates in manner to be determined by the Local Government Board and the Treasury."

THE CHAIRMAN: I do not think this Amendment can be moved; it is beyond the scope of the Bill. Forestry is not included in the Bill.

DR. LYONS said, he admitted that it was not included in the 19th clause.

THE CHAIRMAN: It is beyond the Resolution upon which the Bill is founded, and, therefore, cannot be put.

Clause agreed to

PART III.

SUPPLEMENTAL.

Clause 20 (Actions by secretary of grand jury) agreed to.

Clause 21 (Amendment of Acts).

On the Motion of Mr. TREVELYAN, Amendments made, in page 12, line 13, at end of sub-section, by adding:—

"Except in cases where such Railway shall have been actually constructed, or shall be in actual course of construction; or where the Railway Company, having such powers, shall satisfy the Lord Lieutenant in Council that it is their intention forthwith to proceed in good faith to construct such Railway;"

in page 12, line 21, by adding, as a new sub-section:—

"(3.) The times appointed by the Tramways (Ireland) Acts for the publishing of advertisements, the depositing of maps, plans, books of reference, memorials, and other documents, and

the giving of notices may, so far as relates to proceedings under this Act, be varied from time to time by the Lord Lieutenant by Order in Council:—

and in page 12, at end of line 38, by adding—

"So long as a locomotive is being driven on a Tramway at a greater distance than thirty feet from the centre of any public road, the limits of speed prescribed by the Tramways (Ireland) Acts or this Act shall not apply."

Clause, as amended, agreed to, and ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Remaining clauses agreed to.

MR. TREVELYAN said, he begged to move the new clause which stood in his name next on the Paper. In the opinion of the best authorities this new clause would be a great improvement in the Bill. He sincerely hoped the proposal would be considered a good one.

New Clause:—

(Power to Railway Companies to subscribe towards Tramways under this Act.)

"The Lord Lieutenant in Council may by Provisional Order empower any Railway Company to contribute towards the cost of the construction of any Tramway to be made under the powers of this Act, such sum of money by way of loan, subscription for shares, or otherwise, as may be agreed upon between the Railway Company and the Promoters of the Tramway.

"Such Order in Council shall only be made where the Railway Company establishes, to the satisfaction of the Lord Lieutenant in Council, that a copy of the Provisional Order as applied for by the Railway Company has been submitted to the proprietors of the Company at a meeting held specially for that purpose, as if such Order were a Bill promoted in Parliament by the Company, and that all matters and things have been done and have happened, which if such Order were a Bill so promoted as aforesaid should have been done and have happened in order to constitute compliance with the Standing Orders of Parliament applicable to Bills promoted by Railway Companies for the like purposes to those referred to in this section.

"Such Order in Council shall not take effect unless confirmed by Parliament, if a petition against it is presented to the Lord Lieutenant in Council,"—(Mr. Trevelyan.)

—brought up, and read the first time.

Motion made, and Question, "That the Clause be read a second time," put, and agreed to.

MR. WARTON said, he wished to move an Amendment to the new clause which the Attorney General for Ireland, as a good pleader, would at once see the necessity of. It was to cover, in addition

to other matters, the times at which matters and things should have been done and should have happened. He proposed to insert, after the word "happened" in the new clause, the words "and all times have elapsed."

Amendment proposed to the proposed new Clause, in line 12, after the word "happened," to insert the words "and all times have elapsed."—(*Mr. Warton.*)

Question, "That those words be there inserted," put, and *agreed to*.

New Clause, as amended, *agreed to*, and *added to the Bill*.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL said, that in the absence of the hon. Member for Bolton (Mr. Thomasson) he begged to move the Amendment standing in that hon. Member's name.

THE CHAIRMAN: If the hon. Member wishes to move this Amendment he must do so after the other Business on the Paper has been disposed of.

COLONEL NOLAN said, he had given Notice to move the following new clause:—

(Rate of speed on level crossings.)

"Where any Tramway for the space of four hundred yards or more runs wholly off the public road or only crosses the public road by means of a bridge tunnel, or a level crossing provided with gates, then the rate of speed need not be limited by this Act or by anything contained in any former Act.

"The Board of Trade may from time to time make orders limiting the rate of speed on such portions of the line."

This Amendment, however, had been anticipated; and he, therefore, did not propose to move it.

MR. CAINE said, he also had a new clause on the Paper which he did not propose to move.

COLONEL NOLAN said, he had the following clause on the Paper:—

"Any Tramway Company may avail themselves of the compulsory powers of the Lands Clauses Consolidation Act to purchase land within three hundred yards of the road, on which the Tramways may partly run, provided a certificate has been given by the County Surveyor that such deviation is necessary for the economical construction of the line."

He was told that this provision was already contained in the Bill. He was told that the Tramway Companies could obtain land in the centre of the road without much trouble. He thought they ought to be able to obtain land off the

road cheaper, if it was desirable that they should have it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does the hon. and gallant Member move the new clause?

COLONEL NOLAN: Yes, Sir.

New Clause:—

"Any Tramway Company may avail themselves of the compulsory powers of the Lands Clauses Consolidation Act to purchase land within three hundred yards of the road, on which the Tramway may partly run, provided that a certificate has been given by the County Surveyor that such deviation is necessary for the economical construction of the line."—(*Colonel Nolan,*)

—*brought up*, and read the first time.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Clause be read a second time."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, that the hon. and gallant Member would see that in Clause 21, Sub-section 4, the Bill carried out the object the hon. and gallant Member had in view. The sub-section said—

"Every Order in Council which sanctions a baronial guarantee under this Act may also provide that the forty-second section of the Tramways (Ireland) Act, 1860, shall not apply to the tramway in favour of which such guarantee is sanctioned."

The 42nd section of the Tramways (Ireland) Act, 1860, was the only section which prevented land being taken in these cases. There would be no limit in the matter of the compulsory powers which would apply in every case.

COLONEL NOLAN said, that under the circumstances he would withdraw the new clause.

New Clause, by leave, *withdrawn*.

MR. MAYNE said, he wished to move the following clause:—

(Town councils may apply for powers to construct branch lines.)

"In the case of any town within twelve miles of any existing Railway or Tramway, the inhabitants of which desire the construction of a Tramway from their town to such Railway or Tramway, the town council or town commissioners of such town may apply to the Lord Lieutenant in Council direct for powers to construct, or to enter into a contract for the construction of such Tramway, and the Lord Lieutenant, after due inquiry, may grant such powers, and may order that such town shall be chargeable with the entire guarantee and liability imposed by clause two of this Act.

Mr. Warton

"And the town councils or town commissioners of such towns are hereby authorised to levy such rate as may be necessary from time to time under clause four of this Act."

This clause would apply to towns not far from existing railways or tramways desiring to make connections with those existing lines, and who would be unwilling to undertake the responsibilities and guarantees connected therewith, thereby avoiding the necessity of going to the Grand Juries, which might in some cases be hostile.

New Clause (Town councils may apply for powers to construct branch lines,)—(*Mr. Mayne*,)—*brought up*, and read the first time.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Clause be read a second time."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he had considerable sympathy with the object of the clause; but it would be impossible to accept it in its present form—if, indeed, it could be worked out in any form to be acceptable. The hon. Member proposed something quite different from the order and system proposed under the Bill. He suggested that Corporations and Commissioners should construct railways themselves, and should then be entitled to levy the rate which might be necessary under Clause 4 of the Act. But that clause provided for the levying of a rate for the payment of a dividend, and there would be none when a Town Council constructed a tramway out of the rates. That seemed to be a serious objection to the proposal. They would have to create a new series of clauses to provide for this new method of procedure if they adopted this Amendment, and the clause, as it stood, was not applicable. There was another objection—namely, that the Town Councils or Commissioners would have to construct tramways in roads which did not belong to them. That would be a very doubtful principle to accept, and if they accepted it they would have to propose clauses to carry it into effect. At that late period of the Session they could not introduce a new system into the Bill, as they would not have time to consider all the provisions necessary to give due effect to it.

Clause, by leave, *withdrawn*.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL said, he had proposed to move the Amendment of the hon. Member for Bolton (*Mr. Thomasson*), to the effect that tramways were not to increase judicial rents; but if hon. Members opposite did not agree with his proposal he would not go on with it.

MR. TOTTENHAM said, he begged to move the clause standing in the name of the hon. and gallant Member for the County of Dublin (*Colonel King-Harman*), unless it had already been proposed earlier in the evening, whilst he (*Mr. Tottenham*) was not present. The clause was as follows:—

"No County Surveyor or Assistant County Surveyor shall be allowed to take any part in the promotion of any Tramways or Railways constructed or to be constructed under this Act, or shall receive any compensation or payment with regard to such Tramways or Railways other than payment for his services as arbitrator, or shall be employed as engineer by any Company seeking powers under this Act, and no person shall be appointed as arbitrator under this Act who may have any share or beneficial interest in any Tramway or Railway constructed under this Act."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (*Mr. Porter*) said, an Amendment had been moved by the right hon. and learned Member for the University of Dublin to the same effect.

MR. TOTTENHAM: Did it include Assistant County Surveyors?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (*Mr. Porter*): No.

MR. TOTTENHAM said, that if it did not, then it would be necessary to accept this. These officers should be included, as they would be the first to be consulted by local promoters.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (*Mr. Porter*): We will make a note of it, and deal with the question later on.

Bill reported; as amended, to be considered *To-morrow*.

PARLIAMENTARY REGISTRATION (IRELAND) BILL.—[BILL 155.]

(*Mr. Trevelyan, Mr. Attorney General for Ireland.*)

CONSIDERATION.

Bill, as amended, *considered*.

MR. TREVELYAN said, he had to propose a new clause which stood in his name on the Paper.

New Clause:—

(Occupier to be rated.—Constructive payment of rate.)

"In making out any Poor Rate after the commencement of this Act in respect of any premises situate in any city, town, or borough, returning a Member or Members to serve in Parliament, the guardians of the poor, or other person or persons making out such rate shall enter in the occupiers' column of the rate book the name of the occupier of every hereditament rated at a net annual value of more than four pounds, whether the rate is collected from the owner or occupier, or the owner is liable to the payment of the rate instead of the occupier, and such occupier shall be deemed to be duly rated for the purpose of any qualification or franchise depending upon rating; and, if any clerk of the union, or other person charged with the making out of the rate, negligently or wilfully, and without reasonable cause, omits the name of the occupier of any such rateable hereditament from the rate, or negligently or wilfully misstates any name therein, such clerk or other person shall, for every such omission or misstatement, be liable, if convicted in a summary manner, to a penalty not exceeding two pounds: Provided, That any occupier whose name has been omitted shall, notwithstanding such omission, and that no claim to be rated has been made by him, be entitled to every qualification and franchise depending upon rating, in the same manner as if his name had not been so omitted.

"In every such city, town, or borough, every payment of a rate by the owner of any hereditaments rated at a net annual value of over four pounds, whether the owner is himself rated, or is liable to pay the rate, or has agreed with the occupier to pay it, shall be deemed a payment of the rate by the occupier for the purpose of any qualification which, as regards rating, depends upon the payment of the poor rate,"—(*Mr. Trevelyan*.)

—*brought up*, and read the first time.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Clause be read a second time."

MR. MAYNE said, the right hon. Gentleman had omitted one very important portion of this clause—namely, the county franchise. He included the borough franchise of £4; but it was just as necessary that the occupiers should be rated in counties where the value was £12 as it was, that they should be rated in boroughs where the value was £4.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

MR. DAWSON (LORD MAYOR OF DUBLIN) said, he begged to move the Amendment which stood in his name to this clause. The object of it was to insure that in counties the same procedure should have effect as in boroughs. If the return of occupiers in boroughs for

£4 was compulsory, he thought a return for £12 should be necessary in counties.

Amendment proposed to the proposed new Clause—

In line 6, after "pounds," insert "and in counties every payment of a rate by the owner of any hereditaments rated at a net annual value of twelve pounds."—(*Mr. Dawson*.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. PARNELL asked whether it would not be necessary to insert, after the word "pounds" in the proposed Amendment, the words "and upwards?"

MR. DAWSON (LORD MAYOR OF DUBLIN) said, he would accept the Amendment.

Amendment proposed, to add, after the word "pounds" in the proposed Amendment to the proposed Clause, the words "and upwards."

Question, "That those words be there inserted," put, and *agreed to*.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) said, he did not agree with this Amendment. It was unnecessary. In towns, particularly in Dublin, where a special Act of Parliament applied, such a thing as an owner being rated for £12 and upwards was absolutely unknown. This proposal had not been made because it was perfectly unnecessary, such an instance never having occurred.

MR. DAWSON (LORD MAYOR OF DUBLIN) said, he would at once bow to the opinion of the right hon. and learned Gentleman; but it must be remembered that in counties containing places like Kingstown, where whole terraces were owned by one person, the circumstances were not those of ordinary country districts, and were just as they were in towns.

MR. SPEAKER: Does the hon. Member propose to withdraw?

MR. DAWSON (LORD MAYOR OF DUBLIN) said, he should like to hear some explanation on the point from the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) said, he believed such a thing was unknown as rating the owner of a house of £12 value, but that if it did exist it was contrary to law—just as contrary to the existing law as it would be to the new law.

Mr. MAYNE said, that, nevertheless, he thought it would be desirable that the Amendment, as proposed by the hon. Member, should be adopted, because this clause proposed for the first time to impose a penalty upon rate collectors and others responsible for entering the occupier's name in the rate book for any remissness in the performance of that duty; and he could assure the right hon. and learned Gentleman that although it might be uncommon to find owners rated instead of occupiers of £12 value, it was very common, particularly in County Dublin, to find the rate book all wrong, and wilfully so. They had to deal in County Dublin with a class of rate collectors hostile to certain shades of political views amongst occupiers, and they frequently made a political choice as to whom they should put in the rate book. These collectors made inquiries as to the political leanings of the occupier of a house before they rated him at all. He was aware of instances in the Donnybrook Division of County Dublin in which occupiers rated at above £12—indeed, above £50—who had been in occupation of their houses for eight, nine, and even ten years, and had not even yet their names upon the rate book, and were only kept on the list of voters by claiming every year to be rated—a claim which was every year disregarded by both the collector and the Board of Guardians; in fact, a hostile collector, if he felt he had the Board of Guardians to sustain him in the particular course he adopted, could do just as he liked with his rate book. It was for the sake of the penalty which this clause now provided, and which was a novelty in Ireland, though it existed in almost all the English Franchise and Registration Acts, that he was so anxious that the hon. Member should not withdraw his Amendment.

Mr. TREVELYAN said, he almost thought the hon. Member did not understand the clause he (Mr. Trevelyan) had had the honour of moving; and, further, the hon. Member had evidently not recently studied the Bill before the House. A rate collector, who, either through ill-faith or gross negligence, omitted to put upon the rate book persons who ought to be there, was liable to suffer penalties under the provisions of the 9th and 10th clauses of the Bill. The present new clause was introduced for

quite another purpose—namely, for the purpose of securing the franchise to occupiers who were under the system of compound householders. It was not for the primary purpose of punishing the Clerk of the Union. The penalties inserted were only in case of non-performance of the duty of specially rating the compound householders. He should be obliged to oppose the Amendment of the hon. Member on the grounds he had stated.

Mr. PLUNKET said, that he did not think the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary could be much surprised at any misunderstanding into which any hon. Member had fallen. The right hon. Gentleman had introduced an important change in the Registration Law of Ireland in this new clause without a single word of explanation; and he (Mr. Plunket) wished to call attention to the fact, for it was another illustration of the manner in which the Bill had been forced through the House. No wonder the House was entirely at a loss to know what was really intended by this clause. This question of the reform of the Law of Registration in Ireland had now been for 10 years before the House. ["Hear, hear!"] He trusted that hon. Members would not interrupt him; he had not interrupted them while they were speaking; and he, therefore, trusted they would be courteous enough to allow him to say a few words. [An hon. MEMBER: We were only cheering you.] He was saying, when interrupted, that this question had been long debated, and had created a great amount of variety of opinion during the last 10 years amongst persons of different parties. He (Mr. Plunket) had been one who had taken a forward part in opposing the policy which was attempted to be carried out by the alteration of the law proposed to be made in the Bill. He did not object to a proper reform of the Registration Law of Ireland, but merely wished to say that if he had taken no part in the discussion that evening on the Report of the Bill, it had been for the same reason that hon. Friends of his who were not then in the House took no part in a previous stage in the discussion of Amendments, because of the attempt to force the Bill through the House. He objected to a Bill like this being forced through the House, seeing

that it would effect an enormous change in the constituencies of Ireland—seeing, as the hon. Member for Carlow (Mr. Dawson) said the other evening, that it would have the effect of doubling the constituency of Dublin and other places, and seeing that the measure was one really amounting to a Reform Bill, and a Reform Bill of a very important character. The Bill, when first brought in, was comparatively moderate; but suddenly, in the midst of the Committee stage, large Amendments were hurriedly accepted by the Government, part of which were being carried out by the clause in question. [*Cries of "Question!"*] That was the very Question, and he appealed to Mr. Speaker for protection. He was making a very short speech, and the interruptions which were constantly coming from the Benches below the Gangway simply made the conduct of Business in the House impossible. He had been listening to other hon. Members patiently enough, and now that he attempted to express his views he was met with most discourteous interruptions. If he had not taken part in the discussions hitherto, it was because the attempt to discuss the Bill in the present circumstances of the House and of the Session was the merest form. To take a Division would also be the merest form, and would not, in any degree, express the intelligent sense of Parliament on the question. In abstaining from taking any part in these discussions, he and his Friends threw on the Government the whole responsibility of dealing with this matter in a way which he, for one, did not hesitate to describe as unusual, inconvenient, and unfair.

Mr. COURTNEY said, he would not follow the right hon. and learned Member into his statement as to what had been going on on the subject of the reform of the registration of Ireland for the past 10 years. He would only say that if the right hon. and learned Gentleman had been in his place lately he would have seen that the matter had been fully discussed.

Mr. PLUNKET: I beg to say that I have read the Reports, and that I found by them that the matter was not discussed at all.

Mr. DAWSON (LORD MAYOR of DUBLIN) said, that before withdrawing his Amendment, which he was about to do, he wished to say—

Mr. Plunket

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. Member is not entitled to make a second speech. If he desires to make an explanation, of course that is another matter.

Mr. DAWSON (LORD MAYOR of DUBLIN) said, he only wished to say that the right hon. and learned Gentleman who had just sat down had read the clauses passed for England quadrupling the constituencies—[*Cries of "Order!"*]

Mr. TOTTENHAM said, in reference to the observations of the hon. Gentleman opposite, although his right hon. and learned Friend was not present, he was present in the previous discussion, and the matter was not discussed; on the contrary, they declined to discuss it.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause *added* to the Bill.

New Clause:—

(Evening sittings of revision courts.)

"Every barrister appointed to revise the lists for a Parliamentary borough containing, according to the last census for the time being, more than ten thousand inhabitants, shall hold at least one evening sitting of his court in such borough. An evening sitting shall commence not earlier than six nor later than seven o'clock in the evening, and shall be of such duration as, in the opinion of the revising barrister, shall be reasonable. Special notices or notices of an evening sitting or of evening sittings to be held in a borough shall be published by the town clerk in such manner as the revising barrister may direct,"—(*Mr. Healy*.)

—*brought up*, and read the first time.

Motion made, and Question, "That the Clause be read a second time," put, and *agreed to*.

On the Motion of Mr. TREVELYAN, Amendments made in the proposed new Clause, in line 1, by leaving out "every barrister appointed," and inserting "every county court judge, chairman, or revising barrister, whose duty it is;" in line 6, by leaving out "revising barrister," and inserting "chairman, county court judge, or revising barrister;" and in line 9, by leaving out "revising barrister," and inserting "chairman, county court judge, or revising barrister."

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*, and *added* to the Bill.

Schedule, as amended, *agreed to*.

Mr. TREVELYAN asked that the third reading should be now taken.

Motion made, and Question, "That the Bill be now read the third time,"—(*Mr. Trevelyan*,)—put, and agreed to.

Bill read the third time, and *passed*.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD (SCOTLAND) BILL.—[BILL 251.]

(*Secretary Sir William Harcourt, The Lord Advocate.*)

CONSIDERATION.

Bill, as amended, *considered*.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL said, he thought it very unfortunate that this stage of the Bill should be taken now. He could hardly expect to be able to carry his Amendment; but he would move it by way of appeal. He thought there was a general opinion in the House that the words "if not a Member of the House of Lords," which he proposed to omit, were totally superfluous, and not required in strict or legal sense. It might be said that these words, although they had not any distinct meaning, pointed to the conclusion that this Officer might be a Peer. He understood that without these words it was possible that this Officer might be a Peer; but, that being so, if special words of this kind were put in, they would point to the likelihood of a Peer being so appointed. That he thought would be very objectionable. The new Officer was to take over the duties of the Home Secretary, and, to some extent, to perform the duties of the President of the Local Government Board in England. It was almost a part of our Constitution that the Home Secretary should be a Member of this House; and not of the House of Lords. He quite admitted that a Member of the other House might possess certain superior qualities; but he objected strongly to retaining in the Bill words which seemed to point to the nomination of a Member of the House of Lords.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 23, leave out the words "if not a Member of the House of Lords."—(*Sir George Campbell*.)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Bill."

THE LORD ADVOCATE (MR. J. B. BALFOUR) said, this question had already been fully discussed in Committee; and

he thought he should save the time of the House by not again discussing it.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

Amendments made.

Bill read the third time, and *passed*.

SUPPLY.—REPORT.

Postponed Resolution [17th August] *reported*.

MR. HEALY said, that last night he had raised a question as to the riots at Wexford; and the Chief Secretary then said the case was *sub judice*. That was not so now, for five of the men had been sent to the plank bed; and what he wished to know was, whether the right hon. Gentleman would grant an inquiry into the whole matter, in which men were bludgeoned by the police while waiting for the result of the poll?

MR. TREVELYAN said, that if a number of men who were simply waiting as the hon. Member had said, he should, of course, grant an inquiry; but there had already been an inquiry before the magistrates. He should get a copy of the proceedings, and consult the proper authorities; and if he then thought an inquiry necessary he should grant one.

Postponed Resolution *agreed to*.

EPIDEMIC AND OTHER DISEASES

PREVENTION BILL.—[BILL 277.]

(*Mr. Gray, Mr. Dawson, Mr. Brooks.*)

SECOND READING.

Order for Second Reading read.

MR. DAWSON (LORD MAYOR of DUBLIN), in moving that the Bill be now read the second time, said, he believed the Home Secretary approved of the Bill, which contained only two clauses, and provided that in the case of an epidemic the sanitary authorities should be able to borrow money for the purpose of dealing with it, without the usual delay caused by getting Provisional Orders.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a second time."—(*Mr. Dawson*.)

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE said, that so far as the Bill applied to England it would rather come before him than before the Home Secretary; and so far as it applied to Ireland it would come

before the Chief Secretary. He therefore did not see that the hon. Member had been quite right in referring to the Home Secretary; but he had no objection to the second reading of the Bill, although he did not know that it was very necessary in regard to England. At the same time, he understood that the Home Secretary did approve of the Bill; but he could not say what the opinion of the Chief Secretary for Ireland was as to the Irish portion of the Bill.

MR. DAWSON (LORD MAYOR OF DUBLIN) said, the Chief Secretary had expressed to him his entire concurrence with the Bill. The provisions of the measure were very necessary in Ireland, because sometimes they had a case of small-pox in a harbour, and there was no power to oblige a ship to go into quarantine.

Motion agreed to.

Bill read a second time, and committed for Monday next.

House adjourned at Four o'clock in the morning.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Saturday, 18th August, 1883.

The House met at Twelve of the clock.

MINUTES.]—SUPPLY—considered in Committee—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—CLASS II.—SALARIES AND EXPENSES OF CIVIL DEPARTMENTS, Votes 34 to 41; ARMY ESTIMATES, Votes 4, 7, 8, 15, 16 to 25.

Resolutions [August 17] reported.

WAYS AND MEANS—considered in Committee—£23,734,011, Consolidated Fund.

PUBLIC BILLS—*Resolutions in Committee*—Stolen Goods [Payment of Compensation]*; Medical Act Amendment [Cost of Certificate]*.

Committee—*Report—Third Reading*—Public Works Loans* [295], and passed.

Considered as amended—Revenue and Friendly Societies* [269].

Considered as amended—*Third Reading*—Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland) [286]; Statute Law Revision and Civil Procedure* [290]; Trial of Lunatics* [292], and passed.

Sir Charles W. Dilke

QUESTIONS.

FRANCE—THE FRENCH PYRENEES—SUSPECTED CASUALTY TO THE REV. MERTON SMITH.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOOTE asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether the Government have any information respecting the Reverend Merton Smith, who has been missing, and is supposed to have met with some misfortune in the Pyrenees; and, if not, will they make inquiries into the matter?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: Sir, inquiry is being made into this case through the Vice Consul at Bayonne; and as soon as we receive information on the subject I shall communicate with the right hon. Gentleman, who, I understand, is personally interested in the matter.

SOUTH AFRICA—ZULULAND—REPORTED DEFEAT OF USIBEPU.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, Whether any information has been received as to the reported defeat of Usibepu? If none has been received, can the hon. Gentleman say how it is that such is the case?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: Sir, very much to my surprise, we have received no news on this point. I cannot account for this, except by imagining that the report is not true; and that our officials only telegraph when they are certain of the facts, and that they are not so certain in this case.

THE PARKS (METROPOLIS)—THE TREES IN KENSINGTON GARDENS.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL asked the First Commissioner of Works, as a matter of urgent public importance, Whether the wholesale cutting down of trees in Kensington Gardens is confined to dead trees; and, whether he will take care that such mismanagement as he (Sir George Campbell) had seen in the Gardens as he had passed through that day, in the cutting down of live trees, will not be repeated?

MR. SHAW LEFEVRE, in reply, said, that a very large proportion of the trees in the Gardens were dead, and he had given notice that only those should

be cut down. The live trees would not be interfered with.

Sir GEORGE CAMPBELL said, he would urge the right hon. Gentleman to take care that the live trees were not destroyed by the fall of the dead ones.

PARLIAMENT — BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—COURSE OF PUBLIC BUSINESS.

Mr. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT said, he had to complain that the Indian Budget had been postponed from the first to the second Order of the Day on Monday. The Court of Criminal Appeal Bill, which was the first Order, would probably take considerable time, and the Indian Budget might be thrown back to a comparatively late hour. He found, on referring to the statement of the right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister, on Thursday, that he had stated, without qualification, that it would be the first Order.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. Member is not putting a Question; he is entering into debate. He is not entitled to do that.

Mr. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT said, he would only ask the Prime Minister, Whether he would not now, for the convenience of the House, and in view of the importance of the subject, definitely fix the Indian Budget as the first Order for Monday; or, if he could not do that, whether he would not postpone it to some other day, when it could be the first Order?

Mr. GLADSTONE: Sir, with regard to the preliminary remarks of the hon. Gentleman, I must say they are remarks which ought not to be made. The hon. Member tells me that I made a statement without qualification, which I affirm distinctly I made with qualification. With regard to the subject itself, it would not be for the convenience of the House that we should postpone the Indian Budget absolutely from Monday. I think the best thing we can do is to allow it to stand as the second Order on Monday, believing, as we do, that the discussion on the Court of Criminal Appeal Bill, which is the first Order, will not travel over a wide field, and will not extend to great length.

Mr. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT asked, whether the right hon. Gentleman would undertake that the Indian Budget should not be brought forward after a fixed

hour on Monday? Otherwise, it might be brought forward after 11 or 12 o'clock at night.

Mr. GLADSTONE, in reply, said, no such thing would be done. There was no intention of anything of the kind. The Government would wish to do what would be for the general convenience of the House, and they should hope that the discussion would come on at a reasonable hour. It would not be wise to fix any particular hour. What he understood was, that it would be convenient to take it as the second Order, even though it might be reached at the dinner hour.

Mr. JOSEPH COWEN asked the Prime Minister, whether it was intended to persevere with all the Orders of the Day on the Paper that day, and to sit until such time as they were completed, even if it were midnight? Would it not be better, as well as adding to the dignity of the House, if they prolonged their Sittings for a few days longer, in order that they might do the Business decently and in order, and avoid the scandal of the long and forced Sittings in which they were engaged?

Mr. GLADSTONE: Sir, absolutely and undoubtedly it is intended to persevere with the Orders on the Paper; but, as far as I can judge, none of them are likely to occupy any considerable time.

Sir JOHN HAY: Will the Navy Estimates be taken on Sunday morning?

Mr. J. LOWTHER asked, whether the Prime Minister would not fix an hour after which the Indian Budget would not be taken on Monday?

Mr. GLADSTONE: Sir, I do not think it will be for the advantage of the House to state a particular hour now. We shall, on Monday, be governed by what may then appear to be the general sense of the convenience of the House.

In answer to Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE,

Mr. GLADSTONE said: I should think the Report of Supply had better be taken first on Monday. Then will come the Court of Criminal Appeal Bill, and next the Indian Budget.

Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE: I would point out to the right hon. Gentleman, that if the Report of Supply is put down as the first Order, that will give an opportunity for discussion on various subjects which might be raised; and this

would have the effect of throwing over the Indian Budget.

MR. GLADSTONE: We will not put down the Report of Supply as the first Order, unless we learn that it is not intended to use it for discussion.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL asked, whether it was intended to press forward the Crown Lands Bill?

MR. GLADSTONE: Yes; it is intended to go on with that Bill.

MR. BIGGAR: Sir, considering that 16 Irish Members voted for the second reading of the Union Officers' Superannuation (Ireland) Bill, and 21 against, I would like to ask the Prime Minister, if he does not consider that a decided expression of Irish opposition against the Bill?

MR. CALLAN: I would ask, whether it is not the fact that only 6 or 7 Irish Members opposed the Bill, and that a very large number are in favour of it?

MR. SPEAKER intimated that the Questions were not in Order.

MR. GLADSTONE: I think I may be permitted to allow both Questions to pair off together.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

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SUPPLY.—COMMITTEE.

Order for Committee read.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair."

ISLANDS OF THE WESTERN PACIFIC —ANNEXATION OF NEW GUINEA— PUBLIC OPINION IN THE AUSTRALIAN COLONIES.—OBSERVATIONS.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT said, he wished to call the attention of the Prime Minister to the fact that he had the following Motion on the Paper:—

"That, in view of the unanimous wish of Her Majesty's loyal and flourishing Australian Colonies, that a British Protectorate should be established over New Guinea and the adjacent Islands, and of the importance of securing those Islands from the influence of any Foreign Power, an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying Her Majesty to establish an Imperial Protectorate over New Guinea and the adjacent Islands."

In view of the lateness of the Session, however, he did not wish to take up the time of the House; and he would simply ask whether the right hon. Gentleman would inform the House exactly

how matters stood at present? This subject was first brought to the notice of the Government by a deputation representing the Australian Colonies, who were unanimously in favour of the annexation of New Guinea. The Colonies considered the position of that Island to Australia, and especially to Queensland, was a very important and commanding one. In view of threatened annexation—in view of the extraordinary development of aggressive tendencies on the part of the French Republic, and perhaps other nations, it was of great importance to the Australian Colonies that this question should not be considered as decided. It would be a very serious matter for our Australian Colonies if a great European Power were to occupy New Guinea, or if that Island were to be turned into a Foreign Convict Settlement. There had been a unanimous expression of opinion on behalf of the Australian Colonies that a British Protectorate, at all events, should be established over New Guinea and the adjacent Islands. He hoped that wish would be granted. He had asked the Prime Minister a Question on the subject the other day; and he understood, from the rather curt and uncertain answer of the right hon. Gentleman, that the question was not to be considered as decided in a sense unfavourable to the wish of the Australian Colonies. Without going into details, he should feel much obliged if the Prime Minister would state whether the Australian Colonies and the country at large might consider this question as still an open one, and as not having been yet decided by Her Majesty's Government in a sense unfavourable to the wishes of the Colonists?

MR. GLADSTONE: Sir, in answering the Question of the hon. Gentleman opposite (Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett), I must except from my reply that which he stated as a matter of his own opinion, as to the present tendencies of the French Republic. I have nothing to say upon that subject at all. I am very far from making any accusation against that, or any other Foreign Government, in respect to an undue tendency to acquire territory. But, with regard to New Guinea, I may repeat, what I think has been stated on the part of the Government before, that we have no reason whatever to apprehend any inten-

Sir Stafford Northcote

tion on the part of any Foreign Government to make new territorial claims or establishments with respect to that Island. With regard to the direct Question of the hon. Gentleman, I conceive the position to be this—The matter was brought under our notice in connection with a particular proceeding on the part of the Government of Queensland; and the immediate question for us to consider was, whether we should confirm the so-called annexation of New Guinea—whether we should keep the question open for explanation in regard to that annexation, or whether we should decline altogether, and should annul the proceeding, and quash it by the authority of the Crown. It was the last of these courses on which we decided, and that proceeding has been absolutely quashed, and has no legal force whatever. But, in doing so, it was not necessary for us to say anything as to the future; and to say that there were no circumstances whatever under which any question relating to future measures, with respect either to the coast, or to particular spots, or particular islands, might or might not be entertained. The whole of that subject remains exactly as it would have been in case the proceedings of Queensland had never taken place. The hon. Gentleman, I think, is in error in saying that the views of the Australian Colonies were laid before us by a deputation. The deputation, if I am correct in my recollection, had relation, strictly speaking, to particular islands, much smaller islands, and not to the great country, if I may so call it, of New Guinea. What is the real wish of the Australian Colonies I need not now inquire or refer to. It is perfectly open to the Australian Colonies to make known any wish they may entertain on the subject; and, of course, it is the duty of the Government, on whatever subject, to give a respectful and careful attention to any expression of opinion which they may deem it proper to make. That is, I think, as far as I can go in answer to the hon. Gentleman's Question.

Mr. MACFARLANE said, the right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister had stated that the Government had no reason to apprehend that any other European country was likely to annex New Guinea. But the Government would not be likely to know what were the in-

tentions of other countries. It was generally imagined that anyone prowling about for annexation purposes would do it like a thief in the night, without announcing any intention of the kind beforehand. He would like to ask whether the House was to infer, from what the right hon. Gentleman had said, that other Governments had given any assurance to Her Majesty's Government that they would not annex this Island, which was so near the door of our Australian Colonies?

MR. GLADSTONE: I do not think, Sir, I need go into any further details on this matter; but, in reply to the hon. Gentleman (Mr. Macfarlane), I may say that the evidence on which I spoke, when I said there was no reason to apprehend any intention of a particular kind on the part of any foreign country to annex New Guinea, is by no means confined to mere negative testimony.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

SUPPLY—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES.

SUPPLY—*considered in Committee.*

(In the Committee.)

CLASS II.—SALARIES AND EXPENSES OF CIVIL DEPARTMENTS.

(1.) Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That a sum, not exceeding £4,927, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the Salaries of the Officers and Attendants of the Household of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and other Expenses."

MR. MOLLOY said, he would move the reduction of the Vote by the sum of £1,000, with the view of drawing the attention of the Committee to the circumstances under which the extra police tax had been levied on the district of Edenderry, in the King's County. He had had a long correspondence on the subject with the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland in Dublin, some time ago; and he had given Notice to the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland that he should bring the case before the House upon this Estimate. A short time previous to November last three outrages occurred in this district. They were outrages of a somewhat peculiar character—three burnings, or attempted

burnings, in the neighbourhood of Edenderry, and they had been preceded by the issue of threatening letters and notices posted on the gates and doors of separate holdings, and also on the gates and doors of the residence of a gentleman living in that neighbourhood. The police were naturally anxious to ascertain the author of these threatening letters, when the outrage to which he referred—namely, the burnings, or attempted burnings, occurred, and in spite of the activity of the police no information came to light in regard to them. The three holdings upon which the burnings took place were the holdings of small farmers who were upon what might be termed the popular side in Irish politics. Among the threatening letters was one to Mr. Carew, of Kildangan. This gentleman had never taken part in politics in the ordinary sense; but he had, nevertheless, shown very strong sympathy with the poorer class of tenantry on his estate during the last three years. That fact evidently offended gentlemen living in the neighbourhood, who took a different view. When these outrages occurred previous to November last, Mr. Carew had received several threatening letters, and threatening notices had been posted on the gates of his lodge, and on other parts of his property. The district was proclaimed by order of the Lord Lieutenant, and one of the most extraordinary features of the case was the way in which the Proclamation was carried out. Mr. Carew, of Kildangan, had been subjected to a considerable amount of ill-feeling, owing to the strong sympathy he had shown to the poor people of the neighbourhood. To his (Mr. Molloy's) knowledge, Mr. Carew had been spending something like £2,000 a-year, simply for the purpose of finding occupation for the poor people in the district. When the Proclamation was made, certain townlands were proclaimed, on which extra police were to be put; and upon every townland upon which Mr. Carew had property these extra police were placed. Instead of taking the zone in which the outrages were committed, on three sides of the district no police were placed at all; but the regular course of Mr. Carew's property was followed, although some parts of it were some miles away from the place where the outrage was committed. It was quite clear from that what

the object of this proceeding on the part of the authorities in the neighbourhood was. On one of Mr. Carew's townlands there was only a herd; and it, therefore, could not be said that there were no means of discovering any crime committed in the townland, or of obtaining evidence; because, if any outrage of any kind was committed on that townland, all that was necessary to do was to arrest the herd and his assistant, because there was no other living being upon it. As far back as 1882 Mr. Carew wrote a letter to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. That letter was a very long one; and, therefore, he (Mr. Molloy) would only give the substance of it. Having detailed in full the facts before alluded to, Mr. Carew asked the Lord Lieutenant to cause an investigation to be made in regard to the Proclamation, and the reason why the extra police had been quartered upon his property. He received from some official at the Castle the usual stereotyped acknowledgment of his letter, with an intimation that it would be attended to. Hon. Members knew pretty well what these official letters were; but he (Mr. Molloy) might state beforehand that, as far as his opinion went, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland had no more knowledge of the facts of the case than he (Mr. Molloy) had. Nor did he think that the Chief Secretary for Ireland had any knowledge of the facts, because he was not in the country during the time, and the only knowledge he could have obtained personally was through the correspondence. Although he (Mr. Molloy) proposed to move the reduction of the Vote to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, he wished it to be clearly understood that those who were really to blame in the matter were the officials in Dublin Castle. Who they were he did not know; they were very much a secret body, and he had not been able to ascertain who they were. On the 17th November, 1882, Mr. Carew laid the whole of the facts before the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and received the usual official acknowledgment of the receipt of his letter. Probably it would astonish the Committee when he said that no further notice was taken of the serious charges contained in that letter, until he (Mr. Molloy) began to move in the matter, as late as the month of March of the present year, and nearly five months after the receipt of the

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letter. But, during the winter, a very important incident occurred, in connection with which an investigation was asked for. A woman, having a small holding in the neighbourhood, was accused of theft, and she was sent to prison for that theft. While in prison she made a written confession that she was the author of these threatening letters, and that she had been instigated and assisted in sending them out by a blacksmith who lived in the neighbourhood. On this confession of crime on the part of the woman, she was ordered to be prosecuted by the Government for sending threatening letters. He now came to the most extraordinary feature in the case, and one which seemed to him, unless some explanation could be given of it, to be the most disgraceful feature of the whole transaction. It must be borne in mind that the district had been proclaimed; that extra police had been placed there; and that they had been placed on all the townlands which belonged to a single individual—Mr. Carew, of Kildangan, no doubt on account of the sympathy that gentleman entertained for the people. When the trial of this woman was brought on in the usual course in the Assizes, with a written confession in existence that she was the author of the threatening letters, and that she had been helped and assisted and instigated in the matter by another individual, and there was a possibility of finding out who the real instigators were, the Government took a most extraordinary course of action. What would the Committee think of the action of the Government when he told them that, when the trial came on, by the express orders of the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland, it was stopped at the very beginning? The learned Judge who presided on the Bench asked what was the meaning of stopping the trial, and the only answer given by the counsel was that such were his instructions. He had received a telegram, instructing him, on the part of the Attorney General, not to proceed further with the prosecution. He (Mr. Molloy) should have thought that it would have been the duty of the Law Officers of the Crown and the Castle authorities—the district having been disturbed by these threatening letters and these outrages—especially after the

author of the letters had avowed and had confessed her crime in writing, that the trial should have been proceeded with. Nevertheless, the trial was stopped by an order from Dublin Castle, from the Attorney General, and he (Mr. Molloy) begged to assert that fact in the most clear and distinct manner. If any explanation could be given of the case he should be glad to hear it, although it appeared to him to be one of those cases in which explanation would really amount to very little. These facts were stated in the fullest manner in the letter to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland by Mr. Carew, of Kildangan; but no answer had been received. Not the slightest notice was taken of Mr. Carew's important statement, or of his application for an investigation. The matter then was placed in his (Mr. Molloy's) hands in March, this year, and he at once wrote to the Chief Secretary for Ireland, and subsequently to Dublin Castle. That correspondence, which had taken place between Mr. Carew and himself (Mr. Molloy), and the authorities, had been ordered by the House to be printed; but, from some cause or other, the correspondence had not yet been laid on the Table in time for this discussion. On the 22nd March, he wrote to the Chief Secretary for Ireland, not because he blamed the right hon. Gentleman, because he knew that the right hon. Gentleman was not present in Ireland at the time, but because he had to write to the right hon. Gentleman as the proper official authority to communicate with. On the 22nd March, after Mr. Carew had written, asking for an investigation, he (Mr. Molloy) wrote to the Chief Secretary for Ireland, requesting him to draw the attention of His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant to the facts of the case. He might state that a letter had been previously received intimating that the district had been proclaimed. The Chief Secretary for Ireland, in reply to his communication, stated that the matter was still under the consideration of His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, and he hoped soon to be in a position to communicate with him further. He wrote again to the Chief Secretary for Ireland, drawing his attention to the fact that what was really desired was an investigation into all the circumstances connected with the

case, and that the mere withdrawal of the proclamation was only a secondary matter, and that though undoubtedly it would be a relief, it would not secure the real object in view—namely, the peace and order of the district at a time when the extraordinary powers of the existing Act were being put rigidly in force. He reminded the right hon. Gentleman that any step calculated to defeat the ends of justice should be carefully avoided, and he added, that it could be proved that deliberate injustice had been done and was being continued. All he asked was the opportunity of laying the evidence of the case before His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant for his consideration. He pointed out that any examination other than one on oath would be useless, and he stated that, since the accused was anxious to be examined, it was only fair that the accusers should submit to the same test. That was a plain and simple demand. He asked for nothing more than an investigation, which he conceived the Government were bound to grant. In reply, he received a long formal document from Dublin Castle, nine-tenths of which were confined to the acknowledgment of the receipt of his letter. The only passage it was necessary to refer to was one in which it was stated that His Excellency had seen no reason, up to the present time, to revoke the proclamation appointing additional police to the district; but that he hoped, in the course of a short time, to be able to withdraw the men. That letter was signed by Mr. Jenkinson, and he (Mr. Molloy) was thus passed from one official to another. But being determined that nothing should be wanting on his part, he took up the correspondence with Mr. Jenkinson. He wrote to Mr. Jenkinson, acknowledging the receipt of his letter, and he said—

"You appear, if I may be permitted to say so, to have misunderstood the whole object of that letter. What I there asked for was this"—

here he quoted the words of his original letter—

"The latter part of the letter is the main part, and the withdrawal of the extra police is simply a detail. What we complain of is that false information was sent to the Castle, and that the authorities have continued to accept it in face of the evidence which we offered to produce. What I ask for is that the disputed facts shall

be tested by an investigator to be named by the Lord Lieutenant."

The point was this—on behalf of the district he asked, not for any investigation from anyone favourable to one side or the other, but that the Lord Lieutenant should select anybody he liked, so long as it was not anyone in the neighbourhood, and he asked that some such person should be sent down to examine on oath into the truth or falseness of the allegations made, and of the whole circumstances of the case. On the 18th April, he received a long and formal document, and at last, after six months, he was told that the Lord Lieutenant could not accede to his demand. He (Mr. Molloy) had put in the smallest compass he could the circumstances of the case. In the first place, outrages were committed in the district, both by burnings and by sending threatening letters; by an accident the author and instigator of these letters and burnings, for the burnings followed the letters, was found to be the woman who had been arrested on the charge of theft; that woman made a written confession of her guilt; she was accordingly sent for trial, and then, on the day the trial should have taken place, to the astonishment of the presiding Judge, and by the order, as it was stated in Court, of the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland—not the right hon. and learned Gentleman now filling that Office, but his Predecessor—by the order of the Attorney General the prosecution was stopped, and no reason assigned. In point of fact, this woman and her accomplices in these acts were spirited away after the trial in some mysterious manner, and left the district nobody knew when. Mr. Carew, of Kildangan, was the recipient of some of these threatening letters, and he was a personal sufferer by these acts. Nevertheless, the only land, with one exception, taxed for the maintenance of the police, was Mr. Carew's land. Mr. Carew's property was followed for a distance of five miles in an irregular fashion, so that all the land he had in the district was taxed; no doubt, in consequence of his sympathy with the poor people who had been so deeply suffering in his neighbourhood. He (Mr. Molloy) thought these facts were facts which, for the sake of the honour and credit of the Govern-

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ment—[*Cries of "Oh!" and "Withdraw!" from the Home Rule Members.*]

He certainly should not withdraw.

Mr. BIGGAR rose to Order. He wished to ask the Chairman, if the hon. Gentleman (Mr. Molloy) was not out of Order in speaking of the honour and credit of the Government?

THE CHAIRMAN: The question of the hon. Member for Cavan (Mr. Biggar) is one which seems to me to be trifling with the Committee.

Mr. MOLLOY said, he would repeat that, for the honour and credit of the Government, they were bound, with such a statement of facts as was before them, to have examined into the veracity of the information they had received. [Mr. HEALY: Oh, no!] Certainly, an opportunity ought to have been afforded for examining the informers who gave the information and the persons who sent the facts to Dublin Castle. His own impression was, that if the correspondence had not been intercepted before it reached the authorities, such an investigation would have been granted. Unfortunately, the difficulty was to get any correspondence to pass unfiltered, or to pass direct to the authorities of Dublin Castle. He knew perfectly well that it was impossible for the Chief Secretary for Ireland, or for the Lord Lieutenant, to take the thousand cases of this sort which might be sent to them, and to read through the long correspondence which they involved. He would admit that that was impossible, and therefore what took place was this—that somebody in Dublin Castle wrote a *precis*, which often destroyed the facts of the case, and left the Lord Lieutenant and the Chief Secretary for Ireland under an entirely erroneous impression. He had not the slightest doubt that, in numerous cases, the real facts were never arrived at by the Central Authority. He must, however, say that, in this instance, be the authorities high or low, with the fact before them that the prosecution had been stopped, and with the confession of the woman in their possession, he was at a loss to understand what explanation could be given for the course pursued by the authorities. He would even go a little further, and would say that the Irish Executive had had an opportunity of going still deeper into the facts, and of sifting the evidence of the case; and he challenged

the Government, in their own interests and in the interests of the peace and order of this district, to grant an investigation on oath, and to allow the facts of the case to be tested in the usual manner. He wanted nothing concealed, but to have the real facts brought out. That was his only object. He was afraid that the Government were very much like newspapers which, when they once refused the insertion of a document, were never induced, under any circumstances, to alter their decision. He might, however, say this for the comfort of those he represented, that, whatever the action of the Government might be, he was determined to sift the matter to the end; and he had already taken the first steps to open up and lay bare the action of the clique in this district by whom the peace and order of the locality had really been disturbed, and by whom all this annoyance and injustice had been occasioned. Whatever course the Government would be prepared to take in the matter, he at least should feel it his duty to lay bare before the public the whole of the acts and conduct of the clique to which he referred.

Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That a sum, not exceeding £3,927, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the Salaries of the Officers and Attendants of the Household of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and other Expenses."—(Mr. Molloy.)

Mr. TREVELYAN: I quite recognize the motives of the hon. Member (Mr. Molloy) in moving the reduction of this Vote. The hon. Member invariably conducts his proceedings in this House in that spirit of mutual respect which all Members of Parliament ought to entertain for one another. [Mr. BIGGAR: Oh!] I repeat, with that mutual respect which all Members of Parliament owe to one another; and, in moving the reduction of this Vote, I know perfectly well that he does not make the Motion as a slight upon His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, but as a means of calling attention to a grievance, upon an occasion on which, without taking such a course, he would not be able to give point to his remarks. As regards the interruption of the hon. Member for Cavan (Mr. Biggar), and the laughter with which it

was greeted by the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy). I wish to make a remark to both of those hon. Members. I desire to ask them whether, if every hon. Member, in every debate which takes place in this House, were to interrupt them with laughter, meant, from the manner in which it is used, to be a deliberate insult, and accompanied by interruptions couched in forms of speech which are personal insults—I ask them what possibility there would be of the Irish Business in this House, or indeed of any other Business whatever, being carried on in any practical or, even, in any decent manner? It is only because Members refrain from retaliating in the same spirit that the Business of the House can go on at all—[*Laughter.*—]and the laughter of the hon. Member for Cavan (Mr. Biggar) at that remark is, I believe, a method of receiving it which no other hon. Member present at this moment would care to endorse. This case, which has been stated by the hon. Member for King's County with great moderation of language, may, in one sense, be called a typical case. The House of Commons, by Statute, has placed certain powers in the hands of the Irish Government, and these powers are to be used in a certain manner—that is to say, that on the very best information which the Irish Government can obtain from their servants, who have charge of the different localities, wherever outrages have reached a certain point, and wherever there is danger to peace and order, to life and to property, they are empowered, under Statute, to impose extra police on the district, and the cost of that extra police must be charged on that part of the district which, after due examination, the Lord Lieutenant arrives at the conclusion is the portion of the district responsible for the disorder. I presume that what was done at Kildangan and other townlands is simply what has been done in every place where this extra police tax has been imposed. It was not imposed except upon information which the Irish Government considered to be perfectly reliable, and after the commission of a considerable number of outrages. I believe that 13 outrages were reported between the 1st of March and the date of the proclamation, the proclamation having been issued on the 9th of October; and the

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proclamation having been issued on that day, from the 7th of November the cost of the extra police has been imposed on the locality. Then we come to what is exceptional in the case. What may be said to be exceptional is that a part of the tax has fallen upon a gentleman whose social position and influence in the country are certainly higher than is generally the case with regard to the people who are subject to this tax. Consequently, this gentleman has felt it, no doubt, more keenly, and he has been likewise able to have the attention of the House of Commons called to it more successfully. I do not mean to say that the hon. Member for King's County would not have paid the same attention to the complaint of the humblest of his constituents; but it is a very different thing where the case is stated by an ignorant man who does not know how to get it up properly, and where it is stated by a man of high position and education like Mr. Carew. There is another thing in this matter which is exceptional—namely, the hon. Member for King's County has a grievance against the Castle authorities, in consequence of a letter having been, as he says, pigeon-holed. That assertion I take leave to correct; it is a charge which the hon. Member has brought for the first time, and which he now reiterates. No doubt, the hon. Member, as a Member of Parliament representing the grievances of his constituents, has been injured to this extent, that the representations which were originally made did not take effect, because, owing to some official mistake, the letter was mislaid and misunderstood, and, in consequence, there was a considerable delay in the correspondence. But that circumstance did not affect the district pecuniarily; because it was not until the 7th of November that the tax began to be levied. The proclamation was revoked on the 31st December, and the total sum levied on the district was, I think, about £52—I am not quite certain as to the actual amount. As far as Mr. Carew is concerned, I do not suppose it was a question of money at all. Mr. Carew felt the reproach which was cast upon him, and he called for a private investigation. And then we come to the real and essential point in the matter. "What we complain of," says the hon. Member (Mr. Molloy), "is that false in-

formation was sent to the Castle." It is quite clear to me that Parliament, in putting these powers into the hands of the Irish Government, did not intend that, upon every application made by an hon. Member, a sworn investigation should be granted. If we had granted an application for investigation in this instance, on account of the position of the person who considered himself aggrieved, we should have to yield in every case; and I am quite sure that hon. Members will feel satisfied that, if that course had been adopted publicly, the last of this police tax would have been levied in Ireland. ["Hear, hear!"] Well, I think that would be as great a misfortune as could happen, because I believe no quieter, no less oppressive, and no more successful means of restoring peace and order could be resorted to than this. The hon. Member commented upon the official correspondence from the Castle in terms which, perhaps, are the most formidable of his remarks; because, certainly, it would be a most serious matter for official Departments if they recognized that there was no objection, in regard to every refusal they were obliged to make, to enter into a somewhat prolonged and disputed correspondence. I am sorry to say that it is equally impossible for me, at this period, as it was before, to accede to the request of the hon. Member. If we were to concede inquiry here, we should have to grant investigation in all cases. Certainly, if the hon. Member goes to a Division upon that point, after the speech he has made, I shall consider it a Division upon the merits of the question, and shall not recognize that what is desired is the reduction of the Vote by the £1,000. I gather that the hon. Member merely wishes to express his opinion that there ought to be a sworn investigation into certain cases of the employment of extra police in particular counties of Ireland.

MR. MOLLOY said, the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland had taken the usual course of defending the action of the Government; but the right hon. Gentleman had entirely misconceived the meaning of the correspondence, and the object of his (Mr. Molloy's) remarks. He would admit, at once, that the proposal to reduce the Vote by £1,000 had nothing to do with the question he desired to bring

before the Committee. The point he wished to call attention to was this—that while, as he stated in the correspondence, the strong powers of the Coercion Act had been used to the last extent, the authorities at the Castle, as he (Mr. Molloy) knew, had been wilfully and continually misinformed as to the real facts of the case. He asked for an investigation into the matter, in order, not that the police should be taken away, but that justice and right should be dealt out to the people. The point he had laid particular stress upon was this. The right hon. Gentleman said there were 13 outrages—threatening letters and burnings. That was quite true; but the author of those outrages made a written confession and was ordered to be prosecuted; but, at the last moment, the prosecution was withdrawn. He admitted the difficulty which the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland had put forward; but he could not admit that any policy would justify the perpetration of an act of injustice to the people. If wrong had been done, no matter what the circumstances might be, or the position of the authorities, for the sake of their own honour they were bound to make an investigation. What he wanted to know was, why, when the author of the outrages was discovered, the prosecution was stopped? Where had the real offender gone? And why was this injustice, which it could not be denied had been committed, allowed to continue? He had said that he had very little hope of the Government consenting to go back from its position, and he had instanced the case of the newspapers, which, having once stated a fact, were very reluctant to, or, indeed, never would, withdraw it. ["Oh, oh!"] At any rate, that was his opinion. While the Government refused to make this investigation, he found himself utterly powerless in the matter; but he promised to do all in his power to have the real facts of the case made known.

MR. JOSEPH COWEN said, he had listened very attentively, and with some interest, to the statement of the Chief Secretary for Ireland, and with no other knowledge of the facts, except what he had heard that day, he was bound to come to the conclusion that no complete answer had been given to the charge which had been brought by the hon. Member for King's County (Mr. Molloy)

against the Government. In point of fact, he thought that no complete answer could be given. The real point of the case was that the person who was confessedly guilty of these offences of threatening and burning had been arrested on a charge of theft, and that, after making a confession of her guilt, and naming the person by whom she had been instigated to commit the crime, she was spirited out of the neighbourhood, or, at any rate, disappeared, and no explanation was given, the charge upon the neighbourhood for the extra police being, nevertheless, continued. The point was, where was this person, who was the originator of all this trouble; why had she not been punished; why had the trial been quashed; and why was the tax continued upon the district? That really was the issue. The conduct of the Government went to show, he would not say the justification, but the origin, of a great many of the complaints which had been made by hon. Members from Ireland as to the manner in which the affairs of that country were administered. The Castle was constantly receiving information from persons who could not be got at by anybody else. They acted on that information, and refused to receive any contradiction of it from responsible persons like the hon. Member for King's County (Mr. Molloy) and others. In this case, a woman, after being charged with theft, turned approver, the Government got her out of the district, and still continued to saddle the district with the consequences of her crime. He was afraid that as long as that horrible Act of Parliament—the Prevention of Crime Act—remained on the Statute Book—an Act which was a disgrace and a humiliation to the Legislature—Ireland would be reduced to this melancholy condition.

MR. HEALY said, he did not know whether to be surprised or to wonder at the audacity and ingenuousness of the hon. Member for King's County (Mr. Molloy) in venturing so absurdly to ask for an investigation. How could the hon. Member expect an investigation into anything that had been done by the Castle? The right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland was a supporter in that House of the doctrine that all Irishmen were natural born liars, with the exception of those "babes of grace" the members of the Royal

Irish Constabulary. It had been stated by the hon. Member for King's County that certain outrages had been committed; that the perpetrators of those outrages were known; and yet the tax on the district was allowed to continue, and no investigation would be granted by the Government. The hon. Member for Newcastle (Mr. Joseph Cowen) seemed to suppose that this was an isolated case. It was nothing of the kind. The same thing occurred in the county of Cork, where an unfortunate man named Leary was shot by the informer Connell. Connell was not prosecuted for murder, but was kept for months by the Attorney General for Ireland as a Crown witness. If the Chief Secretary for Ireland had been in Office in Cromwell's time, and had been asked for an investigation into the charge of spitting Irish babies upon English bayonets, he would have got up in that House and would have defended the act with as much *aplomb* as he had exhibited in the present case. The right hon. Gentleman admitted that the police tax continued to be levied on a gentleman residing in the neighbourhood, notwithstanding the fact that the author of the outrages had been discovered.

MR. TREVELYAN: I do not admit that.

MR. HEALY said, that, in that case, he would withdraw the statement. The right hon. Gentleman said nothing about it, but allowed the statement to go by default.

MR. TREVELYAN: The hon. Member for King's County (Mr. Molloy) did not state that the author of the outrages had been discovered. He said that a woman admitted writing certain threatening letters.

MR. HARRINGTON: At the instigation of other parties.

MR. HEALY: The hon. Member for King's County (Mr. Molloy) said that the woman, on being charged with theft, admitted having committed the outrages.

MR. TREVELYAN: There were 13 outrages, and the woman did not commit them all.

MR. HEALY, resuming, said, that when the woman was put upon her trial by the Crown, the Crown withdrew the charge, and the woman was mysteriously spirited away. What inference were they to draw from that fact? The

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right hon. Gentleman had not stated a single thing to disprove the statement of the hon. Member for King's County. Where was the woman now? No doubt, she would appear hereafter in a glorified state as a Crown witness. She was now drinking her champagne in comfort, and she would be produced by-and-bye; and when the Crown wanted some infamous woman—some prostitute—to give evidence against some unfortunate prisoner, this woman would appear, fresh from her crimes in King's County, to give evidence on behalf of the Crown. Where, he asked, was she now? Of course, the statement which had been made by the hon. Member for King's County would not be reported in the English newspapers. It would be summarized into a statement that there had been an Irish row. There was a conspiracy of silence both on the Treasury Bench and in the English Press in regard to all Irish grievances. Everything was "cushioned," and never reached the public. The Government declined to give an investigation because they knew that, if an investigation took place, the authors of these outrages would be discovered, and the police tax would no longer be imposed. That would be a throwing up of the sponge for which they were not prepared. Mr. Carew told the Executive that he did not believe the crime was committed by anyone connected with the barony, and his letter was flung back again in his face. The right hon. Gentleman refused to concede an inquiry into facts so simple and so easily ascertained. The old proverb, "*Fiat justitia*," was altogether ignored in Ireland. The rule of the Castle was—"Let justice perish; but let the Castle stand." It was everything for the landlords and nothing for the people, except blood money and police tax. Because the Crown Juries could not be trusted, what did they find? Why, that Lord Spencer had given a far larger amount of money for charges of maiming, injuries, and murder than the much-abused Grand Juries did when they were in power. The amount of fines levied by the Lord Lieutenant greatly exceeded those imposed by the Grand Juries, and the Irish Members could get no information from Her Majesty's Government unless they went to the trouble of moving for a Return, and, even then,

the Return was not presented until after the Vote was passed. The documents in this case were moved for on the 12th July. They had now reached the 18th of August, and they had not yet been circulated among hon. Members. Therefore, there was not only a conspiracy of silence, but a desire to "cushion" and "cloak" everything. The Government feared the light, because their deeds were evil. They had awarded £3,000 to Mr. Denis Field, and large sums to other persons in Ireland; but what had they given to the families of the girls who were murdered by police at Ballina? Nothing at all. What had they given for the man who was murdered by them at Ballyragget? Nothing at all. As he had just said, it was everything for the landlords and nothing for the people, except blood money and police tax. Those were the methods by which the rule of the right hon. Gentleman was maintained in Ireland, and yet he came down to the House and complained that the Irish Members laughed mockingly. Did he suppose that they were not made of flesh and blood, and that they were to fight him on velvet in that House; whereas, in Ireland, if they happened to fall within his clutches, he fought them with the gaol and chains? It was expected that Irish Members were to be so sensitive of the personality of the right hon. Gentleman in the House of Commons, that they were neither to laugh nor cheer; but, over in Ireland, he was so little sensitive of their feelings that the gaol was quite good enough for them. Only the other day, on the second reading of the Parliamentary Registration (Ireland) Bill, the right hon. Gentleman said the time had come for everybody to speak fully and fearlessly upon Irish questions; but when they did speak their full mind, the plank-bed was the reward for their fullness of speech. The right hon. Gentleman must remember that he treated the Irish Members in Ireland as his enemies, and he could not expect that they would do anything else in that House than treat him as their enemy. This was a quarrel of life or death. It was the struggle of the Irish people fought out in that House, as their forefathers fought it out under different circumstances; and to suppose that they could impart into their debates all the delicate refinements and calm and studied speech which might be good

enough if they were discussing a London Water Bill, was ridiculous and absurd when they were fighting for men's lives, liberties, homes, and families. It was ridiculous to imagine that they would not be shaken by emotions very different from those which a man would feel when he was dealing with an ordinary abstract question. Hon. Members did not understand the position of the Irish Question. It was as much a war now between the two countries as ever it was. The Irish Members were the exponents of the state of feeling which existed in Ireland, and which inspired the great mass of the people of Ireland with hatred and contempt of Her Majesty's Government.

MR. GLADSTONE: Sir, I did not intend to intervene in this debate; but I think that the style of language the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) has thought proper to adopt, makes it impossible for me to remain altogether silent. I do not think that my right hon. Friend near me (Mr. Trevelyan) showed any defect of patience in his dealing with the charges that were brought against the Irish Executive. I must assume that the hon. Gentleman the Member for Monaghan, in the extraordinary tone he adopts, is acquitting his conscience from a sense of obligation to his country, and that makes the state of facts rather formidable. Is it really necessary that the case of Ireland should be stated from the hon. Gentleman's point of view in the language which he has seen fit to use?

MR. BIGGAR: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member for Cavan (Mr. Biggar) must not interrupt the speaker. I have already called the attention of the hon. Member to the irregularity of his interruptions.

MR. GLADSTONE: Does the hon. Member for Monaghan really think that that is the way to attain the ends which, as a patriotic citizen, he must contemplate and desire? Does he really think it necessary to say that my right hon. Friend the Chief Secretary for Ireland is pursuing exactly the same policy, and holding just the same language, as a man who would justify the spitting of Irish babes upon bayonets?

MR. HEALY: Yes.

MR. GLADSTONE: He does?

MR. HEALY: Yes; I believe he would defend it in just the same way.

Mr. Healy

MR. GLADSTONE: The hon. Member complains very much that such language as that is not reported in the English newspapers. Well, I am very friendly to full reports in the newspapers; but I am by no means certain that it is very desirable such language should be reported. I should say, not speaking with the animation and excitement of the hon. Gentleman, but with perfect coolness and deliberation, that such language deserves and requires the severest condemnation and reprobation. I think that it goes directly to stimulate and inflame national hatred. It has been our object and desire, and I may say as long as I have sat here, especially since it has been my duty to deal responsibly with the affairs of Ireland, to do everything and to say everything which may tend to extinguished national hatred. We have not been slow to place ourselves in conflict with English prejudices when we believed it to be in our power to minister to this sacred work. I think it is to be deplored that hon. Members should plead the wrongs of Ireland as an excuse for language so violent. Surely, it need not be necessary to have recourse to expressions so extreme. Surely, the facts of these cases can be stated without exaggeration so pronounced. [MR. BIGGAR: No.] I suppose the hon. Gentleman the Member for Monaghan thinks it is necessary that, in a country which is to maintain an aspect of civilization, justice should be administered. ["Hear, hear!"] I suppose he thinks it necessary that words should not be used which tend to obstruct the administration of justice. I suppose he knows it is necessary, in the administration of justice, to use, from time to time, the evidence of those who have themselves been guilty of crime. I do not suppose that he is prepared to support the absurd principle, in contradiction to the universal experience of mankind, that because persons have been convicted of crime, they are therefore under no circumstances to be permitted to perform an act of reparation to public justice for their crime, by themselves becoming parties to the conviction of others for crime. If that be so, what right has the hon. Gentleman to throw contempt upon those who take that course? Their position should shield them from the wrath and indignation of the hon. Gentleman, and

I do say that to describe all such persons as "infamous," is to strike a blow at the administration of justice. The hon. Gentleman knows that there are prejudices in Ireland as well as in England. The hon. Member must not set up the doctrine, that human infirmities are confined to this side of the water. He must know very well that the history of Ireland, while it explains, palliates, and, in some cases, justifies such prejudice, yet likewise leaves untouched the fact that great prejudice does exist, and that the manner in which justice has been administered in former times throws the people of Ireland into a state of mind in which they are disposed to suspect and not to sustain. Is it right, under such circumstances, that the hon. Member should come to this House and tell us that nobody but some infamous woman, or some prostitute, having been guilty of crime, will ever appear to promote the administration of justice?

MR. HEALY: You can get nobody else.

MR. GLADSTONE: Ought the hon. Member to come forward and exult in that fact, if it be a fact? I do not believe it is a fact. I believe it is a fiction. But, if it were a fact, is he really performing his duty to his country as an Irishman—I will not give any other plea—in exulting in that fact, and interposing another barrier in the way of the administration of justice? I must say that I have listened, with a pain which I cannot describe, to many of these recent discussions. It appears to me that the world is aware that a great work has been accomplished within the last 12 or 15 months in Ireland on behalf, I might almost say, of the common interests of civilized mankind; that a country whose personal life had come to be poisoned by the universal dissemination of crime has become so comparatively peaceful and secure that men can go to their business freely and without apprehension, and can discharge the common engagements of life and keep the contracts they have made without fear of suffering in consequence. I should have thought that those persons through whose agency and responsibility this change—palpable and notorious to all the world, and not to be disguised by anything the hon. Gentleman may say—I should have thought that those persons through whose assiduous labours,

through whose fearless exposure of their own lives to danger, through whose never-surpassed patriotism such results have been brought about—I should have thought that, even in their errors, if they slipped aside for a moment, their intention being undoubted, they would have been entitled to some degree of forbearance, to some degree of respect, to something like moderation of language, even from the hon. Gentleman. I lament the language he has used. I wish to make every allowance. I have said nothing, I hope, in the way of retaliation for the astounding and extraordinary language of the hon. Member. I merely wish to say that such language will be received by us, I hope, so far as we are concerned, and all the accusations that are cast wholesale on my right hon. Friend and on other Members of the Irish Government in particular—of course, we share in the whole of their responsibility—such language will be received by us with patience, as far as we are ourselves concerned, and we shall not be stirred to reply to it. But this I may say—my lamentation for the language used is not because it wounds or hurts us, but it is because there is a great work in view, solemnly incumbent upon every man in this House, and which it is his duty to accomplish, and it is the establishment of peace and concord between these countries; and I hold that such speeches as we have just heard are fatal impediments to the establishment of such peace and concord. They are the greatest difficulties we have to deal with, not merely because of the state of mind they disclose in some persons on the other side of the Channel, but on account of the state of mind they tend to produce here. They tend, under the very necessities of human nature, to produce in the English mind a state of feeling that renders it almost impossible to do real justice to Ireland. It is not merely Conservative prejudice; it is not merely national misgivings derived from former times. It is the violence, the unreasoning violence, of language which is used by the hon. Gentleman, and by men like him, that are the most fatal difficulties in our way in whatever endeavours we make, and whatever wishes we entertain, to do full and absolute justice in every particular to Ireland. I have no right to make any request to the hon. Gentle-

man. For me, my share, my personal interest in these matters, can only be of very short duration.

MR. BIGGAR: Hear, hear! [*Cries of "Order!" from all parts of the House.*]

THE CHAIRMAN: I have already had to call the hon. Member for Cavan (Mr. Biggar) to Order twice; if I have to interpose again, I shall be obliged to Name him.

MR. GLADSTONE: But were this the last time I should speak in the House of Commons, not adopting the language of authoritative rebuke, to which I have no right to aspire, I would beseech and entreat the hon. Gentleman to question and examine himself—and I would say the same thing to others who have spoken in similar tones—to ask himself, to the very bottom of his heart, whether it is really necessary to use these inflammatory tones, and whether we have not reached a point at which some indications have been given by Parliament that they are disposed to do well, and to substitute a state of peace and friendship for the painful inheritance and recollections of the past; and to ask himself, if so, whether he will not himself become a participator in the work of peace, and, instead of provoking and stirring up animosities on this side of the water to come into conflict with animosities upon the other, whether it would not be better to put some curb on expressions which I do not ascribe to anything more than an unrestrained outflow of sentiments—I have no doubt honestly entertained and upright in their aim—whether he would not act more wisely, and more justly, and certainly more in the interests of his own country with a powerful neighbour on this side of the water—whether he would not act more in the interests of Ireland if he would endeavour to introduce into these deliberations something of that spirit of gentleness and moderation, something of that restraint of language which is agreeable both to the traditions of this House, to the social state in which we live, to the very name of civilization, and, I venture to say, to the religion which we profess?

MR. HARRINGTON said, he was somewhat surprised that the Prime Minister should have thought it necessary to express some doubt as to a portion of the case put forward by the hon. Member for Wexford (Mr. Healy), with-

out having heard the whole statement of the grievance of which his hon. Friend complained. He (Mr. Harrington) agreed with the observation of the right hon. Gentleman, that it should be the object of everyone who studied the well-being of Ireland to endeavour to maintain justice and bring about the peace of that country; but he would ask the right hon. Gentleman whether he thought it contributed to peace or to confidence in the administration of the law in Ireland that, when Irish Members had to complain of a real wrong, when they came before the tribunal of that House, and before the public opinion of the country, to draw attention to it, the House should refuse to listen to them, and that the right hon. Gentleman, who had been absent during the debate, and to whose opinion the people of Ireland would be glad to appeal, should throw in his weight against Irish Members, while his Colleagues had allowed judgment to go by default? He believed that if the Prime Minister were only cognizant of the manner in which the law was administered in Ireland, and the way in which it was used in the interest of one class over another, the present state of things would not be allowed to exist. When the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland came over from Ireland the Ministry had nothing for him but panegyrics. He (Mr. Harrington) noticed the expression of surprise on the Prime Minister's face when his hon. Friend (Mr. Healy) mentioned the fact that political prisoners had to sleep on the plank-bed; but he could assure him that the Chief Secretary had given him the plank-bed for three weeks at one time; and during several days of that time he was not allowed a breath of fresh air, or a minute for exercise, but was kept locked up during the whole day in a cell 10 feet by 5 feet. The right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland could not deny that he (Mr. Harrington) was compelled to sleep on a plank-bed. He was glad the Prime Minister was in his place; and he repeated his belief that, if he was acquainted with the mode of administering the law in Ireland, if he knew that the law was made an instrument of oppression, vengeance, and vindictiveness in the hands of one class as against another, the present state of

Mr. Gladstone

things would cease to exist. What were the facts? Parliament had no grip on the administration of justice in Ireland, which was absolutely in the hands of one man, who could do what he liked; if hon. Members wished to address their constituents in Ireland, it was only on the sufferance of the right hon. Gentleman sitting near the Prime Minister (Mr. Trevelyan); wherever they went, from one end of the country to another, they were dogged by his policemen. That was what Irish Members complained of, and what the hon. Member for Monaghan had justly described as treating every Irishman as a liar and a villain, unless he happened to be a policeman. Now, if the Prime Minister was anxious that the people of Ireland should have confidence in the administration of justice, he (Mr. Harrington) would appeal to him not to shut his ears to the facts from time to time detailed in that House; he appealed to him to come down to the House when Irish Members had to draw attention to those matters. Irish Members were as much interested in the establishment of peace as the right hon. Gentleman himself; but he could assure him that Ireland never could be peaceable, and that the people of the country never would have confidence in the administration of the law, so long as it was not just and equal. Now, he was very unwilling to touch on a matter personal to himself; but he would give an instance of the manner in which Irish feeling and Irish opinion were treated, when they were brought under the notice of the House. Some time ago, he (Mr. Harrington) spoke at a public meeting at Mullingar, in the county of Westmeath; he challenged, and was very glad of having the opportunity of challenging, the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary of Ireland in the presence of his Colleagues, to bring forward a single sentence of that speech which would justify him or the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland in imposing an hour's imprisonment upon him. The right hon. Gentleman, however, being desirous of justifying the course he had taken with regard to himself (Mr. Harrington), had, on a former occasion, stated in that House that he was a very formidable person, that it was necessary to make an example of some formidable person, and that, there-

fore, he had been selected for the honour. Upon what did the right hon. Gentleman ground his opinion of the formidable character he had given him? He had done so, simply on the fact that his Predecessor in Office had done the same injustice, and he took it for granted that his Predecessor was infallible. The right hon. Gentleman described him as a formidable person, simply because, for a period of 12 months, he had been confined in an Irish gaol, without trial, and on a warrant of the late Chief Secretary for Ireland. He (Mr. Harrington) repeated his challenge to the right hon. Gentleman to produce a single expression in any of his speeches during the agitation in Ireland which would justify his arrest. He would say that he believed in his soul that he had been imprisoned for 12 months for a speech made, not by himself, but by another man. He attended one meeting in Westmeath, as representative of the Land League, and hearing a person on the platform making what he considered to be a violent speech, he interrupted him, and said—"If you make a speech of that character, I shall leave the meeting, and I shall have to protest against the course you are taking." He believed that the official reporter, whose report he had never been allowed to see, though imprisoned by the late Chief Secretary for Ireland, during the interruption put him down as taking up the speaking, and attributed to him the observations made by the speaker in the course of the next 10 minutes. In fact, he believed that he had been imprisoned for 12 months for the observations of another man. [Mr. GLADSTONE dissented.] The Prime Minister seemed to be incredulous to that; but he (Mr. Harrington) fairly threw out a challenge to the Colleagues of the right hon. Gentleman to sift the question. His arrest must have been made upon some definite charge, with some definite reason; therefore, he said, let that reason be got from Dublin Castle, where it was entombed. He believed he should be able to convince the Committee, without much trouble, that this matter deserved investigation. On the 23rd of February, after he had been sent to prison last, the hon. Member for Manchester (Mr. Jacob Bright) quoted a speech which he (Mr. Harrington) had delivered, and asked if those were the words for which

he was then undergoing two months' imprisonment? The reply of the Chief Secretary was that they were "some" of the words. That reply did not satisfy the hon. Member for Manchester, who asked "if there were any other words" in the speech on which Mr. Harrington was condemned, and, if so, would the right hon. Gentleman repeat them? The right hon. Gentleman gave a general reply, referring to the state of crime existing in Ireland. On being further pressed, the right hon. Gentleman gave, as the passage on which the Government relied, a portion of a newspaper paraphrase of his speech, which was not relied upon at the trial, and which did not appear on the shorthand writer's notes. The passage in question ended thus—

"Comfortable farmers in Ireland generally must be told that if they did not throw themselves into this movement, they would have the whole force of the labourers' agitation directed against them."—(3 *Hansard*, [276] 713.)

He appealed to the Prime Minister to say whether he believed those words, even if he had used them, were a sufficient justification of the Chief Secretary for Ireland sending him (Mr. Harrington) to prison, locking him up in a small cell, compelling him to pick oakum during the entire day, and to sleep at night on a plank-bed? He asked the Prime Minister to go to Ireland, to visit the Irish gaols, and to examine for himself the state of affairs; let him see men repeatedly imprisoned in Ireland for words of this kind; let him see men kept without trial, Assize after Assize; and let him see the temptations offered to them, including whiskey, to give evidence, possibly against some innocent person. If the right hon. Gentleman thought they had no solid case, then let him stand up and give the reason why he thought so. He (Mr. Harrington) believed he had drawn attention to facts which deserved the serious consideration of the Prime Minister. If the administration of such a country as Ireland were in the hands of the Prime Minister; if he found himself solely, without aid and without council, responsible for the administration of justice there, he could well understand how calmly and discreetly a conscientious and high-minded Gentleman, as he believed the Prime Minister

Mr. Harrington

to be, would examine into everything necessary to be examined into with regard to the administration of justice. Threatening notices were always made evidence of the existence of a conspiracy in the localities. In the case of his (Mr. Harrington's) brother, the only evidence produced was that threatening notices were posted, and the magistrates concluded that therefore a conspiracy existed, although it was perfectly easy for one person to have gone round the district and posted them. It was pointed out, in the present debate, that a woman had confessed that she had written the notices. She had given the name of the man who wrote them, and she said that if the persons who originated them were known the magistrates would be surprised, which meant that persons of position were at the bottom of the matter. Taxes were imposed upon the locality, which the people had to pay, and it turned out now, with reference to this particular case, that it was another hoax. If the people of Ireland were to have confidence in the administration of justice, the Government must go upon a different course than they were now following. If the notices in question were printed, and if outrages followed them, why did not the Chief Secretary for Ireland grant a full inquiry into the matter? But the Crown had allowed this woman to go free. He thought the observations of the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) on this subject were not at all too strong, when he said he believed the people of Ireland would be prepared for the statement that she would probably turn up as a Crown witness. The Prime Minister was surprised at that; but the people of Ireland knew very well that that was not the first time such a person had been employed; they knew that, in one case of murder, the Crown had used the evidence of a man who admitted that he paid for the act, and put the pistol into the hand of the murderer; and they knew very well that the chief evidence against the Phoenix Park murderers was that of James Carey, who was taken in hand by the Crown and patted on the back. He would admit that there were difficulties in the administration of justice in Ireland; he would admit that it was an extremely difficult task for the Chief Secretary for Ireland, who was a stranger to the country, and for the Lord

Lieutenant, who was also a stranger to it, to take up the administration of justice as well as it could be done by men who were acquainted with the country and the feelings of the people; but Irish Members complained that, when their attention was drawn to a wrong, they would grant no inquiry, and that in that House they misled the public as to the facts. He (Mr. Harrington) had drawn the attention of the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland, a short time ago, to the execution of Myles Joyce, in Galway Gaol, for the Maamtrasna murder, and the right hon. Gentleman declined to reply to him. The information he had on this subject came from a Catholic priest, and he had pointed out that the man Joyce was to be executed in Galway Gaol, and that two other men were also to be executed for the same offence. They were found guilty, on the evidence of informers, who saved their own lives by sacrificing the lives of these men. The man Joyce was brought 200 miles away from his home to be tried; this unfortunate man was a peasant, and almost starving; he could call no witnesses; he did not understand English, and neither did the jury nor the counsel understand Irish. Two days before the execution of that man, at the instance of the chaplain of the gaol, the two other condemned men sent for the Resident Magistrate, and made a solemn declaration that they were guilty of the offence. If his information was wrong, the right hon. Gentleman was in a position to show that it was wrong.

MR. TREVELYAN: What was the information of the priest?

MR. HARRINGTON: The information was, that two days before the execution, acting on the suggestion of the confessor who attended these men, they sent for the Resident Magistrate who originally had charge of the case, and made a dying declaration that they were guilty of the crime for which they were condemned, but that the other man, Myles Joyce, was perfectly innocent. He had not himself seen the depositions, and he might be wrong; but he could tell the right hon. Gentleman that the people of Ireland were very anxious to arrive at the truth of this matter. Public opinion in Ireland, at the present moment, relied upon the statement he had made of the facts which had occurred in this

case, and it was believed that depositions such as he had described had been sent to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. He felt satisfied that if this case had occurred anywhere else, it would be the subject of very serious inquiry on the part of hon. Members on both sides of the House. He would ask the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland to lay the depositions on the Table of the House, in order that the agitation in Ireland in relation to this subject might be set at rest. If those depositions did not state the innocence of Myles Joyce, he would at once express his regret for having occupied the attention of the Committee at such length. On the day of execution, Myles Joyce protested his innocence as he left the cell, as he crossed the prison yard, as he reached the scaffold, and actually, when the rope was placed round his neck, he turned to the officials and Press men, and protested his innocence in Irish; and while that was going on the drop was pulled, the rope caught his elbow, and they had the horrible spectacle described of the hangman going down and literally kicking him to death. He said, again, if the depositions were in the hands of the Government, let them be placed on the Table, in order to allay the feeling that this man had been unjustly condemned to death. He believed that the cases he had brought forward would show that Irish Members were justified in drawing attention, from time to time, to the manner in which the law was put in force; and, while he was as anxious as the Prime Minister, or anyone else, that Ireland should be peaceable, he believed that result would never be achieved while the administration of the law remained as it was, and while the Representatives of the Crown continued to stand up and say that the end they had in view justified the means. That was the justification relied upon by the Chief Secretary for Ireland, with regard to the prison rules applied to untried prisoners; but it was, also, the argument made use of by the assassins in Ireland; but the people there believed that the end did not justify the means, if the means were unjust; and, that being so, Irish Members must continue to draw attention to cases of the kind he had described, and to express, with reference to them, the feelings of the Irish people which had

been outraged in a manner that was not conducive to peace and order in Ireland.

MR. NEWDEGATE said, he thought the speech of the hon. Member who had just addressed the Committee (Mr. Harrington) might be cited as an example of propriety of language. His assertions were strong, and it was to be regretted that the Committee had no means of testing them; but the hon. Member recognized the fact, and he (Mr. Newdegate) had never, during the many years he had occupied a seat in that House, abandoned the position, that Parliament was the highest Court of Justice in the Realm. Hon. Members from Ireland had lately become his neighbours in the old place he had occupied for so many years, and he rejoiced that they had furnished him with a bond of union between him and them, which he was proud to own, when they assisted him in resisting an attempt that he thought would bring degradation on the House of Commons—namely, to introduce into that Assembly an avowed Atheist. He hoped that, during the last three years, he had avoided every topic that might be annoying to Irish Members. They knew him to be a firm and not inactive Protestant; they knew that there was a Constitution the chief element of which was Protestantism; and that in defending that Constitution, when circumstances rendered it necessary, he would not shrink from offending them or any other person; but, in consideration of the bond of union he had alluded to, he had waived all topics of controversy that might offend them in order to preserve united action between his new neighbours and himself in opposition to the attacks of Atheism. But he must warn those hon. Gentlemen that they might so conduct themselves as to prove that there was but one topic on which they entertained a respect for the House, and that they might impress the House with the belief that that topic was only accidental. He could not forget that they had reduced the conduct of Business in the House during the last year to a state of confusion which was painful to every English Member.

THE CHAIRMAN: Order, order!

MR. NEWDEGATE: I am about, Sir, to advert to the speech of the Leader of the House.

Mr. Harrington

THE CHAIRMAN: I am sorry to interrupt; but the Question before the Committee is, whether the Vote to the Lord Lieutenant shall be reduced by £1,000?

MR. NEWDEGATE said, he would acknowledge the justice of the Chairman's observations; but, at the same time, the Committee must be aware that they had been forced to travel into questions of Order which had not yet found their proper solution. He had risen for the purpose of thanking the right hon. Gentleman the First Lord of the Treasury and Leader of that House for the manner in which he had intervened for the vindication of the character of the House. He had often heard the right hon. Gentleman exercise those powers of oratory, for which he was known throughout the world, and he had never heard an appeal more worthy of himself than that which he had addressed to the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy). He had taken down the words used by the hon. Member to which the right hon. Gentleman had objected, and had not the right hon. Gentleman risen, he (Mr. Newdegate) would himself have called the attention of the Committee to them; but he should not now attempt to interfere with the discharge of the high function that belonged to the right hon. Gentleman by one word of comment which would be misplaced after so admirable a speech. He would merely venture to repeat the warning which the Prime Minister had given to the hon. Member, that the language which he had used both with respect to that House and the conduct of responsible Ministers was such as was calculated to arouse amongst the people of England feelings of indignation to which he should be sorry to see them give effect as regarded the Representatives of Ireland.

MR. T. D. SULLIVAN said, the Prime Minister had made a most eloquent and touching appeal in favour of moderation of language in that House; and there was not the least doubt that, to the eloquence of his words, the right hon. Gentleman had added the genuine emotion of his heart in speaking on that subject. But, it seemed to him (Mr. Sullivan) that it remained to be said that, whilst smooth speeches were all very well, it would be better if they had in Ireland a little more of that smooth-

ness of action which would help so much to improve the relations between the two countries. It would be vain and useless for the Representatives of Ireland to gloss over the just grievances and wrongs of the Irish people. No doubt, it was better to let the truth be known in temperate and quiet words; but, in any way, they must make the truth manifest, and it was that the Irish people had their hearts torn by the treatment they experienced in the name of law and justice. If the Prime Minister desired to heal the animosities and wipe out the prejudices, which, as he truly said, existed on both sides of the Channel, let him so direct the administration of law in Ireland as not to exasperate or excite the public mind by the manner in which the Executive exercised the extraordinary powers conferred upon them. He desired to speak in as mild terms as he could command on this subject; but he found it not easy to do so, because there was no town or village in Ireland where the young men of the place were not in a state of excitement, not because of the administration of justice, but because of the administration of injustice and tyranny throughout the country. He knew it was as much as the younger men could do to keep themselves within the bounds of legality of speech and action, knowing what they knew and seeing what they saw taking place every day about them. Why, the magistrates and the police were the tyrants of Ireland; they could do what they pleased; they could exercise without bridle or responsibility, and in an unjust and atrocious manner, the stupendous powers conferred upon them. If these acts of injustice were isolated and of rare occurrence, he believed the people, in the main, would regard the treatment received as the fortune of war, and think no more of the matter; but they were of constant occurrence, and there was a feeling existing in Ireland at the present day that justice was not being done to them. It was absolutely true that cruelty and wrong were being done day after day, and for that state of things there was no redress. In such deplorable circumstances as these, it was vain to talk smoothly. The right hon. Gentleman said, truly, that he wanted a better state of feeling to exist between the two countries, to which he (Mr.

Sullivan) replied, "Do away with this tyranny." There was no one in Ireland who had sympathy with crime. He had denied before, and he would deny again, that there was a particle of truth in the contrary allegation. The Irish people said, let justice be done; but they said also, let the magistrates and police be compelled to keep within the just spirit of the law. At present, they did nothing of the kind. The Prime Minister was capable of saying words which had a soothing effect upon the Irish people; but hardly were they reported and read in Ireland, when an act of the Executive did away with all their good effect. And let not the right hon. Gentleman think that anything in the nature of oratory would heal the wounds which those acts caused. To establish a state of good feeling, let him put a curb on the men who brought about the unfortunate relations existing between the two countries, because, until that was done, the verdict of the people would be the same as now, and the good wishes of the right hon. Gentleman would remain unfulfilled.

MR. O'BRIEN said, that, with the eloquent words of the Prime Minister still fresh in their ears, he felt it difficult to address the Committee on the question before them; but he felt bound not to allow the speech of the right hon. Gentleman to pass without pointing out that the fallacy which underlay the whole of it was the idea that the conflict which went on in Ireland last winter, and which was going on still, was merely a conflict between the Government and crime. Hon. Members on those Benches said that the whole aim and secret of Lord Spencer's Administration was to degrade political opponents, to class political agitation with crime and outrage, and to put down agitation under cover of the prejudice excited by crime. What was the state of things in Ireland last year? Meetings were about to be held, and Members of Parliament were about to address their constituents, when men like his friend Mr. Davitt, and the hon. Members for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) and Westmeath (Mr. Harrington) were cast into prison for speeches in which they actually denounced outrage. Men like the Mayor of Wexford and Mr. M'Philpin, men as high-minded as Earl Spencer

himself, were cast into prison and compelled to sleep on plank-beds and wear convicts' clothes; blood taxes and police taxes were showered down on the heads of the people, and the whole administration of the country became one vast scheme of retaliation and vengeance, not for justice, but for the landlords; and yet, in the face of these things, the Prime Minister wanted Irish Representatives to go about teaching affection and submission towards a Government that allowed them to exist. He was afraid he was not skilled in the use of moderate language; but, with a full sense of the responsibility which the Prime Minister had placed upon Irish Members, he ventured to say that the Government need not be surprised if, instead of submission or affection, they had created amongst the Irish people a deep and implacable hatred for themselves and all their works. They had done their worst to degrade their fair political opponents to the level of criminals, and they had only themselves to thank if they succeeded in raising criminals to the rank of political opponents.

MR. BIGGAR said, the Prime Minister had addressed a lecture on the subject of political deportment to the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy), which, of course, came with a very good grace from the Leader of a Party upon whom the hon. Member had recently inflicted such a severe defeat. Irish Members should be pleased with the position taken up by the right hon. Gentleman, because their policy was to be as moderate as possible, and the Government were doing all they could to play into their hands. He thought it was reasonable that the Government should listen with some attention to those Irish Members, who, it was well known, had the confidence of the large majority of the people of Ireland. The right hon. Gentleman said it was desirable that justice should be administered in Ireland, and in that they were in perfect accord; but Irish Members complained that what was administered in Ireland was something which, under the name of justice, was not justice at all. There were cases of jury-packing, cases of conviction without evidence, and others in which the Lord Lieutenant acted in the most unjust manner, and, notwithstanding the wishes of the right hon. Gentle-

man, the fact remained that the grossest injustice was done throughout the country. Then the right hon. Gentleman said they ought to be satisfied if the House showed a disposition to give them fair play and proper measures for Ireland; but his (Mr. Biggar's) experience was that, whenever they brought forward any measure likely to be beneficial, they were sure to wedge in a clause which was exceedingly objectionable, and became itself the cause of more injustice than the Bill was intended to remedy. They had evidence of that fact in a Bill then before the House, with respect to which it was only fair to say that a portion of it was of a most objectionable character; and when Irish Members, speaking with the full knowledge of the requirements of the country, and representing the opinions of the great majority of the Irish people, raised objections and protested against its injustice, the Government, in this case as in others, in their usual mechanical manner, carried the decision against them, by means of the large majority at their command. Now, the right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister had also referred to the undoubted good intentions of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. He (Mr. Biggar) disputed that proposition entirely. He did not believe in the good intentions of the Lord Lieutenant; on the contrary, he said that the Lord Lieutenant simply pandered to what he believed to be the interest of his political Party, without caring one straw whether his acts were justifiable, or likely to be beneficial to the people of Ireland. That was his opinion, and he believed it was shared by the great bulk of the people. And hence the reason why there was no confidence in the Government, or any part of it. The case which occurred in King's County was only one out of many of its kind. The right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland complained that Irish Members had interrupted him in the course of his speech; but they had only done so when he was making a statement which seemed to them to be very wide of the mark. For his own part, he was utterly indifferent to the opinion of the Chief Secretary for Ireland; and he would say more—if he were asked for his own opinion of the Government collectively, and of the Members of it individually, he should

Mr. O'Brien

certainly be obliged to use language which would be considered un-Parliamentary, and for which he would have to apologize; therefore, he would refrain from saying anything, although the Chief Secretary for Ireland might infer what he thought fit from his remarks. With regard to the case brought forward by the hon. Member for King's County (Mr. Molloy), the facts were that a large landowner in the county received a threatening notice; other notices had been distributed in the same district, and all the police tax, with a small exception, was laid on a particular landowner. That fact, of course, raised a strong suspicion in the minds of impartial persons that the Lord Lieutenant laid the tax on the property of the gentleman in question from some improper motive. He (Mr. Biggar) complained that the Chief Secretary for Ireland had not made the slightest attempt to meet the charge that the Lord Lieutenant had unjustly, either through negligence or design, allowed the whole of the tax to be placed on the property of Mr. Carew without taxing the rest of the property in the district. The right hon. Gentleman would see the question at issue. It had been proved that Mr. Carew had himself received threatening letters, and a woman had confessed that she had sent them to him; but, notwithstanding that, Mr. Carew got no redress for the injustice perpetrated upon him. With regard to the woman who confessed that the letters were written by her, owing to some unseen cause, and without any apparent reason, except that the object was to screen some other person, when the case came on for trial the prosecution was withdrawn. Now, he submitted that if a person belonging to the popular Party had been implicated in the charge, the prosecution would not have been abandoned, and the fullest investigation would have taken place. But, in this case, the woman who had confessed was spirited out of the way, so that no means were available for finding out the facts, and thus the persons who encouraged the sending of the letters were screened by the Government. He thought the Chief Secretary for Ireland was wrong in not replying on the facts of the case. The right hon. Gentleman said that, if any explanation were given in these cases, the portion of the Act under which they

were dealt with would break down. Of course it would; but why? Because the Lord Lieutenant had laid taxes on different parts of Ireland, either in defiance of evidence, or without any evidence at all. It was simply because the Lord Lieutenant had no evidence in the present case that the right hon. Gentleman refused any explanation of it; and, therefore, he (Mr. Biggar) felt justified in saying that, were it not for the mechanical majority of the Government, Irish Members on those Benches would not allow this Vote to be taken.

Mr. HEALY said, he did not think it right that the debate should close without a few words from him, in reference to the speech of the Prime Minister. There was no one in the House who had greater respect than he had for the right hon. Gentleman at the head of Her Majesty's Government. As long as he remained in the House, he had given cause for hon. Members, however strongly they might differ from him, to entertain feelings of respect for his personal character, and the greatest admiration for his extraordinary genius. If it were merely by his oratory, one might naturally expect that he could lead the House whichever way he pleased. But the Irish Members were a small band of men, and, to a large extent, untrained men, most of them uneducated in the practice of affairs. It was easy, therefore, for the Prime Minister, on occasions of this kind, to use language which, when it was reported outside, would make the worse appear the better reason. The facts of the case under discussion were very simple; but the right hon. Gentleman was not cognizant of them; he was not present during great part of the debate; and his appeal for general amity and peace was no more germane to the matter than if, seeing one man knock another down, he were to say—"My little children, love one another." The Sermon on the Mount would have been as applicable to the case under consideration as the right hon. Gentleman's speech. The Prime Minister's appeal to Christian sentiment had nothing to do with the question they were threshing out; it was not at all to the point, when they were dealing with questions of facts and figures, and with allegations and contentions of the character made that afternoon. The Prime Minister had appealed to them to use

language in the House which would not create prejudice in England, and which would not keep alive in Ireland hatred of England. He (Mr. Healy) wished the right hon. Gentleman would convey to the English newspapers, and to his Colleagues, similar sentiments. It was rather late in the day for those who had been subjected to every form of insult and calumny to be asked to listen to that appeal. Would the right hon. Gentleman instruct the Secretary of State for the Home Department (Sir William Harcourt) and the Vice President of the Council (Mr. Mundella) not to make insinuating and barbaric statements against Irish Members when they went down to the country? Would he instruct the Press of England to cease the calumnies and misrepresentations which they had so long heaped on the Irish Party? So long as the cancer was eating into their vitals, so long might the right hon. Gentleman expect to hear expressions from the Irish Members which would grate on his ears. The sooner the fact was recognized that there was a state of war existing between England and Ireland the better it would be for the country. It was not a physical war, because the people of Ireland were not able to give it physical effect; but it would be a physical war if the Irish people were able to carry it on. He saw the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Bradford (Mr. W. E. Forster) in his place; the right hon. Gentleman must admit the truth of that statement. [Mr. W. E. FORSTER: I admit nothing of the kind.] If the contrary were the case, why did the right hon. Gentleman keep up his soldiers, and his forts, and his policemen? He would not go into that; but when they had a state of feeling in a country which would break out into insurrection if the people had the power, it was to be expected that the Representatives of those people in the House of Commons would break out into insurrection in their language. No appeals to fine sentiment would do. Let them have justice. They wanted justice, and nothing else. They had put forward in the House one little incident, and they could get no satisfaction whatever in relation to it. The right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister had told them that the woman admitted the perpetration of these crimes. [Mr. GLADSTONE:

Mr. Healy

No, no!] What became of the woman? Why was she spirited away? Was she to be put upon her trial? When she was to be tried for certain offences, the Crown withdrew the charge against her, just as they withdrew the charge against the informer Connell, of Millstreet. Why had they no statements upon these facts? Why was investigation refused? Were the Irish people supposed to lie down and to be danced upon whenever injustice was committed? When they were struck, were they supposed not to cry out? Were they not to protest against injustice? They found the Chief Secretary for Ireland, no matter what case was brought before him, would accept the evidence of the commonest policeman, in preference to that of any number of honest and respectable witnesses. The right hon. Gentleman regarded the Irish people as born liars; none of them, in his opinion, had any truth in them, unless they were policemen. Let the right hon. Gentleman show a single case in which he had preferred the evidence of anyone to that of a policeman. He (Mr. Healy) had brought forward in the House many charges; but the right hon. Gentleman had no evidence to offer in refutation, except that of policemen. Let the Irish people have justice and inquiry. He had pleaded for inquiry into the bludgeoning of the people at Wexford; but he could not get it. He had seen his best friends knocked down, kicked, and beaten. The President of the Home Rule Club at Wexford was brutally kicked by a policeman; and he (Mr. Healy) was forced down on one knee, a bludgeon was raised over his head, and he would have been beaten, if he had not been recognized by a local head constable. Why was there no inquiry into the circumstances of the disturbance? Whose fault was it? Did the fault lie with his friends? Five men were convicted yesterday in Wexford for these so-called riots by a Resident Magistrate of the right hon. Gentleman and the local landlords. Five men were now picking oakum, and would that night lie on a plank bed. And the Irish Members, who represented them, and knew the injustice, were supposed to keep cool. Were they to have no feeling for the men whom they loved and knew, and who, that night, would be away from their families? No investigation, no inquiry; only eloquent

speeches from the Prime Minister, and appeals to them to be moderate, and gentle, and patient. If everything was comfortable they might be moderate and patient. It was easy for the right hon. Gentleman to be comfortable; but he must remember what Shakespeare said of the impossibility of a man holding fire in his hand by thinking of the frosty Caucasus. The right hon. Gentleman could not expect Irish Members to be as cool in dealing with these matters as himself. The right hon. Gentleman did not appreciate the state of facts when the Irish Representatives put statements forward in the House. Neither all the eloquence of the right hon. Gentleman, nor all the eloquence of all the eloquent men from Demosthenes down to the right hon. Gentleman himself, could pluck from the people of Ireland the rooted sorrow they felt. They could only do it by giving the people justice, and that justice the Government persistently refused.

MR. TREVELYAN: I have already spoken on the Main Question, and I only speak again on account of the persistent oblivion which appears to have come over the minds of several Gentlemen who have spoken since, including, I must say, my hon. Friend the Member for Newcastle-on-Tyne (Mr. Joseph Cowen). I think I am quoting his words correctly when I say he spoke of the woman who had confessed to the outrages which had caused this police tax to be levied as having been "spirited away." There were 13 charges of outrage in King's County; they were outrages against property, including several incendiary fires, and the sending of threatening letters. This woman, who was a thief, said she sent some of the threatening letters, and that, so far as I know, was all that she admitted. We are told that the Statute, which allows the Lord Lieutenant to impose a police tax on any district where there were incendiary fires and outrages, should not have been applied. The police tax was imposed on account of the incendiary fires as well as the threatening letters and the fact that the woman had said she had written threatening letters was surely no reason why the police tax should not be imposed.

MR. O'KELLY: The point is, why is there not an inquiry granted?

MR. TREVELYAN: The inquiry was not granted, because there was no more *prima facie* reason for granting an inquiry in this case than in any other. ["Hear, hear!"] Hon. Members who cheer that statement are the hon. Gentlemen who object to have the police tax imposed. In my opinion, the police tax is as quieting, and as self-acting, and as merciful a method of putting down crime and outrage as was ever proposed in Ireland.

MR. JOSEPH COWEN: This woman was charged with theft, and she has been got out of the way; the assumption is that she was got out of the way to be used for other purposes in some other place.

MR. TREVELYAN: In what place, and for what purpose? What has it to do with the question? Let us suppose the police tax was imposed on account of a single incendiary fire; a woman confesses to another crime, and we are told she was being got out of the way. What that has to do with the imposition of the police tax on account of incendiary fires in which this woman was not concerned I do not know. I am not aware where the woman is; I do not think the Government have spirited her away; she has never been brought forward as an informer, and for all I know she has no information to give the Government.

MR. HARRINGTON: Was the prosecution against her withdrawn?

MR. TREVELYAN: The prosecution was withdrawn.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR: To screen whom?

MR. TREVELYAN: There was no question of screening. The woman confessed, whether truly or not I do not know, of having written certain threatening letters, and the prosecution was withdrawn I know not why; and there is no reason why I should inquire into the matter—it has nothing to do with the imposition of the police tax. The hon. Member for Westmeath (Mr. Harrington) discussed over again, in the presence of the Prime Minister, and I think for the benefit of the Prime Minister, several questions which I may inform the Prime Minister have been discussed several times before at great length in this House. The hon. Member for Westmeath complained of the treatment he and his brother received

in prison, and he says that I put him in prison. Well, Sir, I did not put the hon. Member in prison. The Government prosecuted the hon. Member on the ground of a passage in a speech he delivered which had attracted their attention; but from the moment that prosecution began, the matter passed entirely out of the hands of the Government to the tribunals of the country. Hon. Member after hon. Member has got up, and talked about my taking the word of a policeman against the word of a private citizen. It is not I who take the word of a policeman; it is the tribunals of the country. In this case the hon. Member was tried by two magistrates; and it has been said, over and over again, that, practically, these magistrates are as much our servants as the police themselves. That I repudiate on behalf of the magistrates and on behalf of the Government. But the case of the hon. Member for Westmeath was afterwards tried by a County Court Judge, and that County Court Judge was not the servant of the Executive Government, he was a servant of the Crown, and of the two Houses of Parliament, and we have no more power over him than we have over a Judge of the High Court of Justice, who can only be removed by an Address in both Houses of Parliament. I am not responsible for the evidence upon which the hon. Member underwent a term of imprisonment, and I apply the same observation to most of the charges that have been brought against me in the course of this day. Well, then comes the question of the plank bed. The hon. Gentleman, being condemned under the law, was subjected to the ordinary prison regulations; and one of the ordinary prison regulations is, I think I am correct in saying, that, for the first month of an imprisonment, the prisoner should be subjected to the punishment or inconvenience, or whatever it may be called, of a plank bed. [An hon. MEMBER: A luxury.] I will not be sure about dates; but, as soon as my attention was called to the matter, I set to work upon the rather difficult task of arranging that the position of the hon. Gentleman should be ameliorated, and I am sorry the result did not come about earlier. The hon. Gentleman, however, by his experience benefited those who came after him, because

the attention of the Government having been called to the matter, we made arrangements that in certain cases, and for certain offences, the plank bed should not be insisted upon, and that other indulgences, if I may so call them, should be allowed. I must now refer to the case of the hon. Gentleman's brother. The hon. Gentleman brings it forward as a grievance against the Government that his brother was subjected to the punishment of the plank bed. When the hon. Gentleman's brother was put in prison, on account of a matter which attracted a good deal of attention, I took care that the condition of the plank bed should be removed in his case; and what was the reward I got from the hon. Member? He wrote a long and extremely able letter to *The Times*, which a private Member in the House has described to me as one of the best letters written since the time of Junius. That letter contained a most scathing passage or attack on me for doing what he now blames me for not doing, and that is remitting the punishment of the plank bed. The hon. Gentleman will, I think, allow that the remission of the plank bed in his brother's case was alluded to in the letter to *The Times* in a very uncomplimentary manner. The hon. Member also said that wrong was done in the case of Myles Joyce. Now, that is a matter into which it is impossible to go very deeply. The hon. Member stated that we did not do in Ireland what would have been done in England—that is to say, that when representations were made to the high officials representing the Crown in the matter of remitting or confirming the sentence of death the information was not made public. If there was one thing more certain than another, it was the practice universally prevailing in England that the grounds on which capital sentences were remitted or confirmed were not made public. So far from that, however, a certain modicum of publicity was given in the case of Myles Joyce, and I will recall the facts. The hon. Member says that information has reached his ears that two of the condemned men made a statement that the third man was perfectly innocent. Well, Sir, I have seen the information which came, and I state that, to my own knowledge, it was materially different,

Mr. Trevelyan

and that their statement was not at all that the man was innocent, and that it did not in the least invalidate the evidence which had been produced at the trial; but that it, in fact, confirmed the evidence. It was obvious that these unfortunate men were labouring under the idea—which I am told is not uncommon amongst their class in Ireland—that innocence of murder consists in not actually striking the blow, or actually participating in the crime. Another case in which the Government are accused by the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) of turning a deaf ear to was that of the Wexford riots. The hon. Member says that we ought to take his word in the matter. ["No, no!"] Well, he says that, because he states that such and such things took place, we ought to institute an inquiry. The hon. Gentleman is a Member of this House, and, therefore, when he says that such and such things took place, very great weight naturally is attached to his testimony; but it must be remembered that, in cases of a great tumult, one sees one part of the affair, and another sees another part; and if you could only have the Resident Magistrate and the Police Inspector Members of this House, and if they stood up and gave their views on the other side, then we should see whether there was a *prima facie* reason for inquiry. But Sir, there is a much more authoritative way of deciding this case, which came before a judicial tribunal. People have been examined who were not policemen and Resident Magistrates, but private citizens of the town of Wexford; and I shall take the only step which, as a Minister who is attempting to do his duty, I could take, and that is to ascertain carefully from official sources what passed at the trial; and then, having consulted with those upon whose advice I can depend, I will say whether there is *prima facie* evidence for inquiry; until that has been done I shall not order an inquiry. To order an inquiry into the conduct of the police, without there being serious grounds to believe that they had behaved improperly, would, I imagine, more than anything else, hamper the authorities in Ireland in their extremely difficult task of preserving law and order. But we have got very far away now, I am glad to say, from the language used earlier in the debate. God knows, I have enough

to forget in the course of my duties here, and I do my best to forget the sort of things which have been said here this day. I will ask hon. Members to consider what my position is. Perhaps the most disagreeable and painful experience that I have in my position is to listen to the reflections which are constantly passed upon my right hon. and learned Friend the Attorney General for Ireland (Mr. Porter). My right hon. and learned Friend and myself have committed to us the task of doing our best to preserve the peace of the country, or, I ought to say, to restore peace to the country. We do our best, and we use the powers that are put into our hands by Parliament as honestly as we can, and we never punish; in fact, we could not punish anyone at our own will and pleasure. We can see, however, that judicial investigations are made, and we endeavour to secure that the result of those investigations is carried out. When we come down to this House, however, we find we are confronted with 14 or 15 eloquent and forcible speakers, and we find that cases are tried over and over again in an *ex parte* manner, and with extreme violence of statement; and we, who have had absolutely nothing to do in any sort of way with the passing of sentences upon prisoners, are treated as if we were tyrants who had committed people to prison, or had sent them to the gallows at our own will and pleasure. I cannot imagine a more trying or more distasteful duty than the one I have to perform; but, because it is trying and distasteful, I can conceive no higher privilege than that I should be the man who is called upon to perform it.

MR. J. LOWTHER said, it was not his intention to continue at any length the discussion upon the various details which had been referred to that afternoon. The question as to individual cases of alleged hardship in the different prisons of Ireland was a matter in which, at that period of the Session, at any rate, he might be justified in declining to enter at any length. There were one or two points, however, which had been touched upon in regard to which he might be allowed to make a few observations. The right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland (Mr. Trevelyan), in his concluding remarks, referred to the duty which had been cast

upon him as Chief Secretary for Ireland in respect to the preservation of law and order—the right hon. Gentleman very happily corrected himself, and said, the restoration of law and order in Ireland. He (Mr. J. Lowther) thought it must be conceded by every impartial witness that the right hon. Gentleman, in the most difficult position in which he had been placed, had exhibited a singular absence of all rancour and animosity, and had conducted himself—certainly so far as he (Mr. J. Lowther) had observed—in the House of Commons in a manner which many of them, if placed under similar trying circumstances, might well be disposed to envy. The right hon. Gentleman and his Colleagues might always rely on the cordial support of the Members of the Opposition as long as they preserved an attitude of firmness, coupled, as in the case of the right hon. Gentleman, with courtesy, in dealing with the affairs of Ireland. But the debate which had taken place that afternoon would, he trusted, not be altogether thrown away on the people of this country—he was now speaking of the people of Great Britain. The right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister, who he was sorry was not at the present moment in his place, delivered a speech which was a most singular one, not only on account of its eloquence, but because it betokened that the right hon. Gentleman was at last realizing the true difficulties of the situation with which the Imperial Government had to deal in Ireland. It had always been the practice of the right hon. Gentleman to deal with Irish affairs as if the taking of the property of a certain number of persons, perhaps the most loyal in the community, and handing it over to those who had openly avowed their disaffection to the Sovereignty of the Queen of England, would produce peace and contentment in Ireland. The right hon. Gentleman had had, during a good many years past, the opportunity, with a large majority at his back, of trying his hand at the pacification of Ireland by the establishment of a new *régime* in that country. It was not for him (Mr. J. Lowther) to ask what measure of success had hitherto attended the efforts of the right hon. Gentleman; but they had, in the speech delivered that afternoon, evidence of the fact that the right hon. Gentleman himself now realized that the various schemes

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he had propounded, and which he said would have the effect of not merely discharging what he considered a duty towards the people of Ireland, but would have the effect of producing in that country a feeling of grateful regard and respect towards the Government of England, had proved a complete failure. The right hon. Gentleman had had an opportunity, during the last few months, of realizing the truth of his statements, upon the faith of which, no doubt, the assent of Parliament and the country was obtained to the measures he had proposed; and his speech that day was a practical confutation of the entire policy which he had pursued for the last 15 years. The right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister used to be in the habit of speaking of his Friends the Liberal Members from Ireland, and he used to appeal to the hon. Member for the County of Cork (Mr. Shaw) as the embodiment of popular opinion in Ireland; he used to refer to the hon. Members for County Cork (Mr. Shaw) and County Galway (Mr. Mitchell Henry), and others who thought with those hon. Gentlemen, as the impersonation of national aspirations; and he (Mr. J. Lowther) had often ventured to point out to the right hon. Gentleman that he was leaning on a broken reed. He had always maintained, though he deeply deplored the fact, that the Party which was represented in that House by the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) and the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy), and by those who acted with those hon. Gentlemen, was the Party who represented, at the present moment, the large majority of the people of Ireland. Why he dwelt upon this fact was, that he never thought any good was occasioned by deliberately refusing to recognize the actual facts. The Prime Minister, time after time, contradicted him when he made such a statement; and on one occasion the right hon. Gentleman went so far as to say that he (Mr. J. Lowther) was guilty of calumny—an unwitting calumny—in making the statement. Now, when he found that those who were responsible for the Government of Ireland failed to realize what was a great element in the political situation, he thought he was justified in calling their attention over and over again to what were the actual facts. He had said that the Party represented by the hon. Mem-

ber for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) and those who acted with him was the Party who, at the present moment, represented the popular feeling of Ireland. But how long would they continue to do so? So long, and so long only, as that Party was the Representative of the greatest amount of hostility to the British connection. So soon as any other combination which held out to the people of Ireland a still greater intensity of opposition to Great Britain arose, the hon. Member for the City of Cork and those who acted with him would be relegated to that limbo of exploded and extinguished volcanoes which was now filled by the hon. Member for the County of Cork (Mr. Shaw) and those who, acting under his Leadership, used to succeed in imposing on the Prime Minister and making him believe that they were the Representatives of Ireland. Hon. Members below the Gangway knew perfectly well that never was the position of the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) so insecure as when he was found, red-handed, negotiating and bartering with the Imperial Government for what was supposed to be his own personal advantage in connection with the historical location which he occupied for some time under the auspices of the present Government. However much they might regret the language that had been used that afternoon, they must, he feared, realize that, if certain hon. Members desisted from employing such language, they would do so at the risk of forfeiting their popularity in Ireland. He hoped the Committee would seriously consider this question. The policy had been tried of taking large sums out of the pockets of the loyal inhabitants of Ireland, and thereby alienating the good opinion of those people; and the Members of the extreme Irish Party constantly took credit for having been the means of having brought about that result. Rightly or wrongly, large sums of money and valuable rights had been taken away from those who were loyal to the British connection, and handed over to those who openly stated—and they deserved credit for their candour—their hostility to the British connection. He had always said that the hon. Member for the City of Cork had the honesty to avow the dishonesty of his policy. The other day the Prime Minister, availing

himself of the opportunity of delivering an extra-Parliamentary utterance, spoke of the improved state of affairs in Ireland. The right hon. Gentleman omitted to state that the cause of the improvement of affairs in Ireland was that he himself had tardily recognized the falsity of the conclusions he had previously drawn, and that he had ceased to hamper those of his Colleagues who had cast upon them the duty of maintaining the Queen's authority in Ireland. If the Prime Minister intended the House to understand that the cause of law and order in Ireland was one whit stronger intrinsically than it was when he himself realized the mischievous character of the policy he had previously adopted, he was wrong. His (Mr. J. Lowther's) own conclusion was that the moment the strong hand was withdrawn from the lawless elements of Ireland there would be a state of affairs precisely similar to that which existed some time ago. He did not wish to be misunderstood, when he drew attention to the fact that the hon. Members led by the hon. Member for the City of Cork represented popular feeling in Ireland. He thought English people ought to realize that there was in Ireland a decided and powerful feeling in favour of separation from the rest of the United Kingdom. The people of England must be prepared to face such a condition of things. He hoped the Government would, by judgment and firmness, decline to relax, in any shape or form, those necessary safeguards for life and property which the Prime Minister had very tardily allowed to be adopted by the Executive in Ireland. The policy pursued by the Government during the first two years had resulted in signal, conspicuous, and, he was bound to add, well-merited failure. The policy which had been adopted now for some 12 months past had yielded very great results. It had, to some extent, though not entirely, restored the rule of law and order—not to the extent which Ministerial speakers upon *post grandial* occasions were apt to assert—still it had achieved great results with regard to the protection of life and property in Ireland. He only hoped they had seen the last of these attempts to obtain Irish votes from English towns, which was, he ventured to say, a great moving factor in the wire-pulling calculations at the present

time. The Government must know that they must rely, in the long run, on the loyal classes in Ireland, such of them, at least, as they had not driven out of the country or rendered altogether powerless, and on British public opinion, which, whilst determined to do all reasonable justice to the people of Ireland, would preserve their rights, liberties, and property without allowing them to plunder each other. He ventured to say that nothing could be more demoralizing than to bid for the support of that section of the people who appeared to have, at the moment, the greatest amount of Parliamentary influence—to obtain that support at the expense of the minority, which minority had rendered itself unpopular with the majority of their countrymen by nothing so much as their loyal adherence to the British connection. That being so, he hoped the Government would persevere in the lines they had tardily adopted, and that they would have no more negotiations or attempts to procure Irish support by questionable devices such as they had seen on recent occasions. He did not include in that category the most recent bribe, as it was called, in the shape of the Tramways Bill. He would not include that, because an eminent personage, who had gone before them, and who at one time had held the Office of Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant and had afterwards been Prime Minister of England, had said that the only way to govern Ireland was to hold in one hand a heavy purse and in the other a thick stick. That was an utterance attributed to a great statesman; and he (Mr. Lowther) must remind the Committee that that personage, and those connected with him, always intended to keep the thick stick in readiness solely for the purpose of protecting one class of Irishmen from outrage at the hands of another class. The object was not to put down any legitimate national aspiration compatible with the good government of the country. The Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland) Bill proposed to bestow Imperial funds upon Ireland—not to take away the property of one class and give it to another; and, consequently, differed from the other bribes previously offered by the present Government. He hoped the Government would proceed on the lines they had

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now adopted, and which, unfortunately, they had not adopted at an earlier period.

MR. DAWSON (LORD MAYOR OF DUBLIN) said, he was certainly a disciple of the policy laid down by the right hon. Gentleman who had just resumed his seat (Mr. J. Lowther). He was the best patriot who told the truth—the best patriot both to his country and to that House. It was most desirable that the truth should be well known. In the course of this debate reference had been made to the difficulty of bringing the truth home to the mind of the English people. He (Mr. Dawson) was convinced, from what he knew of the English people, both in England and abroad, if they had full and perfect information with regard to Irish questions, they would find hon. Members on the other side of the House acting in a very different manner, or have many of them relegated to “another place,” instead of having them legislating in this House for that country. Sometimes, when Irish questions were discussed early in the day, and when there was quite time for the debates to be well reported, they found the newspapers filled with matters concerning Basutoland, the claims of Ceylon, or Cetewayo, whilst the people of England were left in ignorance as to the welfare of the Irish nation. Were the English people truly informed of the condition of that country? The Committee ought to remember, in justice to the English people, that a great factor in the present condition of Ireland was this unfortunate ignorance. The principal medium of communication between the two countries consisted of the “Correspondents” in Ireland—the gentlemen who corresponded with the newspapers. Let them take a typical case—a Correspondent of *The Times*, that great organ—probably the greatest and most influential in the world—the great organ which took the opinion of England beyond the seas. Who was the Correspondent of that journal in Ireland? Why, the gentleman who represented *The Times* in Dublin was a political partizan, who kept back everything that was just to Ireland, and sent over everything that was unjust and untrue. He (Mr. Dawson), himself, had written to *The Times* very often; and he must confess that whenever he had appealed to its columns he had been treated with

the greatest courtesy and fairness—and had enabled him, at times, to do something by way of undoing the evil work of the gentleman to whom he alluded. Doctor Paton was the Dublin Correspondent of *The Times*; he was the Editor of *The Daily Express*, the mouthpiece of the landlords, the exponent of Orangeism, the detractor and calumniator of the Irish people. Such was the Correspondent of *The Times* in Dublin; such was the person who was responsible for the information given by that paper in regard to Ireland. Did he (Mr. Dawson) overdraw that picture? To show them how true was the sketch, he would point out that a statement had been made by this gentleman in *The Times* to the effect that a statement had been made by the hon. Member for Leitrim (Mr. Tottenham) that he and his family had been driven from Ireland by terrorism. The hon. Member for Leitrim had written to say that he had never made any such statement; that it was not true; and that, not being true, he never could have uttered it. *The Daily Express* and *The Times*, however, never published that repudiation; and the hon. Member had been compelled to appeal to the columns of a Liberal journal in Ireland to publish it. And yet this biased, untrue, unfair, and malicious agency was the only one through which information relating to Ireland could reach the English people. He was aware of many of the virtues of the English people—he knew of their pluck, self-reliance, and backbone, and he wished to God they had more of those qualities in Ireland; for if they had, he knew perfectly well that they would soon win for themselves those victories, and soon obtain those Constitutional advantages which were possessed in England, and would retain them with a firmness which no cajolery would deprive them of.

THE CHAIRMAN: I must point out to the hon. Gentleman that though the debate on Irish policy travels over a very wide field, yet the question into which he is now entering, as I understand it, is not connected with the conduct of any salaried officer of the Crown. The hon. Gentleman is travelling somewhat wide of the Question before the Committee.

MR. DAWSON (LORD MAYOR OF DUBLIN) said, that, under the cir-

cumstances, he would not pursue the subject any further; but the right hon. Gentleman who had just sat down (Mr. J. Lowther) had laid such emphasis on the truth being known, that he (Mr. Dawson) had ventured to point out how little the truth was known. He wished to ask the Committee, in regard to the statement of the Chief Secretary for Ireland concerning the violent language of Irish Members of Parliament, what had ever moderate language obtained, and what had ever polished sentences achieved? What had eloquence—eloquence from that of Burke down to Isaac Butt—done for Ireland? It had produced applause from the Treasury Bench, but nothing else—no material benefit to Ireland. Could the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland put his hand on anything he (Mr. Dawson) had said of a violent character in or outside that House? No; his request had always been for weapons of a Constitutional kind, instead of the weapons of physical force. The right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary was giving such weapons to them, and he was thankful to him for it. But as to violence of language it was sometimes necessary in Ireland. On the Bench in Ireland, after one of those tirades to which the Irish people were so accustomed, a Judge had given as an excuse for the extravagances of his manner that he was obliged to adopt a violent manner, for that, if he spoke in ordinary language, it would have no effect, and that the case was so terrible that it required a most extraordinary demonstration. He had said—

"It was like my fate when I went into a restaurant in Dublin the other day. I wanted the waiter, and to attract his attention I tapped on the table in the most polite manner possible. No one came to me, although there were several waiters leaning against the mantel-piece at the top of the room—evidently talking politics. I knocked again, this time more loudly; but I was still unattended to. I jingled the glasses, no one came; I smashed the glass, and I had 20 waiters round me in a second."

It was the same way with politics in Ireland. An Irish Member might employ classic phrases, and might argue from premiss to premiss, and from conclusion to conclusion, for all time, without achieving anything like what the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) could achieve with one of his powerful

denunciations in a minute. This was a lesson to him, showing him that if he wished to do anything he must be forcible. If he was to obtain anything, he must abandon the *suaviter in modo* and adopt the *fortiter in re*.

Mr. O'KELLY said, he had paid great attention to the speech of the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. J. Lowther), who had spoken in the interests of the Party responsible for nearly all the intrigues which existed in the country; and, in reply to it, he had to say that, so long as the House continued to sustain, as it did at the present time, the power and influence of these men in Ireland, so long would there be an entire absence of peace and contentment in Ireland. Now, what was it they were struggling for in Ireland? It was to get such control over the affairs of their own country as Englishmen had here. Irishmen and the Irish Members wanted their country to be ruled according to the will of, and for the benefit of, the people. What was it stood in the way? Why, that part of the population represented by the right hon. Gentleman the Member for North Lincolnshire (Mr. J. Lowther.) The right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland said—and said very truly—that over the magistrates in Ireland he had no power. That was perfectly true in one sense. The right hon. Gentleman had no power over them to restrain them—no power to direct them into the way of Constitutionalism. No expression of opinion—not even a vote of that House—could make the Irish magistrates walk in the way of liberality or justice to the mass of the Irish people. Why? Because these men were drawn from the very class represented by the right hon. Gentleman the Member for North Lincolnshire. That class were, and had been for centuries, the persistent and venomous enemies of the mass of the Irish people. In that sense, therefore, the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland was justified in saying that the Government had no control over the magistrates of Ireland. But who had control over them? The landlord class had—that class which represented all that was hateful in the eyes of the Irish people. In the very admirable speech which the Prime Minister had made, he had laid great weight

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on the necessity and on the wisdom of every man in that House so conducting himself that his conduct and his speech would lead to better relations between the two countries, and particularly of the Irish Members so conducting themselves as to create—not to restore, for it had never existed—a feeling of friendship between England and Ireland. Well, that feeling, or that condition of things, could not be brought about by speeches. No amount of speech—even speech as eloquent as that of the right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister—could efface from the mind of the people the knowledge that they were daily subjected to outrage at the hands of the agents of the Government, and that, in the smallest matters of daily life, they found themselves in contact with the police and the magistracy, who exercised their power as tyrannically as it was ever exercised. Nothing could efface from the mind of the Irish people the fact that the Government carried their protection of the Irish police as far as they possibly could—that they used their influence and power in the most brutal and oppressive manner daily and hourly in Ireland. Why, at every moment of their lives the people of Ireland found themselves looking down the muzzles of the loaded muskets of the Government, and upon the points of their bayonets, and at the batons of the police. They could not do the slightest thing in Ireland, they could not hold the most innocent meeting, without the police and armed military being brought up with their muskets pointed in the face of the people, ready to shed their blood on the slightest notice. Very often the police made an excuse for the shedding of blood. In the name of guarding the peace, these men frequently became the agents of provocation—they made any excuse for the use of violence, and the use of their arms against the people. Well, as long as they had such a condition of things existing in Ireland, it was vain to hope that more kindly expressions from the Treasury Bench would restore peace, or lay the basis of anything like a reasonable or peaceful understanding between the two countries. The Government must address themselves to the ameliorations of Irish life, and, if they wished to give them that kindness in act which they poured

on them in words, must allow them to govern themselves reasonably, and give their ministers of all kinds to understand that they were to act in Ireland as they would be compelled to act in England. They must so regulate the military and civil and judicial functionaries in Ireland as to protect the rights and liberties of the people—they must pay the rights and liberties of the one country the same respect as those of the other. When they did that there might be some hope that an age of peace and reconciliation would begin to dawn. But the Government were deceiving themselves wondrously if they imagined that by mere speeches in the House they could accomplish that work. The people of Ireland had had a long experience of the British Government, and that experience had been a very bitter one. The memory of that Government was written in the blood of their forefathers in the minds of the Irish people; and it would take a good deal of ameliorative legislation to bring the Irish people into that condition of mind when they would be prepared for real union with the British Government. But if ever that time was to come, it would have to be brought about by leaving the people of Ireland, as far as possible, beyond the principles and advice given to them by the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. J. Lowther). He told them they must keep their strong hand upon Ireland. If they did so, the time would come when that policy would land them in disaster—the day would come when their strong hand would be weakened, and they would then get the benefit of their strong-hand theory and their strong-hand Government. If Irishmen were to remain in this Empire they would remain in it on conditions of equality as freemen—on conditions of absolute equality. That was the only condition on which they would be able to make a real union between the two countries; and the sooner they set themselves to the work of uprooting nearly all that had been done for hundreds of years, and basing their Government on the will of the Irish people, the sooner would they be likely to bring about peace. Any attempt short of that would fail, and would, as he had said, only land them in disaster.

MR. BIGGAR said, that he was rather struck by one fact—namely, that the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secre-

tary for Ireland had made two speeches of considerable length, raising a variety of topics, but altogether evading the primary complaint against the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. That complaint was that, whether or not it was desirable that this police protection should be given in a particular district, in one case the expense of that protection had been laid entirely on the property of one particular gentleman—namely, Mr. Carew. The right hon. Gentleman had not been able to give the smallest explanation. If he had been able to give the slightest reason why this blood tax should be put on it, there would have been some excuse for it; but he had not. He had failed to show that Mr. Carew, or anyone on his property, was guilty of outrage; and it surely was something new to him (Mr. Biggar) to say that the putting of a tax upon an innocent man would have a tendency to put down outrage. To his mind it would have an opposite effect. The guilty party, whoever he might have been, who had committed these incendiary fires, and had got off with impunity, would be more likely than not to repeat the offence when he saw someone else punished. The case of the Government seemed to have altogether broken down on this matter. The right hon. Gentleman said they had the power, by the authority of the House, to levy this tax by their own will and pleasure; but if they did that—as had been pointed out by the hon. Member for North Warwickshire (Mr. Newdegate)—surely the parties who had to pay should have a right of appeal to the House, and of criticizing the conduct of the Government. Moreover, it was for the Government to defend their action when it was called in question. On this occasion, however, the Government had not attempted a defence. They had given no explanation of their conduct, and it was fair for the Irish Members to assume that that was the ordinary way of administering the law in Ireland. If the law was administered unfairly and improperly, as it evidently had been in this case, what was to prevent the Resident Magistrates acting as they pleased, seeing that there was no means of criticizing their conduct? Mr. Carew happened to be a gentleman against whom no imputation could lie; but, at the same time, the conduct of the Govern-

ment had been so unfair that no one could attempt to defend it.

MR. KENNY said, he thought the right hon. Gentleman the Member for North Lincolnshire (Mr. J. Lowther) was to be thanked for the character of his speech: but in his allusion to the policy of the English Government, and the statement of an eminent English politician; as to their "holding a purse in one hand and a stick in the other," the right hon. Member had omitted to say that, to the people of Ireland, the purse had usually been a very light and the stick a very heavy one. The Irish Members were determined that this presentation of the heavy stick to the Irish people should not continue longer than they could help. However, he would not follow the right hon. Gentleman in his interesting discourse, but would direct a few observations as to the manner in which the blood tax was being levied in a certain part of Ireland. He objected to the principle of the tax. It was a tax which did not exist in any other civilized country in the world; and it was the cause, he believed, of much more crime than any other tax. It worked both ways. In many poor districts of Ireland, where the people were so badly off that they were scarcely able to live, and yet where they paid such heavy rents and taxes, they found that through the operation of this blood tax 5s. or 6s. was imposed on the overburdened people. It was a question whether, amongst these people, this additional burden did not cause heart-burning, and was not the cause of crime breaking out in the country at one time or another. He would refer to the case of Isidore M'William Bourke, who applied for compensation under the Prevention of Crime Act for the murder of his brother, who lived near Galway, on the ground that the property he had inherited from his brother was a property which had entailed a dead loss to him, and that simply because he had endeavoured to carry out the policy in the practice of which his brother had lost his life. On the evidence of this man £1,500 was awarded him, and £500 to a sister, who was the only real sufferer by the murder. It transpired afterwards that the man had concealed the fact that half of the property had been in his own hands; that it was managed for him by a steward, and worked annually at a profit of between £1,000 and

£2,000. The counsel who appeared for the ratepayers at the inquiry was entirely ignorant of this state of things in Galway; but it was necessary, also, to hold another Court of Inquiry in County Mayo. In the meantime, a suspicion arose as to the real condition of affairs, and a communication on the subject was sent to the second legal gentleman who appeared in County Mayo; but it did not reach him in time. The result was that Mr. Bourke was unjustly awarded an enormous sum in compensation for an injury which had not occurred to him. On looking into the majority of these awards, they found that there were sometimes exemptions made so far as the payment of the tax was concerned. But who were the men who were exempted? Invariably Protestants, or landlord-parasites. These people were exempted now and then, and the result was that the tax fell upon the peasantry, and those who stood by them, who could not be at all suspected of the commission of the crimes in respect of which the taxes were levied. Men had to contribute who were known to be entirely innocent. There was another feature in this matter—namely, the demoralizing effect of this tax. In the case of the murder of the Joyce family, the whole family were destroyed to prevent the discovery of the murderers. The men who went on this murderous expedition knew perfectly well that if they spared any member of the family the survivor or survivors would be sure to apply for compensation under the Prevention of Crime Act, and obtain a large award, which would be levied on the district. The result was that they committed a wholesale massacre, killing off a whole family, for the purpose, probably, of escaping from the effect of this blood tax. So that the tax operated badly as a means for the suppression of crime. He had already drawn the attention of the Chief Secretary for Ireland to this matter—the award to Mr. Isidore Bourke—and had asked for an inquiry; but that had been refused, and the people who had to pay the tax went on dragging out a miserable existence under their heavy burdens, having to pay a tax of nearly 20s. in the pound.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR said, he had a question to raise as to the case of Mr. Edward Harrington, who was at present suffering imprisonment; and he

supposed he might as well raise it now. The cause of Mr. Harrington's imprisonment had been the issue of a placard which had been printed in several parts of Tralee; and, as a great deal turned upon that placard, he might as well read it to the Committee. It commenced—

"To the men of Ireland. Castleisland to the front!"

And then came an allusion to the Queen, which he would not read—

"Take notice, that we, the men of Tralee, are now ready to form a branch of the Invincibles in this town, and any person desirous of connecting himself with it will kindly make every active and secret inquiries at the upper part of Boherbee, where weekly meetings and drillings will be carried on. And you must also take notice that any person or persons acting contrary to the orders of his superior officers will as sure as he has breath in his body meet with a worse death than Lord Cavendish and Burke got. As we intend to make history, we must remove all tyrants. Blood for blood. Poff and Barrett were unjustly executed by the bloody Government of England, and we must have satisfaction. Death to landlords, agents, and bailiffs. By order of the Tralee Invincibles. God save Ireland from informers."

He thought it necessary to state that this placard was found posted up on the walls, in some parts of Tralee, on the 18th May, Joe Brady being executed on the 14th; and the reason he put those two facts in juxtaposition was this—that the placard called upon the people of Tralee to form themselves into an Invincible Society within four days of the time when one of the Phoenix Park assassins paid the penalty of the law. In fact, it was at the very moment that the Government had shown its power to bring every member of the Invincible Society to a speedy and terrible punishment. He would call the attention of the Committee to some of the words of the placard. The placard said that any person who was desirous of joining a murderous and secret, and, of course, an illegal conspiracy would—

"Kindly make every active and secret inquiries at the upper part of Boherbee, where weekly meetings and drillings would be carried on."

Boherbee, he would point out, was the name of a well-known street in Tralee; so that people were called upon by a public placard to assemble in a public street for the purpose of forming themselves into an Invincible Society. At the trial, which was the result of the

publication of this placard, the document was described by the prosecuting counsel who appeared against Mr. Harrington as one of the worst placards which had ever been published. He (Mr. T. P. O'Connor) believed one of the prosecuting counsel said it was a placard that would make one's blood curdle. Why, his (Mr. O'Connor's) description of it was that it was simply childish, preposterous, incoherent, and ridiculous in the highest degree. What took place after the posting of the placard was this—the first act of the drama was the seizure of the newspaper—namely, *The Kerry Sentinel*—with which Mr. Edward Harrington and the hon. Member (Mr. Harrington) were associated. All the copies of the paper, he believed, were also seized and taken away, but were afterwards restored. The Chief Secretary for Ireland made a great point, or endeavoured to make a great point, out of the fact that these prosecutions in Ireland were altogether independent of the Executive. But this prosecution had taken place under the direction of the right hon. Gentleman.

MR. TREVELYAN: I said the prosecutions took place upon the initiative of the Representatives of the Government; but that there our connection with them ceased.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR, continuing, said, that, after the seizure of the paper, Mr. Harrington and the persons connected with the office were taken before two Resident Magistrates—gentlemen of whose integrity and independence they had had such touching testimony from the right hon. Gentleman that day. The case occupied two days. On the opening of the case on the second day two apprentices connected with the office of *The Kerry Sentinel* instructed the counsel who was defending the officials connected with the office to declare that they (the apprentices) were guilty, and that they had not only set up and printed, but had afterwards posted this placard. Well, what occurred upon this? Why, in the face of this confession of guilt on the part of the two apprentices, the whole staff of the office were sentenced to different periods of imprisonment. Mr. Harrington and the printer were sentenced to six months' imprisonment. An appeal took place before the County Court Judge (Mr. Morris), who on that occasion delivered

one of the most extraordinary judgments he (Mr. T. P. O'Connor) had ever read. He described the placard as a most terrible document—a placard which, to his (Mr. T. P. O'Connor's) mind, was utterly ridiculous, nonsensical, and incoherent, without a particle of originality, and containing the very worst commonplaces of criminal documents in Ireland. This document was described by an intelligent County Court Judge as the work of high political intelligence. Well, on an appeal, the two apprentices to whom he had referred were brought up before Mr. Morris. They were put upon the table, and repeated what they had stated through their counsel on the second day of the trial. They stated that they were the composers of this document; and yet, on the face of that testimony, Mr. Harrington, whom he (Mr. T. P. O'Connor) believed to be as innocent as his brother or himself (Mr. T. P. O'Connor), was sentenced to six months' imprisonment. For three months that gentleman had not been allowed to receive a visit from his friends, and he spent 20 hours every day in his cell. What was the statement of the Government in regard to the case of those boys? It was that the lads were put up to make the statement. "Oh!" said the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland, when allusion was made to the case in that House, "why did not the boys make this statement on the first trial?" Well, they did make this statement at the first trial. They made it clearly and palpably; and it was on their own confession alone that they were sentenced, and that they were suffering imprisonment. "But," said the right hon. Gentleman, "what was there to prevent the boys being communicated with between the two days of the trial, and induced to concoct this story?" Well, the right hon. Gentleman knew very well that there was no opportunity for any communication taking place between the two boys and the other persons charged with the offence, and between them and persons outside. But, whether there was any communication or not, these two boys made the statement, and they were sentenced and put into prison. His (Mr. T. P. O'Connor's) contention was that this document bore upon the face of it the strongest probability of the story of the two boys being correct. What was the

Mr. T. P. O'Connor

balance of probabilities? Why, it was whether two young men—two mischievous and inexperienced boys—composed and issued a bill calling for the public organization of a private murder conspiracy, or whether it was composed by a man of education, fitted to be the editor and proprietor of a newspaper. He (Mr. T. P. O'Connor) contended that it was monstrous, perfectly preposterous, and beyond the credulity of any sensible man, to say that this placard could have been concocted by the editor of a newspaper and not by those two boys. There might have been some justification respecting Mr. Harrington. His office was ransacked; his correspondence was seized, and, amongst other things, a letter from Mortimer Shea of a most ridiculous character was found—a letter six, or seven, or twelve months old—lying about the office. What did the sapient prosecutor say with regard to this letter? Why, that it was a proof of the wickedness of this document, and a proof of the wickedness of the people in this office, who, instead of destroying the document, allowed it to be saved. Why, if Mr. Harrington had had any sympathy with a document of that kind, it stood to reason that he would have taken the very first opportunity to destroy it, or, at any rate, to prevent its being lying about loose. In future, then, the possession of a dagger, or the poisoned bowl, was to be taken as evidence of the intention to commit murder—the open possession of the very thing which, if a person were inclined to commit murder, would be the first concealed. He was willing to form his judgment of the future of the Executive in Ireland by their action in reference to this case. If they did not let Mr. Harrington out of prison within 48 hours of this discussion, he should contend that they justified the most violent things which had been said of them outside the House; because they would have given ground for the idea that they wished to confound the innocent with the guilty, not to make mad the guilty, but to appal the free.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, that in discussing this matter he would endeavour to abstain from language that might provoke angry criticism. He thought a very radical misconception as to what was the duty of the Govern-

ment prevailed amongst hon. Members opposite. It was the duty of the Government to prosecute where there was a strong *prima facie* case; but when the case was in the hands of a tribunal, there their duty stopped—for the result of the legal investigation they could not be responsible. However, it was necessary that the Committee should be placed in possession of the facts of the case, a little more fully than it had been already by the hon. Member opposite (Mr. T. P. O'Connor). Statements of fact made in that House were necessarily very often *ex parte* statements—very frequently statements were made which it was absolutely impossible to contradict. Such had been the statements of the hon. Member for King's County (Mr. Molloy), which, in one of its aspects, concerned not himself nor his right hon. Friend (Mr. Trevelyan), but must have concerned his Predecessor, and as to which not the slightest intimation that the subject was to be brought forward was afforded him. He had had no opportunity of examining into the circumstances under which the right hon. and learned Gentleman his Predecessor (Mr. Johnson) had come to the conclusion that the case in question was not one which should be examined into. He said this with a view to asking the Committee to suspend its judgment, as the case might turn out to be altogether devoid of foundation. He trusted the Committee would give him an opportunity of correcting statements made in that House which were hardly fair and reasonable. It had been stated that, in the case of a conviction at the Cork Assizes, instead of the punishment of penal servitude for life, which should have been inflicted owing to the nature of the offence, if it had been properly brought home to the prisoner, only two years' imprisonment were given; and the Committee were asked, at the time, to draw the inference from the fact that the person who imposed that sentence did not believe in the guilt of the prisoner. He (the Attorney General for Ireland) did not think a more atrocious charge could have been made; because it implied that the Judge ought not to have left the case to the jury, and should have directed his discharge, but, in neglecting to do so, he had been a party to the punishment of a man whom he knew to be innocent. Since the case had been

first mentioned he (the Attorney General for Ireland) had been informed that it was a misdemeanour, and that, as a matter of fact, the Judge had imposed the maximum penalty for the offence. He would request the Committee to suspend its judgment in that case. He admitted that the necessity for the suspension of judgment did not equally apply in the case of Mr. Harrington; and here he would repeat what he had already indicated—namely, that it was not his duty to defend or criticize the decision of the magistrates or of the County Court Judge. He had no control over these results; but he would tell the Committee what really happened. The town of Tralee was placarded with a document which commenced—"To the men of Ireland. Castleisland to the front. To hell with the Queen," &c., going on to request the men of the town to form themselves into a branch of the Invincibles. The description given by the hon. Member for the borough of Galway (Mr. T. P. O'Connor) of this document—namely, that it was incoherent, childish, and ridiculous, and altogether preposterous and absurd, was hardly the description which he (the Attorney General for Ireland) would be disposed to give of it. It was not, certainly, a masterpiece of composition; but he had never seen a threatening letter, or a document of this kind—and he had seen many of them—which was not faulty in some one or other of its aspects, and which could be described altogether as a masterpiece of composition. If it was a joke, it was a singularly unfortunate one, considering the condition of the country, and considering the time at which it was perpetrated—a time at which it was calculated to produce a most unfortunate impression on the people's mind. It was well known where it was printed. By the powers the law gave, there was a search made, and it was found that the document was printed upon paper used for printing *The Kerry Sentinel*. Not only that—it was proved that the type had been set up from what was called in the newspaper office a "forme" used in the production of that newspaper, and the type used in printing the document was the same as that used on a newspaper. In fact, there was conclusive internal evidence that the document had not only been printed at that particular office,

but in the very forme in which the newspaper was produced.

MR. HARRINGTON said, that was not the case. Two distinct sorts of type were used. Those in that House who knew anything about printing would appreciate the distinction when he told them that one notice was printed in brier, whilst the other was in leaded long primer.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) said, that there was other evidence as to where the document had emanated from. It was proved, for instance, that this notice had been printed there, from some parts of the wall of the office, where papers which bore printing upon them and other paper in the office which had not been printed upon were found to exactly correspond. It was not denied that Mr. Harrington was the person primarily responsible for the office; for he was not only editor, but manager; and he, and some of the persons connected with him, were summoned. On searching the office it was found that not only was this particular document printed there, but that the letter referred to by the hon. Member (MR. T. P. O'CONNOR) was also there, together with another letter. There was clear proof that some person outside, whose name had not been given by the hon. Member, at any rate wrote to someone in authority in the establishment, asking for the printing and dissemination of similar documents. That was many months before; but the hon. Member must see how enormously that strengthened the argument. The person who wrote asked to be supplied with half-a-dozen printed notices directing tenants when and how they should act, and those notices were surreptitiously posted up.

MR. HARRINGTON asked, whether the right hon. and learned Gentleman did not know that the letter was the production of a lunatic?

THE CHAIRMAN: The hon. Gentleman must not interrupt the right hon. and learned Gentleman.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) said, he knew nothing of the sort, and never heard of it; but, however that might be, the matter was brought before the magistrates, and on that occasion Mr. Harrington and the other persons charged were represented by one counsel and

one solicitor acting for them all. On the first day of the case, when it was not admitted that this document had been printed in the office, there was no statement that anyone connected with the newspaper knew anything about it. On the second day, the counsel who represented the foreman and the *employés* stated that the two boys were willing to admit that they had done this, but not with the knowledge of any evil. That cleared them so far as they were concerned. Mr. Harrington was not aware of the existence of this document, and had never seen it until it was produced in Court. The newspaper published in this office contained a paragraph referring to the document, and stating that the streets had been placarded with a quaint document, of which it gave a copy. There was no word of condemnation of that document, but simply a reference to it as a "quaint document." The boys pleaded guilty, and they were just as admissible as witnesses on that occasion as any other persons, and they were afterwards examined on the appeal. Evidence was never refused, for it was never tendered. Counsel stated that, the boys having pleaded guilty, no one else must be regarded as guilty; but the magistrates could not assent to that, and it was a matter of consideration whether the action of the boys was anything more than an attempt to save their employers. He (the Attorney General for Ireland) did not say it was; he was only stating that these were the facts before the magistrates. The boys were examined on the appeal before the County Court Judge; and the account they gave, being separately examined, was so absolutely contradictory in many most important particulars, that the magistrates said the Attorney General was perfectly justified in rejecting their evidence. The person who wrote the newspaper article referring to the document as a "quaint document" was produced; and it was said that he himself had written that document, and not Mr. Harrington; but he also admitted that Mr. Harrington had dictated it. It was plain that the document was printed in some newspaper office in Tralee, and the Judge had abundant grounds for the decision he came to, and he was in a better position than the House of Commons to judge of the matter. The House of Commons, in constituting itself a Court

of Appeal, was undertaking a function which would be very troublesome, and which it was not competent to perform. On these grounds, it seemed to him that there was no reason for the argument of the hon. Member for rejecting this Vote.

Mr. T. P. O'CONNOR said, the Committee had now had the statement of the Crown, and he supposed that was their best argument. The right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland said the House of Commons was not to try cases; but what other chance was there of getting justice, unless by drawing attention to these matters, and so trying to expose the infamous and ruffianly system of which the hon. and learned Gentleman was the mouthpiece? It was one of the most ancient functions of the House of Commons to keep watch and ward over the action of public servants. The right hon. and learned Gentleman had made a point about this "forme." Had he ever been inside a newspaper office? This letter he said was found in the same "forme" as the letter from Michael Davitt; but did not everyone know that, in order to apply it to the press, the "forme" must be filled up with some kind of matter? The first portion was filled up with the letter from Michael Davitt, and then this placard was put in in order to make up the "forme." The right hon. and learned Gentleman had spoken of the letters that went to a newspaper office; but he (Mr. T. P. O'Connor) would appeal to anyone who was acquainted with a newspaper office whether it was not the receptacle of every wild and insane document that could come to the mind of man? There was not a newspaper office that did not receive insane, threatening, or murderous letters. Because his hon. Friend (Mr. Harrington), in the middle of a disturbed district, received an insane letter from an acknowledged lunatic, the right hon. and learned Gentleman insinuated that the hon. Member had permitted his office to be used for the dissemination of murderous and assassinating placards; and he and the Prime Minister had delivered to the Irish Members a lecture on decency of conduct, and made charges against Gentlemen whose standard of honour was superior to that of the Crown officials. The right hon. and learned Gentleman said Mr. Harrington was able to de-

scribe the document in question; but were there not many people in Tralee who had seen the document and were able to describe it? Because, five days after the document was posted all over the town, the editor of a newspaper was able to describe the document, the right hon. and learned Gentleman asked the Committee to believe that, therefore, he had antecedent knowledge of it. A more monstrous thing could not be asked of an intelligent body of men. The right hon. and learned Gentleman further said the evidence of the two boys was contradictory; but the County Court Judge had said that the evidence undoubtedly agreed in the main particulars. What had the right hon. and learned Gentleman to say now? What had the smiling, even-tempered Crown Prosecutor to say to that? He (Mr. T. P. O'Connor) did not say the evidence was not contradictory in details; but the right hon. and learned Gentleman said it was contradictory in essentials and not in trifling matters. The right hon. and learned Gentleman and the Chief Secretary for Ireland knew it was nonsense to say they had no power to interfere with the administration of the Courts of Law. Had they no power to withdraw from prosecutions, and was it not in the power of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, when he thought that injustice had been done, to restore the person who had suffered injustice to liberty?

Mr. JOSEPH COWEN said, the Committee were not going to review the decision of the Court in all its details; but this gentleman and his two apprentices were now in prison, and the question was whether it was wise, under all the circumstances, to keep them there. The right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland had said that they could not interfere with the judicial proceedings of the Courts; but it was a notorious fact that the Irish Government had interfered with judicial proceedings. They initiated and controlled those proceedings; but was it wise, in the interest of peace in Ireland, to retain these persons in prison? The Prime Minister had made a vigorous appeal, with a view to a better spirit between the two countries; but was it likely that the imprisonment of Mr. Harrington would create or foster a better feeling? It was possible that the whole thing might have been a hoax by

foolish and reckless apprentices. Would anyone say that men, seriously engaged in a conspiracy, would ask their fellow-citizens to meet in the market place? Would anyone suppose that the Invincibles would post placards, asking their associates to meet each other? The very suggestion of the thing condemned it. He would admit that, in the disturbed state of affairs which existed in Ireland at that time, it might have been injudicious to allow this joke to be perpetrated; but the term of the boys' imprisonment had now expired, and Mr. Harrington was detained, although he said he knew nothing about the matter. Anyone who was acquainted with a newspaper office would know how this thing could have been done without the connivance or knowledge of the editor. Under all the circumstances, he hoped the Chief Secretary for Ireland would, at least, say that this case should be taken into consideration, if he could not do more towards promoting that kindly feeling to Ireland upon which the Prime Minister had so effectively spoken. Was it reasonable to suppose that an intelligent man like the editor of a newspaper would concoct such a document as this? The proposal was preposterous; and as to the discovery of some threatening notices in the office of this newspaper, plenty of such things could be found in newspaper offices in this country. Threatening notices had been sent to Mr. Harrington, and the very fact that they were not destroyed was evidence that he was not a party in the matter. If he had been accustomed to deal in these practices, or to circulate these placards, he would have taken precious good care to have destroyed these documents; but this was an ordinary occurrence. Would hon. Members imagine what would have happened if an English newspaper office had been treated in this way? Not a single English newspaper had had the manliness to denounce these proceedings, and yet more outrageous and indefensible proceedings could not easily be conceived. It might be admitted that Mr. Harrington should be punished for negligence; but he had been for some time on the plank bed, and had suffered sufficiently. His paper had been destroyed; and was not that punishment plenty? It was quite clear that he was being punished for something of which he was not guilty.

Mr. Joseph Cowen

If he was guilty of printing this notice, let him be put upon his trial. He was not being punished for that offence, but because he was supposed to be in sympathy with the popular Party in Ireland. The best plan for the Government would be to allow him to be released.

MR. HARRINGTON said, he hoped the Committee would forgive him for taking some part in this discussion, as the matter was one in which he was personally concerned; but as he had attended the trial, and had a clearer knowledge of the facts than the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland, he wished to say something in reply to the right hon. and learned Gentleman's observations. The right hon. and learned Gentleman said that, although he and his right hon. Colleague were responsible for the initiation of such proceedings as these, they were not responsible for decisions and sentences. That proposition had been repeatedly heard; but he (Mr. Harrington) asserted that in this particular instance they were not only responsible—not alone for the initiation of the proceedings, but for the sentences inflicted by the magistrates, and by the County Court Judge. This document, which his hon. Friend the Member for Newcastle (Mr. Joseph Cowen) had so well characterized as foolish and frivolous, was not, as had been represented to the Committee, a placard. It was not a placard in the ordinary sense of the word; it was simply a small slip, such as young boys, working in a newspaper office, could set up without the cognizance of anyone else; and in this case it was clearly proved that these boys had done this in the absence of the foreman. That fact was brought to the knowledge of the Crown officials, and the foreman printer of the *Dublin Evening Mail* had stated that any apprentice in any newspaper office might have set this up without the knowledge of the foreman, and that he had repeatedly done that sort of thing himself. That was the statement of the witness brought from Dublin by the Crown. What was the form of the proceedings taken by the Crown? He would invite the attention of the right hon. and learned Attorney General for Ireland to this point, because the right hon. and learned Gentleman had misled the Committee as to what took place at these

trials. The right hon. and learned Gentleman stated that it was quite competent for these boys to be produced as witnesses at the first trial in defence of his brother, Mr. Edward Harrington. But the right hon. and learned Gentleman must know that it was not competent for them to be produced, because they were included in the common indictment with Mr. Harrington and the foreman. If the Crown had wished to do justice in the case, instead of indicting the proprietor or managing editor in common with the merest apprentices in the office, they would have given him a fair opportunity of defending himself by proceeding against him by a separate summons. But, in order to make it impossible for him to make any defence, they indicted him by a common indictment together with all the other persons in the office. The two boys pleaded guilty, but only when they heard him (Mr. Harrington) distinctly swear in the Court that he believed this document was printed in his office, and they saw that he would sift the matter to the bottom. He (Mr. Harrington) was surprised at the lamentable want of knowledge of the facts on the part of the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland, who was responsible for the conduct of the case. The right hon. and learned Gentleman had stated that it was perfectly competent for these boys to give evidence, but that they had not done so; but, according to the newspaper reports, this was what occurred—

"The evidence closed yesterday evening, and it was intimated that Mr. McInerney would address the Court this morning. When the Court opened Mr. McInerney stated that two apprentices, Robert Fitzgerald and Maurice Kean, admitted to Mr. T. Harrington, in the course of an investigation last night, that they themselves set up and printed the *Invincible* notice without the knowledge or instigation of anybody."

Mr. Ronan was the representative of the Crown, and was supposed to prove every one guilty who was prosecuted by the Crown. Mr. Ronan said—

"These boys were mere underlings in the office. It was very remarkable that the case should have been met up to yesterday with an emphatic denial that the document was printed in *The Kerry Sentinel*."

How did he justify that statement? Neither he (Mr. Harrington) nor his brother had ever seen the placard in question; but the police went to the

office and seized the type and machinery, and every letter there, even those he had written in the days of his boyhood. All these letters were in the hands of the Crown officials. He challenged the right hon. and learned Gentleman to produce any evidence from them that would bear out the infamous imputation he had cast upon himself and his brother. Mr. Ronan said these boys were mere underlings in the office, and he asked the magistrates not to accept their plea; and by complying they shut Mr. Harrington out from the benefit of the evidence of these boys. Yet the Attorney General for Ireland coolly stood up to inform the House that it was competent for them to give evidence. He would read the report further—

"Mr. E. Harrington: We never saw the document until yesterday. I can swear that I never saw the printed notice until yesterday."

The right hon. and learned Gentleman had said that the magistrates had evidence to lead them to the conclusion that his brother had knowledge of this document; but in opposition to that he would put the statement of the magistrates themselves. Their statement was written out and was read to the reporters. The prosecution, he would first explain, was under the section of the Prevention of Crime Act which alleged that they had taken part "in the operations of an unlawful association," and so on; and the magistrates held that the evidence of one policeman, who proved that threatening notices had been from time to time posted in Tralee, was sufficient evidence of conspiracy. It was necessary to prove conspiracy; and the magistrates, as usual, believed the policeman. Every man of intelligence knew that one single lunatic such as the one who wrote the letter which the right hon. and learned Gentleman had quoted could publish hundreds of threatening notices all over the country. In their judgment the magistrates said—

"The whole of the defendants were charged, under Section 9 of the Prevention of Crime Act, with having knowingly taken part in the operations of an unlawful association, as defined by the 24th section of the said Act," &c.

Then they said—

"One part of the law has been rendered easy by the complete acknowledgment that this atrocious notice, inciting to murder, was printed in the office of *The Kerry Sentinel*."

And, continuing, the magistrates said—

"After carefully reviewing the evidence adduced on the part of the Crown, as well as that for the defence, we can come to no other conclusion than that the diabolical notice received by Mr. Huggard, and found posted through the town by the police, was a notice calling upon the people to commit a crime—that it emanated from *The Kerry Sentinel* office, and therefore from the *employees* in that office."

The common sense and intelligence of every man in that Assembly would show him that one single individual could have turned out that document; and yet the magistrates said it had emanated from the *employees* in the office! They continued—

"The defendants now before us are, in a greater or less degree, guilty of being concerned in the printing and posting of said notice," &c.

Those who pleaded guilty were guilty in a less degree; but the men whom the Government wished to punish—their political opponents—and that was the kernel of the whole matter—were guilty in a greater degree, and sentenced to six months' imprisonment—

"The defendants now before us are, in a greater or less degree, guilty of being concerned in the printing and posting of said notice; and therefore, taking into consideration the atrocious nature of the threatening notice, and also the fact that, for a considerable period, as detailed in evidence, numerous outrages have been committed and threatening notices posted in the neighbourhood of Tralee, and judging by the contents of Mr. Sheehan's letter, and the acknowledgment of the printing staff, that the present notice emanated from *The Sentinel* office, we feel bound, not only to show our abhorrence of such acts, as well as to mark our disapproval in the strongest manner possible of such conduct on the part of the *employees* of any newspaper, but we have to inflict such punishment as we trust may prevent any such similar conduct on the part of those employed on any newspaper."

Therefore, even if the admission had not been made by the two boys that they had printed the document, every individual in the office, from the editor to the apprentices, would have been found guilty by these two magistrates. He would appeal to every hon. Member to consider what chance of liberty or freedom any editor in this country would have if a newspaper office in this country was broken into and the type and machinery was seized, and the editor was accused of sympathy with crime, and included in a common indictment against everyone employed in the office. The right hon. and learned Gentleman had read a portion of a letter found in *The Sentinel* office. That letter had been

handed to him (Mr. Harrington) at the trial, and he recognized the writing. There was no signature to it; but it was written from all points of the compass, similar to dozens of letters which had been received by every man who was prominent in Irish politics, from the same unfortunate person who signed himself "Colonel O'Sullivan, M.P." That letter asked for the assistance of 40,000 men to take possession of his holding; and the right hon. Gentleman wished to hold him responsible for the assembling of 40,000 men who only existed in the disordered imagination of this unfortunate man. Then the right hon. and learned Gentleman said a letter was found in the office asking for "Boycotting" notices to be circulated; but what were the facts? The right hon. and learned Gentleman stated that a letter was handed to him in the witness-chair. It was dated 12 months before that time, and he had said that it had been received by him when he was managing the office, and that it had never been seen by his brother. But he looked on that letter as a forgery. He knew the man who was supposed to have written the letter, and he knew that that man could not have written such a letter; and he was prepared now to say that, from the time when he became connected with this newspaper, and with the agitation in Ireland, he had never had any connection with threatening letters. He was cross-examined, and his allegation was found to be true. Since then the Crown had found out that that letter was a forgery, and that it had been sent by a man who was in collusion with the police; and they had discovered the writer and were now prosecuting him. He had been returned for trial; but how had he been found out? He had been found out by a policeman, for whom he had written some letters to the hon. and gallant Member for the County of Dublin (Colonel King-Harman). That policeman stated that that man had written a memorial for him, and he had recognized the writing as that of a man who was in collusion with the Crown; and because of that letter his (Mr. Harrington's) character was to be assailed. There was one other point which it was necessary to clear up. The right hon. and learned Gentleman had stated that the County Court Judge had grounds

Mr. Harrington

for not basing his decision on the evidence of the two boys; but, admitting that, had he any ground whatsoever for coming to his conclusion as to Mr. Harrington? The presumption was that a man was innocent until he was found guilty. Could the right hon. and learned Gentleman prove anything that would bring home guilt to Mr. Harrington? The document was, on the face of it, so absurd that no intelligent man could have written it; but there were circumstances connected with it that rendered it still more absurd. It was written on a short slip of paper, and how did the Crown recognize it? The right hon. and learned Gentleman said it was attached to the letter of Michael Davitt; but the boys had stated that in rolling the ink over this notice, they had rolled it over Michael Davitt's letter, which stood in the same galley, and upon that circumstance the right hon. and learned Gentleman wanted the public to believe that his brother was guilty. The thing was a farce and a monstrous absurdity, and it was only under such an administration of justice as there was in Ireland that such an absurd thing could be attempted. These boys only made a confession on the second day of the original trial, and they were immediately taken into custody and sent to gaol. It was absolutely impossible for any man who was convicted and in prison to communicate with his friends, and it was a monstrous absurdity to suppose that a plan could have been devised by which these boys would make this confession. If the right hon. and learned Gentleman thought that the two boys who confessed that the placard was their work had been "got at," and induced to take the guilt upon themselves and screen the managing editor, let him (Mr. Harrington) tell him that the two boys had been dismissed by his brother, and that they could now be found working on a rival newspaper at Tralee. It was clear as noonday that he had deserted these two lads, and allowed them to go to gaol; but any man of intelligence would know that it would be absurd for him to expect that these two boys would afterwards come forward to make a statement in his behalf. If the right hon. and learned Gentleman was still in doubt, or was still anxious as to whether he had done justice in this case, he might go to Tralee, and there,

as he (Mr. Harrington) had said, he would find these boys working in a rival newspaper office, and he would find that they would make the same statement now, that they were guilty and Mr. Harrington was innocent. He had full knowledge of these facts; for he had studied the case carefully. He did not expect that the right hon. and learned Gentleman and his Colleagues would go back upon the work they had undertaken; but he was satisfied that 99 per cent of the population of Ireland knew that his brother was innocent. He made no appeal on his brother's behalf to the right hon. and learned Gentleman; and, if he did so, he was sure that his brother would repudiate his action. His brother, he knew, could bear his imprisonment as he himself had done, like a man. He had been imprisoned three times by the underlings of the right hon. and learned Gentleman; but he simply stated, for the information of the Committee, what everyone acquainted with him in Ireland knew, that on each occasion the Government had imprisoned an innocent man. When he challenged them to bring him in this case to trial they shrank from doing so. He did not wish to be understood as making any appeal, for he should be ashamed to make any appeal to those who, he believed, were not influenced by motives of justice, but by political partizanship, and who were driven into the course they had taken by an enraged faction in Ireland, who were as bitter against the right hon. Gentleman on the Treasury Bench as they were against him for the part he had taken in Irish politics, and who, if they could, would consign him to the same imprisonment.

MR. CALLAN said, he was sorry that no attempt had been made to answer his hon. Friend (Mr. Harrington); and he thought it disrespectful on the part of the right hon. and learned Attorney General for Ireland and the Chief Secretary for Ireland. He had seen the right hon. and learned Gentleman most malignantly—

THE CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member must withdraw that expression.

MR. CALLAN said, if the expression was un-Parliamentary he would withdraw it; but solely because it was un-Parliamentary.

THE CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member must withdraw the expression without qualification.

MR. CALLAN said, he would withdraw the expression without any qualification. He had only given his reason for withdrawing it; and he did not require any censure from the Chair. The hon. Member for Westmeath (Mr. Harrington) had shown very plainly why his brother should not have been imprisoned, because of the action of these two apprentices. It was alleged that Mr. Harrington was in the office at the time, and ought to have known of this matter; but the right hon. and learned Attorney General for Ireland had been present at Green Street when the Irish juries were packed, and yet he said he was no party to that packing, although it was done, in a way, under him. His friend, the chaste and virtuous Mr. Bolton, was present, and packed the juries without any word of reprobation from the right hon. and learned Gentleman; and yet he said he was no party to that, and the House of Commons had acquitted him of all complicity in that infamous proceeding. When it came to the case of an Irish editor, the right hon. and learned Gentleman said he was in his office, and ought to have known what took place. If Mr. Harrington was to be held responsible for what was done by one of his apprentices, or a printer's devil, and was to get six months' imprisonment for what he knew nothing of, what ought the right hon. and learned Attorney General for Ireland to get for being present at the packing of the juries by his virtuous friend, Mr. Bolton? Ought he not, in equal justice, to get the same punishment as Mr. Harrington? He (Mr. Callan) had known the right hon. and learned Gentleman for some time, and he knew him to be drawn from one of the worst classes in Ireland.

THE CHAIRMAN: I must warn the hon. Member for Louth (Mr. Callan) that if he continues to use language so offensive towards Members of this House I shall have to Name him.

MR. CALLAN said, he could understand the right hon. and learned Attorney General for Ireland adopting the course he had referred to; because, as regarded the Roman Catholics in Ireland, he (Mr. Callan) knew the feelings of the North of Ireland and the Unitarian Whigs. As to the Phoenix Park murders, the feeling created in the breast of every Irishman was that James Carey

was the principal culprit. There could be no doubt whatever that the four men who were executed for participation in the Phoenix Park murders could have been brought to justice equally as well by the evidence of others besides James Carey. Then, why was James Carey selected? He (Mr. Callan) wanted to give the Government an opportunity of clearing up the matter; and he was glad to see the Secretary of State for the Home Department in his place, because he could not help looking upon the right hon. Gentleman as one of the principal culprits. He understood that the detective authorities, and the police, and the then Law Officers of the Crown were altogether opposed to James Carey being selected as the approver, but that they were overruled. He wanted to know if that was a fact; and he should like to give the Chief Secretary for Ireland an opportunity of denying it. It was said that influence was brought to bear upon the Lord Lieutenant, by which he was induced to shelter that infamous character, James Carey, by whose instrumentality was committed the assassination of Lord Frederick Cavendish, and that James Carey was saved from the scaffold by the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. It was stated in Ireland, in extenuation of Lord Spencer's character, for having saved that ruffian's life, that there was a meeting of a Sub-Committee of the Cabinet, who had an interview in London with the Legal Authorities, and it was further stated that the detectives assured the Law Officers of the Crown that they could actually prove all the facts connected with the assassination without the assistance of James Carey. Notwithstanding, Carey was selected as an approver, in the hope that he might be able, in some way or other, to besmirch and implicate the Irish Members of Parliament as having been participators in this conspiracy. That was stated very generally in Ireland — namely, that influence had been brought to bear upon the Cabinet by the courteous and large-hearted Secretary of State for the Home Department. He (Mr. Callan) wished, therefore, to have an explanation of the matter; and he desired to afford an opportunity to that right hon. Gentleman of disavowing the statement made with regard to him, that he was the person to whom they were indebted for the fact that James Carey was

chosen to convict the other conspirators. He (Mr. Callan) wished to be generous, and to afford the right hon. Gentleman an opportunity of indignantly denying any participation in the selection of Carey as the approver to convict the men who actually assassinated Lord Frederick Cavendish. It was either the Lord Lieutenant, or the right hon. Gentleman, and the Committee ought to know which was the guilty party. He saw that the right hon. Gentleman smiled; but would he deny that he was the person to whom the people of Ireland were indebted for the selection of Carey?

MR. DALY said, that at any other time he would have been prepared to excuse the warmth which had been imported into the debate, and to feel that the time spent in discussion had not been spent in vain. The question, however, more directly before the Committee was the imprisonment of Mr. Harrington; and perhaps the hon. Member for Louth (Mr. Callan) was not aware that the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland had, at some length, defended the action of the Government in that matter. He (Mr. Daly) had listened with the greatest possible attention to the speech of the right hon. and learned Gentleman; and he hoped, in the interests of truth and justice, that every word of it would be carefully recorded. The right hon. and learned Gentleman said that he was not there to defend the decisions of the magistrates, and then the right hon. and learned Gentleman made a curious allusion. On two occasions, he referred to the time and the circumstances. Now, he (Mr. Daly) would ask for the calm attention of the Committee and the country to the main facts of the case. First of all, take the value of the document. Could any sensible man believe that it ever emanated from anybody for a serious purpose? Furthermore, there was the clearest proof that it must have emanated from this newspaper office. Could any reasonable man believe that the editor of a newspaper intended to publish a document which carried with it damning evidence that would at once convict him? The case was endeavoured to be further strengthened by the statement that when the office of *The Kerry Sentinel* came to be searched another document of a similar nature was discovered; but, as

the hon. Member for Newcastle (Mr. Cowen) said, if that document was a dangerous one, why should Mr. Harrington have left it lying about, under the circumstances alluded to by the right hon. and learned Attorney General for Ireland. There was one singular fact in connection with the speech of that right hon. and learned Gentleman. When he came to discuss the appeal made in this case, and to defend the decision arrived at by the County Court Judge, he gave, as his principal reason, that the County Court Judge assumed that Mr. Harrington had seen the document. What did that amount to, looking at it in its broadest light? It meant that a man was to suffer the disruption of his business, imprisonment for six months, a plank bed, and all the other amenities which attended imprisonment, upon the mere assumption of the Judge. What could be said for the Constitutional liberties of the country, when justice was administered in that way? He hoped that the statement of the right hon. and learned Gentleman would receive the widest publicity, and that it would be the means of explaining to every honest Englishman what the circumstances were which attended the Vice-regal rule in Ireland. If the outrage which had been committed on Mr. Harrington had occurred in any other country—in Bessarabia or in Turkey, for instance—there would have been a loud outcry raised by the Liberal Press against such outrages being committed on innocent people. Having heard all that could be said on both sides of the case, he could not doubt that the printing of the placard originated entirely in a reckless and ill-considered boyish freak; and he much mistook the character of Englishmen, and would, in future, have little faith in the justice and honour of the English people, if that day's discussion did not arouse in the minds of people of this country a feeling which would demand that the innocent man, who had been so cruelly wronged and imprisoned in a time of excitement, should be at once released, and should receive proper amends for the injustice he had suffered.

MR. O'BRIEN said, that after the speech of his hon. Friend the Member for Westmeath (Mr. Harrington) he almost pitied the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland for the humiliation he had had

to undergo that day in defending the prosecution of Mr. Harrington. Of all the many stupid things which had been done by the Irish Government, he thought the imprisonment of his hon. Friend and his brother was about the most stupid. It was bad enough to seize a paper for something contained in it that was considered to be violent, dangerous, or inconvenient to the Government. There was, however, a brutal recklessness about this case. He (Mr. O'Brien) had had some experience of persecution at the hands of the Government, and he had never quarrelled about it. Although *The Kerry Sentinel* was a very formidable paper in Kerry, not because it broke the law, but because it taught the tenants of Lord Kenmare to be dissatisfied with the old rack rents they had had to pay, it was not attacked openly, or brought openly to account for anything that appeared in it; but the Castle officials considered that it was better to try and affix a fatal brand of crime against its manager, and so they trumped up this monstrous and incredible story, that a sane man would be insane enough to permit his own type and his own printing office to be used for the publication of an idiotic placard like this. As the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland had admitted, any man with a head on his shoulders would know that the moment that placard appeared on the walls of a town like Tralee any practical printer would be able to tell from what office it came, and in what type it was printed. The idea that an educated man, knowing that so many lynx-eyed persons were watching every part of his newspaper office, would commit a virtual suicide in that way was preposterous. There was nothing in the annals of human nature to equal it. The thing was so absurd and incredible, that it did not require the confession of the boys in the office to show that it was not a thing with which the editor could have had anything to do. He (Mr. O'Brien) was as certain as that he lived that the local landlords' evictions were the circumstances which really instigated this proceeding against Mr. Harrington, and that Mr. Harrington knew as little about the placard as a child unborn. If the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland wanted an instance of the causes which

made men mad and reckless, he (Mr. O'Brien) was sorry that the right hon. Gentleman had not listened to the speech of his hon. Friend the Member for Westmeath (Mr. Harrington), so that he might be able to compare it with the lame and impotent defence set up by the Government.

Mr. BIGGAR thought the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland had made out a wonderfully poor case against Mr. Edward Harrington and the foreman printer of this paper. The right hon. and learned Gentleman had refrained from entering fully into the merits of the case, on the ground that it was no part of his duty to interfere with the due administration of justice in Ireland. He (Mr. Biggar) granted that that was so up to a certain point; but he knew that it was not at all uncommon for the Secretary of State for the Home Department of this country; and for the Lord Lieutenant in Ireland, to look over the evidence which had been given in criminal cases; and if they found that no case had been made out, it was quite within their province to remit the punishment altogether, or to lessen the term of imprisonment. Although his hon. Friend the Member for Westmeath (Mr. Harrington) had made no appeal on behalf of his brother, and, perhaps, would not thank him for doing so, he (Mr. Biggar) must confess, at the same time, that if the Government were disposed to do justice in the case, they ought at once to release from imprisonment, not only Mr. Harrington, but also the foreman printer.

Mr. HARRINGTON said, that the foreman printer was released on appeal.

Mr. BIGGAR said, the case in regard to Mr. Edward Harrington appeared to be this—the right hon. and learned Attorney General for Ireland laid great stress on the fact that, when the two apprentices and Mr. Edward Harrington were first brought before the magistrates, and the same counsel and attorney were representing the whole of the three, no confession of guilt took place on the part of the boys. Surely the right hon. and learned Gentleman ought to have sufficient knowledge of his Profession to know that it was no part of the duty of the counsel to acknowledge either the innocence or guilt of a client, until they heard what the nature of the evidence

Mr. O'Brien

was. When the second day arrived, and the counsel understood the sort of case attempted to be made out on behalf of the two boys, they stated what really had occurred—namely, that the boys themselves were guilty of printing the placard, and that Mr. Harrington knew nothing about it. He thought there was sufficient evidence to show that the placard could not have been printed by Mr. Harrington or the foreman. The placard insinuated that the foreman was a leader in a particular movement, and had called upon the people to come out for drill in the neighbourhood where they lived. It was preposterous that the foreman printer would thus have accused himself of being guilty of a serious offence, for which, if convicted, he would be liable to most severe punishment. For that reason, he (Mr. Biggar) thought that the document itself ought to have proved that the foreman printer had nothing to do with the matter. There was the testimony of the two boys, that they had printed the document, and that Mr. Edward Harrington knew nothing about it. Therefore, the case of the Crown entirely broke down. There never had been anything except a mere case of suspicion against Mr. Edward Harrington. Of course, there was a general theory that the editor and conductor of a newspaper was liable for everything which appeared in it. It was contended that he ought to look over every proof, and see that his contributors were trustworthy persons. But this was a charge, not of publishing anything in the newspaper, but of printing a certain placard, and against Mr. Edward Harrington there was no case whatever. When the case came before Mr. O'Connor Morris, the County Court Judge, as soon as he saw the placard, he said that it was a most reprehensible document, and that nobody could defend it; but that was no reason why Mr. Edward Harrington should be convicted of printing it, when there was no evidence to show that he had ever seen it, or had had anything to do with it. There was no evidence, nor even the slightest innuendo, that he had been accustomed to print either threatening notices or Moonlight notices; and there was no connection whatever established between Mr. Edward Harrington and this particular placard. If Mr. Harrington had seen the placard, he

would, in all probability, have treated it as waste paper; and, in point of fact, a document was found in the waste-paper basket which was proved to have been written by a man who was a lunatic, and perfectly irresponsible for his actions. His hon. Friend the Member for Westmeath (Mr. Harrington) said that as soon as these boys were sentenced to two months' imprisonment they were turned out of their employment at *The Kerry Sentinel* office, and that they were now in the employment of a rival paper proprietor. That fact afforded proof that, certainly, the Harrington family had no direct object in keeping on good terms with these boys; and if the boys had printed the placard at the instigation of Mr. Edward Harrington, nothing was more probable than that that gentleman would have endeavoured to keep in their good graces for fear of exposure. He (Mr. Biggar) might refer, also, to the article which appeared in Mr. Harrington's newspaper, showing that the placard must have been printed in one of the newspaper offices in Tralee. If Mr. Edward Harrington had a guilty conscience, it was hardly likely that he would have pointed to his own office as the place where the document was printed. This was only another instance of the way in which justice was administered in Ireland; and he thought the Government ought to make the only amends in their power by immediately releasing Mr. Edward Harrington.

Mr. CALLAN said, he saw the Prime Minister in his place, and he would appeal to him for an explanation which he had vainly attempted to obtain from the Secretary of State for the Home Department, the Attorney General for Ireland, or the Chief Secretary for Ireland. In Ireland it was universally regarded as an infamous proceeding that James Carey, the real organizer of the Phoenix Park murders, should have been selected as the approver to bring the perpetrators of that deed of assassination to punishment. It was rumoured in Ireland that the detective officers and the police officers were unanimously against the selection of James Carey; that they said they would be able to convict the conspirators without Carey's assistance, and that Carey being the principal man and the chief organizer of the crime was the first man who ought to have been

brought to the gallows. It was added that influences were brought to bear, and that the Lord Lieutenant was induced to yield; but that, before doing so, the matter was referred to a Sub-Committee of the Cabinet. It was stated and believed in Ireland that Mr. Jenkinson, the Chief Inspector of the Criminal Investigation Department, came over to London, and recommended that Carey should not be selected as the instrument to bring others to justice; but that, in consequence of the influence of the Secretary of State for the Home Department, Carey was selected as the instrument to bring others to justice. He (Mr. Callan) did not know how there had come to be such a kindly feeling between the right hon. Gentleman the Secretary of State for the Home Department and Carey.

THE CHAIRMAN: I have already cautioned the hon. Member for Louth (Mr. Callan) twice for the constantly offensive remarks he has made in reference to individual Members of this House, and which he is now repeating by insinuation. If the hon. Member continues to repeat such observations I shall Name him.

MR. CALLAN said, he only wished to know whether it was a fact that the police authorities in Ireland were opposed to Carey's being taken as the principal approver in the conspiracy; and whether other persons in Ireland, Mr. Jenkinson included, were also opposed to it, and that Carey was selected entirely through the exercise of English influence in the Cabinet? He hoped that an answer might be given to that question, so that Lord Spencer might be placed in a proper light in Ireland.

MR. GLADSTONE: It is not the fact; at any rate, to my knowledge.

Question put.

The Committee divided:—Ayes 17; Noes 70: Majority 53.—(Div. List, No. 300.)

Original Question put, and agreed to.

(2.) Motion made, and Question proposed,

“That a sum, not exceeding £27,555, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the Salaries and Expenses of the Offices of the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland in Dublin and London, and Subordinate Departments.”

Mr. Callan

MR. HARRINGTON said, he had intended to call attention to the unsatisfactory nature of the information which the Chief Secretary for Ireland gave to the Irish Members in his replies to Questions; but after the very long debate they had just had, and all the trouble which had been imposed upon the Committee, he did not think it right to go further, and he would be satisfied with the attention which had already been drawn in the course of the day to Irish matters. He trusted that the discussion which had taken place would induce the right hon. Gentleman to inquire more seriously and more zealously into the Questions that were put to him by hon. Members of that House, and that he would look for independent information, and not always rely upon the information of those who had landed him in the trouble he had undergone that day.

MR. TREVELYAN said, he fully recognized the spirit in which the hon. Member had given utterance to his remarks. He would admit that on two or three occasions Irish Members had had reason to complain of his statements in reply to Questions having been bald and insufficient; but it arose from the fact that he had been obliged to give a reply without being able to follow up a matter which required further inquiry. But what might have appeared to be shortcomings on his part had not arisen from any inattention to the matter; and he should be glad if, after the debate they had had, any official change could be introduced. He trusted that after the long discussion which had taken place he might now be allowed to take this Vote without further delay.

MR. CALLAN said, he wished to ask for an explanation upon a financial point. Once upon a time, not very long ago, they had an Irish Chief Secretary and a Parliamentary Under Secretary, the same as in all other high Offices of State. At that time the salary of the Parliamentary Under Secretary was £1,789, and that of the Permanent Under Secretary £1,000. The old régime was in existence down to 1851; and in that year he found there was an Under Secretary with a Parliamentary Secretary, who had a residence in Phoenix Park, the salary for the two Secretaries being £2,789 a-year. No doubt, the population was now less than it was then, and it might be supposed that there had been a reduction on that ac-

count; but, on the contrary, although he found that one of the Departmental Offices in Parliament had been got rid of, the expense had absolutely increased. In 1851 they had a Chief Secretary for Ireland who did the political work, and an Under Secretary, upon whom the Business of answering Questions fell. He thought the Chief Secretary for Ireland would be very glad if he had a Parliamentary Under Secretary now, so that he could be able to devote his own attention more completely to the high politics of the country. As he had pointed out, the salary of the Parliamentary Under Secretary and of the Permanent Under Secretary amounted to £2,789 a-year; but he found that the salaries connected with the Secretary of State's Department were now doubled within a few hundred pounds, seeing that they had been increased by £2,111, and now amounted to £4,900. He contended that the Secretary's Office was the most over-managed institution in Great Britain. The Under Secretary now had £2,000 a-year, or £200 more than the Parliamentary Secretary had 32 years ago. There was an Assistant Under Secretary, whose salary had been increased from £1,000 a-year to £1,200 a-year; and, in addition, there was a new Office, which had been created specially for Englishmen. Of course, all the good Offices they had in Ireland were Offices created for Englishmen—he referred to the Assistant Under Secretary for Crime, who received £1,700 a-year, £1,500 in the shape of salary and £200 in lieu of an official residence. He was not aware that the Permanent Secretary for England had any official residence at all. They had now three Under Secretaries instead of two; and, instead of paying £2,789, they were called upon to pay £4,900. There had been a similar increase in the subordinate offices. Formerly, there were two senior clerks, who received £1,000 between them; now the same two clerks received £1,634. Formerly there were seven assistant clerks, who received £2,196; and now there were nine clerks, receiving £3,468, being an increase on that head of £1,200 a-year. Then there were eight junior clerks, who received £1,150, and now the same number of junior clerks were receiving £1,308. Altogether the expenses of the Irish Office had been increased by the sum of £5,000 a-year, not-

withstanding that they did not give the Chief Secretary for Ireland what he (Mr. Callan) was quite sure the right hon. Gentleman very much desired—namely, a Parliamentary Under Secretary, similar to the officer who was in existence in 1851. At present the whole Parliamentary duty devolved on the Chief Secretary himself; and it was the appointment of clerks in Dublin, like Mr. Jenkinson and other English officers, which had increased the expenditure by something like £5,000 a-year. He thought that some explanation of this increase should be given.

MR. TREVELYAN asked, what was the date of the Return which the hon. Member had quoted?

MR. CALLAN said, the last date at which there was a Parliamentary Under Secretary was the financial year 1851.

MR. TREVELYAN said, he was sorry to say that on that Bench they knew nothing of a Parliamentary Under Secretary. [Mr. CALLAN here made a remark, for which he was called to Order by Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT.]

MR. CALLAN said, he did not require to be called to Order by the Secretary of State for the Home Department. If he (Mr. Callan) were doing anything irregular, the proper person to call him to Order was the Chairman of the Committee. He had given the date of the last appointment; but he had only given it as an act of courtesy to the Chief Secretary for Ireland, and not to the Secretary of State for the Home Department.

MR. TREVELYAN said, he should be very glad to have the assistance of a Parliamentary Under Secretary. He did not understand the hon. Member to make any reference to any increase in the salary of the Chief Secretary for Ireland. On the contrary, the salary was still larger in former days. With regard to the Under Secretary, the real cause of the increase was one which made a considerable appearance in the Vote; and it was, in fact, all the more misleading. There had been the extra assistance required by the Under Secretary for Police and Crime. As the hon. Member had stated, Mr. Jenkinson had been appointed to fill that Office; and, as far as the official position of that gentleman was concerned, it must be taken in conjunction with the proposal for the more economical as well as the more

efficient working of the Department of Police and Crime, which was embodied in the Bill proposed to the House this year for the re-organization of the Irish police, and which he hoped to bring in at the beginning of next Session. If that Bill were passed, Mr. Jenkinson's additional salary would be actually made up by very large reductions indeed in salaries scarcely as large as his own. The Chief Secretary's Office had, no doubt, as far as clerks were concerned, become more expensive since the year 1851; but the same might be said generally of all the great Public Departments. The expense of gentlemen in the position of clerks in the Public Offices had risen only at the same rate as the increased expense of living in connection with other classes. There had been no serious increase of late, and the Secretary's Office had been re-organized quite recently by the gentleman who was now Under Secretary—namely, Mr. Hamilton, a person of very great experience in these matters, who had brought his experience in regard to re-organization to bear, and had improved the position of some of the gentlemen in the Office, and, at the same time, had very much facilitated the working of the Office without throwing any new and additional burden upon the public. A portion of the increase in clerical labour was due to that cause, and it was also partly due to another cause—namely, the gradual increased demand by the public, and especially by the House of Commons, probably a very good thing, for a much more exact method of doing the Public Business, and for much greater elaboration in the documents by which that Public Business was made known to the House of Commons.

MR. CALLAN said, he did not wish to impute to the Chief Secretary for Ireland that he had increased the expenses. He thought that the right hon. Gentleman would appreciate the real reason why he had brought the matter forward. He regretted that he was unaware the subject would be brought on that day, or he would have furnished the right hon. Gentleman in advance with the Return he intended to quote. He thought that a sufficient Vote might be taken from the salaries of the Under Secretaries to make provision for a Parliamentary Under Secretary to assist

the Chief Secretary in giving his answers in that House. He gave that explanation, simply because the Chief Secretary for Ireland always accepted a suggestion generously, and did not attempt to sneer hon. Members down because they were simply Irish Members as the Secretary of State for the Home Department did.

MR. BIGGAR said, he could not ascertain that, since Mr. Jenkinson went to Dublin, matters had greatly improved under his administration. His hon. Friend the Member for Dungarvan (Mr. O'Donnell) told the House some time ago that Mr. Jenkinson came from India with a very bad record, and that he was a gentleman in whose hands it would not be safe to leave the liberties of the Irish people. They all knew the theory of the Government in Ireland—namely, that all the people in Ireland were supposed to keep within the eye of the law. Of course, that was not the case; but that was the theory in regard to Ireland. In India, however, there was not even that pretence of observing the law between the Natives and the Hindoos and the British subjects. It was obvious, therefore, that Mr. Jenkinson had formed his idea of Government from the duties and distinctions which existed between races in India. No doubt, Mr. Jenkinson had been sent to Ireland to put his Indian ideas into practice in reference to the Irish people. Therefore, Mr. Jenkinson was exactly the sort of man they should send to Ireland. It had hitherto been the misfortune of Ireland to be governed under a system by which the Native Irish race was tyrannized over by Englishmen. It was supposed to be sufficient, from a British point of view, that Ireland should be content and satisfied with her connection with England. So long as that feeling prevailed, it would be impossible to place the people of the two countries, either in regard to law, justice, or anything else, upon a footing of perfect equality. Mr. Jenkinson had been sent across the Channel, not because he possessed any merits of his own, but because it was supposed that he would carry matters on with a very high hand; and, no doubt, since Mr. Jenkinson went to Ireland, that sort of rule had been invariably practised. Matters had certainly not improved under Mr. Jenkinson's administration. Then, in regard

Mr. Trevelyan

to the Chief Secretary for Ireland, they had had an illustration of the mode in which matters were treated in the Secretary's Office only a few months ago. The Irish Office was challenged in regard to the treatment of the brother of the hon. Member for Westmeath (Mr. Harrington), and the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland did not deign to answer the appeal, but put the right hon. and learned Attorney General for Ireland forward in his place, who made a very lame reply, although it was the business of the Chief Secretary for Ireland himself to have defended the action of the Government. The right hon. Gentleman was Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant, and he ought to have told the Committee whether he thought the case made out by the right hon. and learned Attorney General for Ireland was such as would justify him in saying that no mitigation of the punishment should take place. As no case had been made out, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, if he had no authority to order the release of Mr. Harrington, might, at least, have said that he would bring the matter before the Lord Lieutenant. That was only an illustration of the way in which Irish Business was carried on. The right hon. Gentleman always defended all that was done, and never confessed that any of his underlings were wrong. The course pursued in the case of Mr. Harrington was atrocious; there was no evidence against Mr. Harrington whatever, and the right hon. and learned Attorney General for Ireland did not say that there was the slightest pretence of a case. All that the right hon. and learned Gentleman said was that certain documents were found in the office of the *The Kerry Sentinel*, and upon that fact he justified the finding of Mr. Harrington guilty. The right hon. and learned Gentleman simply took up the old ground of whitewashing any official who was charged with neglect of duty. He (Mr. Biggar) did not think the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland was much of an improvement upon his Predecessor in Office (Mr. W. E. Forster), except that he conducted Business in a more plausible way. The system of misgovernment under one right hon. Gentleman was just as bad as it was under another; but the present right hon. Gentleman spoke in such a plausi-

ble manner that he always managed to avoid the real point in the case. In order to enter a protest against the manner in which the duties of the Chief Secretary's Office were discharged, he would move to reduce the Vote by the sum of £6,125.

Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That a sum, not exceeding £21,430, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the Salaries and Expenses of the Offices of the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland in Dublin and London, and Subordinate Departments."

—(Mr. Biggar.)

MR. TREVELYAN said, he was afraid that the reduction proposed by the hon. Member for Cavan (Mr. Biggar) was a great deal more than his (Mr. Trevelyan's) salary amounted to; and the Motion, if carried, would cut off the salaries of a considerable number of clerks and writers.

MR. KENNY said, the sum of £6,125 had been selected by his hon. Friend (Mr. Biggar), because it was the amount of the salaries of the Chief Secretary, £4,425, and of Mr. Jenkinson, £1,700.

MR. TREVELYAN said, that a great deal of the sum had already been voted on account.

Question put, and *negatived*.

Original Question put, and *agreed to*.

(3.) £1,280, to complete the sum for the Charitable Donations and Bequests Office, Ireland.

(4.) Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That a sum, not exceeding £85,482, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the Salaries and Expenses of the Local Government Board in Ireland, including various Grants in Aid of Local Taxation."

MR. O'BRIEN said, he rose for the purpose of moving the reduction of the Vote by the sum of £1,000, the amount of the salaries of the two Government Inspectors in Donegal, Mr. Macfarlane and Dr. Woodhouse. He did not wish to enter into this matter for the purpose of recrimination; but, unfortunately, there had been a period of exceptional distress in Donegal, and it was important that it should be seen what steps the Government had taken to deal with

that exceptional distress, and provide for the unfortunate people who suffered from it. He did not mean to go back on the wisdom, or want of wisdom, of the Government in refusing outdoor relief as a means of meeting distress; his position was that, so far as the districts in question were concerned, the Government policy had completely broken down; that the Poor Law Inspectors did nothing whatever to cope with the distress; and that the people might have died in thousands from starvation had not private charity stepped in. He would try to prove this as briefly as possible. On the 20th November last, the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland, in answer to the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell), announced what was to be the policy of the Government during the winter. The right hon. Gentleman said that the Local Government Board had already issued a Circular to all the Unions in the county of Donegal calling attention to the necessity of making every provision possible for indoor and outdoor relief, and that the Local Government Board had also called upon their Inspectors to report as to the sufficiency of the arrangements made in this respect by the Guardians of such Unions, and that, if exceptional pressure came, it would be their duty to see that the administration of the required relief was not interfered with for want of sufficient funds. [Mr. TREVELYAN: What is the date of that?] The date of the right hon. Gentleman's statement to the hon. Member for the City of Cork was the 20th of November last, and the passage was one which the right hon. Gentleman himself had quoted in a recent debate. He (Mr. O'Brien) thought that passage contained instructions to the Guardians to supply both indoor and outdoor relief, and that, in case of any neglect on their part, it would be the duty of the Local Government Board Inspectors to call them to account. He need not go into independent testimony as to the intensity of the distress in the Unions; but he would point out how the Government policy had completely broken down in two of the most distressed districts in County Donegal, Dunfanaghy and Glenties. In the former place, according to the testimony of the Inspector himself, the people had no possessions, except a few hens and, perhaps, a pig; and Mr.

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Macfarlane agreed in describing another parish as in a still worse condition. Now, what had the Poor Law done in those distressed Unions? In the Glenties Union 148 persons had been relieved; while, in the far less distressed Union of Innishowen, in the same county, there were 348. Again, in the comparatively prosperous Union of Kilrush 1,017, and in Killarney 1,026 persons had received relief. What was the effect of the Government policy? In those Unions where the Guardians did their duty, the Guardians would be actually re-imbursed their expenditure under the Poor Relief Act; whereas, in those miserable and afflicted districts he had named, they would get nothing at all, because they had set their duty at defiance, and refused to give outdoor relief. Bad as was the state of things in Glenties Union, in the Union of Dunfanaghy it was absolutely unendurable; for, during the months of March and April, when the distress was at its worst, not a single person was in receipt of outdoor relief. In a district containing 16,000 persons, the entire work done was to support 38 persons in the workhouse; and even that could not be done without the horrible scandal of the seduction of an unfortunate woman. Such was the amount of work done in these two Unions, admittedly the most distressed in Ireland. The question he had to ask was this—Had the Guardians in those Unions attended to the instructions of the Local Government Board, to make every provision for indoor and outdoor relief; and, if not, had the Poor Law Inspectors done as the Chief Secretary for Ireland promised they would do—namely, reported upon the sufficiency of the arrangements in that respect; and if they had not, what action had the Local Government Board taken to reprove the culpable inaction of the Boards of Guardians? He (Mr. O'Brien) said that, instead of stimulating those Boards to do their duty, the Local Government Inspectors had done all they could to shelter them, for the simple reason that they were sent down at the beginning of the distress, with a brief from the Government, to show that the existing Poor Law could deal with the distress, and, in fact, that there was not much distress to deal with. It must be admitted that the policy of the Government in relying on the Poor Law to

meet distress in those districts was a shameful failure. The priests in the Unions did all they could to stimulate the Guardians to discharge their unquestionable duty—that was to say, to give outdoor relief—but to no purpose; and there was an insinuation that the whole cry of distress was an imposture. He wanted to point out to the Committee what sort of men these Local Government Board Inspectors were, whose Reports were taken to discredit the testimony and even the character of the reverend gentlemen he had alluded to, and of individual witnesses like Dr. Hart. Now, they had the fact that Mr. Macfarlane, one of the Inspectors, had been travelling upon a railway in Ireland with a ticket that was out of date, and that he was ordered to pay two guineas and costs—he (Mr. O'Brien) supposed as a mark of personal esteem. If that were so, it came to this—it was all very well for the magistrate to give Mr. Macfarlane an instance of his confidence; but why did he kick him downstairs? But that was not the only transaction in which Mr. Macfarlane had been engaged. He was sorry to have to refer to another; but, in dealing with persons like this, it was necessary to bring forward facts. Mr. Macfarlane was not only a Local Government Board Inspector, he was a landowner; and it was quite notorious that for a long time he had been in embarrassed circumstances, and his estate was in the hands of a receiver for the benefit of his creditors. Now, he (Mr. O'Brien) should have to trouble the Committee by a reference to a very short extract from a report in *The Freeman's Journal* of the 10th of August, relating to proceedings before Judge Ormsby in the Land Court, which disclosed that, according to the receiver, Mr. Macfarlane was carrying on certain dealings which the receiver charged as collusive, with the object of defrauding his creditors. Again, Mr. Macfarlane, as a landlord, turned a man out of his farm in County Tyrone, keeping back from him £26, the amount of labour given by him. He (Mr. O'Brien) did not want to elaborate these statements, but simply made them for the purpose of showing the Chief Secretary for Ireland the sort of men sent down to the Unions to see that the Guardians did their duty, and to whom

the lives of the people were practically entrusted—men who were appealed to from the testimony of priests and of independent Englishmen, who went through the districts in question during the period of distress; these were the men who had the audacity to take credit for the effect produced by private charity, when both the Poor Law Guardians and the State withheld from the people the means of subsistence. So far from their receiving £1,000 from the country for their services, he said they ought to be indicted for manslaughter, for causing the deaths of the people by starvation.

Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That a sum, not exceeding £84,482, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the Salaries and Expenses of the Local Government Board in Ireland, including various Grants in Aid of Local Taxation."—(Mr. O'Brien.)

Mr. TREVELYAN said, he had listened to the hon. Member for Mallow's (Mr. O'Brien's) speeches in every one of the important debates which had taken place in that House on the subject of Irish distress during this Session and the last. The hon. Member had, in all those instances, spoken against the operation of the Poor Law; and it was hardly to be expected that he would allow this Vote to pass without one of those protests which he was accustomed to make. The hon. Member had quoted, and quoted before then, from his (Mr. Trevelyan's) speech of the 20th of November, 1882. He could imagine that an hon. Member with a strong predilection for speaking on the subject of distress in Ireland might have read his words with a due regard to the intention with which they were uttered. The hon. Member for Mallow, however, appeared to have missed the meaning the words were intended to convey, which was governed by the first sentence in the passage referred to. The hon. Member thought that the Dunfanaghy and Glenties Board of Guardians had not come up to the moderate standard of outdoor relief laid down in the Local Government Board Circular. There was no doubt that in those Unions the system which the hon. Member severely condemned, but which the Government approved, had been strictly carried out. Under those circumstances, the Guardians not being a

paid body, the hon. Member could do no more than remonstrate; and, therefore, he proposed to reduce the Vote by the amount of the salaries of the two Local Government Board Inspectors. He (Mr. Trevelyan) was bound to say that the only part of the hon. Member's speech to which he took any exception was that in which he referred to the character of Mr. Macfarlane. He did not think that the private character of public servants should ever be brought before the House of Commons, unless there was some fault of a public and patent character which amounted to a scandal.

Mr. O'BRIEN said, he would remind the right hon. Gentleman that he had not referred to the private character of Mr. Macfarlane beyond what had been disclosed in the public prints.

Mr. TREVELYAN said, he was about to conclude his last sentence by saying that, in his opinion, the only occasions on which the characters of public servants should be referred to in that House were, first, when the charge was very grave, with reference to the individual personally; and, secondly, when it related to pecuniary matters, as showing that he was not a proper person to have control of money. He understood that, by moving this reduction, the hon. Gentleman wanted, at the eleventh hour, to add one to the numerous protests he had already made against the Poor Law system which a considerable number of Members of that House believed to be right, and which a smaller number believed not only wrong in principle, but immoral; and, with that understanding on both sides, he trusted hon. Gentlemen opposite would allow the Vote to be taken.

Mr. HARRINGTON said, he thought it was to be regretted that the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland had not attempted to touch the indictment preferred by the hon. Member for Mallow (Mr. O'Brien). He (Mr. Harrington) might observe that the right hon. Gentleman had dealt very delicately with that point of the hon. Member which affected the character of his officials in Ireland. But hon. Members on those Benches had to look not to the past alone, but to the future, and they knew that the gentleman in question would hereafter be the administrator of the system in the same sense as he

had been before; and, therefore, he thought his hon. Friend had acted wisely and justly in drawing attention to the character of Mr. Macfarlane. He had no wish that attention should be drawn to the character of individuals in that House; but where a public servant was manifestly guilty of conduct which, in the public mind, would render him unfit for the discharge of his duty, where there was evidence, above all things, that he was a biassed and partial man, who was not likely fairly to carry out the duties entrusted to him, then he (Mr. Harrington) said hon. Members were justified in bringing such matters forward. He would remind the Chief Secretary for Ireland that the case of the hon. Member for Mallow was, that in the Unions of Dunfanaghy and Glenties, where the distress was keenest during last winter, absolutely no outdoor relief was given—that in Unions where the people were in comparative comfort outdoor relief was administered; but in those where they were dying by hundreds there was nothing done to give them that assistance and shelter which every benign Government should afford. As an instance of the manner in which the Guardians discharged their duties—duties which the right hon. Gentleman believed were performed so perfectly—he would mention that he had a letter from an unfortunate man whose wife and child, notwithstanding that he had been sending 15s. or £1 every fortnight for their support, had been emigrated to America by the Guardians of one Union without his knowledge or consent. He considered that constituted a very serious charge against the working of the Emigration Clauses of the Act; and he desired to know whether the Government would do justice in this matter, and have the action of the Guardians scrutinized in such a manner that cases of the kind would not recur. This case was of itself sufficient to prove the absurdity of the system to which the right hon. Gentleman had given his sanction—one such instance was a proof that the Guardians, in working out the scheme of emigration, sent out of the country people who ought to remain there.

Mr. KENNY said, he could confirm the statement of the hon. Member for Mallow (Mr. O'Brien), that the people of Ireland had no confidence in the Reports of the Poor Law Inspectors, whose

statements, in almost every instance, were in direct conflict with those of disinterested persons, who were best informed and understood best the condition of the different Unions. Thus, the Reports of Mr. Macfarlane and Dr. Woodhouse were directly opposed to that of the priests of Donegal; and, if anything more than the latter were necessary to convince an impartial mind that the people there were on the verge of starvation, it would be found in the fact that when one of the Inspectors was on his way through a district in Donegal, thousands of famishing people gathered round him to demand work. He (Mr. Kenny) would not follow up the statement of the hon. Member for Mallow, because, to his mind, his case had been fully established; but he (Mr. Kenny) would point out that the rule which enforced the so-called workhouse test operated quite as harshly in his own and other districts in Ireland as it had done in the Unions to which his hon. Friend had referred. In one Union with which he was acquainted, the distress was far greater than it was in Kilrush; and, although the Guardians were willing to give outdoor relief, they were prevented doing so by an extraordinary Order of the Local Government Board. He asked the serious attention of the Chief Secretary for Ireland to this fact, with the view of preventing the issue of these cruel Circulars, which had caused so much misery to the unfortunate people in the distressed districts.

Mr. DAWSON said, that the English Poor Law system had an element of elasticity in it, which allowed it to deal with temporary distress; and he believed, if they could get that system extended to Ireland, it would be one way of meeting this difficulty. Both the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Board of Trade and the late Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster had, on a former occasion, congratulated the Unions in Lancashire on the way in which they had extended the provisions of the Poor Law with regard to outdoor relief. The fact was, that the Local Government Board in Ireland had not a quarter of the power which the Guardians in England possessed for dealing with temporary distress; and it was in that respect that he asked the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secre-

tary to the Lord Lieutenant to assimilate the law of the two countries.

Mr. BIGGAR said, it appeared to him that Mr. Macfarlane was a man of that unfortunate class who were most likely to get Government situations in Ireland, which, as a rule, were confined either to policemen, or the broken-down landed gentry. Many of the Government officials in Ireland belonged to the latter class, and were, generally speaking, in such embarrassed circumstances, caused by the proceedings taken against them for the recovery of debts, that they were brought into a position more or less contemptible in the eyes of the people, and led sometimes to commit acts of impropriety, although, perhaps, they might not be any more dishonest than their neighbours. The case brought forward by the hon. Member for Mallow (Mr. O'Brien) was an instance of this. Mr. Macfarlane's mode of dealing with his tenants was, in itself, sufficient to show that he was not a satisfactory person to report upon the action of the Poor Law officials in Ireland. But, besides that, he had been brought before a magistrate, and fined by him, in the form of damages and costs, for committing a gross fraud on a Railway Company. It was not shown whether or not Mr. Macfarlane was in the habit of systematically avoiding payment of railway fares; but, however that might be, he (Mr. Biggar) would ask the Committee this question—"Was a man, who had been brought before the magistrates and convicted of having defrauded a Railway Company, a proper person to be intrusted with the office of Poor Law Inspector?" He thought the power of these men was too great, for they were able to set at defiance the protests of Guardians and other Union officers; and, certainly, the Government, in their own interest, should dismiss any of them from their position who had notoriously been convicted of fraud. If Mr. Macfarlane was not dismissed, he did not see how the Government could defend their conduct with regard to the Donegal Unions, seeing that their evidence was based on his Report.

Mr. O'BRIEN said, the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland had not replied to his assertion that, at a time of the deepest distress in the most poverty-stricken place in Ireland, neither the Government nor the

Guardians did anything to save the lives of the people, although, in other places, sufficient outdoor relief was given. There was nothing to show that the Government made any attempt to stimulate the Guardians to do their duty; and, therefore, as a protest against this neglect, he should take a Division on his Motion for the reduction of the Vote.

MR. SMALL said, that much more attention was paid to the comfort of the officials than to the wants of the starving poor; and it was incumbent on the Government to put some pressure upon the Boards of Guardians, in order to make them give outdoor relief.

Question put.

The Committee *divided*:—Ayes 19; Noes 53: Majority 34.—(Div. List, No. 301.)

Original Question put, and agreed to.

(5.) £32,262, to complete the sum for the Public Works' Office, Ireland.

MR. PARNELL said, this was a Vote which covered a very wide field; it was of great importance to those who were interested in Ireland, and there were many questions in connection with it, which hon. Members on those Benches desired to bring under the notice of the Committee. It might be said that, of all the Boards in Dublin, the business of this Board both from an engineering and economic point of view was worse managed than any other; but, important as the Vote was, and wide as was the field which it covered, at that period of the Session he did not think they would be justified in doing that which, under other circumstances, would undoubtedly have been their duty—namely, to criticize the administration of the Board, and to suggest the remedies which they believed should be applied to the abuses which existed in connection with it. It would be well if the Irish Government could find time, amidst the absorbing occupation of restoring law and order in Ireland, to develop the resources of the country, and to look after the permanent officials who had control of the working of these Boards; but he would not detain the Committee by going into that question. They were disposed to allow the Vote to pass, not because there were no crying abuses in connection with it, but

because it was Saturday evening, and very late in the Session.

MR. COURTNEY said, he agreed with some of the remarks of the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) concerning the defective management of the business of the Office of Works, Ireland. He would point out that a Bill had been introduced, with the object of remedying the defects complained of, which he regretted it had been found impossible to pass that Session.

MR. HEALY said, he had one question to put to the hon. Gentleman the Secretary to the Treasury, with respect to the Bill he had just alluded to. His information was, that the Bill had been blocked by some Conservative Gentlemen below the Gangway, at the request of a certain Member of the Board of Works. He would ask the hon. Gentleman, with regard to Colonel M'Kerlie, who it was understood would retire about the month of June or July, and who he regretted to see was still at the Office, whether this delay was due to any question of pension.

MR. COURTNEY, in reply, said, no question of pension was involved that he was aware of?

Vote agreed to.

(6.) £3,708, to complete the sum for the Record Office, Ireland.

MR. HEALY said, he was sorry to see that a question had been raised, both with regard to the publication and price of copies of the Irish manuscripts. He trusted, however, that the Government would not allow themselves to be intimidated by two or three Gentlemen from Ireland, with regard to the production of these most interesting documents, which, as they were now being prepared, were a credit to the compiler, and a credit to the State; because he (Mr. Healy) was satisfied that any reasonable amount of money spent upon them would not be thrown away. There was a strong argument in favour of the Government continuing to give Mr. Gilbert sufficient assistance in his work. The price of the manuscripts was £5 5s.; and, if only, say 50 copies were printed, the dealers would soon get hold of them, and run them up to fancy prices in a very short time, and therefore he hoped they would, with Government assistance,

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continue to be printed and brought out in large numbers.

Vote agreed to.

(7.) £9,261, to complete the sum for the Registrar General's Office, Ireland.

(8.) Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That a sum, not exceeding £13,385, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the Salaries and Expenses of the General Valuation and Boundary Survey of Ireland."

MR. HEALY said, he would ask whether the item for salary under this Vote was a payment to that noted pluralist, Mr. George Bolton, whose name was to be found in connection with almost every Public Office in Ireland? Mr. Bolton, amongst his other offices, held those of Crown Solicitor for Tipperary, Crown Prosecutor in Dublin; he was down at Sligo as Crown Prosecutor, and now he turned up as Solicitor to the Boundary Survey Commissioners. It would not surprise him (Mr. Healy) to see Mr. Bolton's name some day connected with an expedition to the North Pole. Why did the same man get everything in Ireland? Were there no other officials worth anything? What was the meaning of this £400? Why Mr. George Bolton should get £400 from the Boundary Survey Office, he could not understand. Upon whose recommendation did Mr. George Bolton receive this appointment, and would the hon. Gentleman the Secretary to the Treasury say how much Mr. George Bolton got from the State?

MR. COURTNEY, in reply, said, he was not in a position to answer the last question. Mr. Bolton was the Solicitor to the Boundary Survey Department. He held that office in 1875, and he had continued to hold it ever since.

MR. CALLAN said, he would ask what Mr. Bolton's duties were? Perhaps the chaste and virtuous George Bolton's special friend, the Attorney General for Ireland (Mr. Porter), would say what duties the chaste and virtuous George Bolton performed for £400 a-year? For the purpose of getting an explanation, he would move that the Vote be reduced by £400, which was the amount of the salary paid to the chaste and virtuous Mr. George Bolton.

Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That a sum, not exceeding £12,385, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, for the Salaries and Expenses of the General Valuation and Boundary Survey of Ireland."—(Mr. Callan.)

MR. KENNY asked the Secretary to the Treasury, when it was proposed to give effect to the Report of the Borough Boundary Commission, which was published about 12 months ago?

MR. COURTNEY said, he could give no information on that point, but would make inquiries.

MR. HEALY said, this was an extremely unsatisfactory state of things. There were a few gentlemen who were in great favour at Dublin Castle, and, of late, these gentlemen had been pitchforked into all the snug appointments at the disposal of the Government. Formerly, Matthew Anderson discharged the duties of Crown Solicitor for the City of Dublin for £1,500 a-year; but now there were five Crown Solicitors—namely, Matthew Anderson, Samuel Lee Anderson, George Bolton, Alexander Murphy, and William Lane Joynt, and they cost the State £5,000. The hon. Gentleman the Secretary to the Treasury appeared to think it was sufficient to say, in answer to the questions put in regard to Mr. George Bolton's connection with the Boundary Survey Office, that Mr. George Bolton had held the appointment for several years. Mr. Bolton could not have any work to do as Solicitor to the Boundary Survey Office, because, since his appointment to that position, he had been pitchforked into other important offices. It was desirable the Committee should know that the chief supporter and backer of Mr. George Bolton was the right hon. and learned Attorney General for Ireland (Mr. Porter). Perhaps the right hon. and learned Gentleman, who must know something of the habits and confidences of Mr. George Bolton, the pluralist, would say how often the gentleman visited the Valuation Office? Of course, if they did not receive some satisfactory explanation, they must divide the Committee.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) said, he never appointed Mr. Bolton to any office. Mr. Bolton was an officer discharging certain duties under other Votes, and as re-

garded the present Vote, he believed Mr. Bolton had held the post of Solicitor to the Boundary Survey Department for upwards of 20 years, and that he had saved the public upwards of £4,000 in fees during each of those years.

Mr. HEALY said, that if Mr. Bolton had saved the country £4,000 a-year, it was evident that, in times past, £4,000 a-year had been absolutely thrown away. Mr. Bolton must have little to do in connection with the Boundary Survey Office, because the right hon. and learned Gentleman was able to send him down the country for weeks and weeks together. The office of Solicitor to the Boundary Survey Department was evidently a sinecure; and, therefore, he and his hon. Friends must put the Committee to the trouble of dividing.

Question put.

The Committee divided:—Ayes 18; Noes 51: Majority 33.—(Div. List, No. 302.)

Original Question put, and agreed to.

ARMY ESTIMATES.

(9.) £311,000, Medical Establishments.

SIR HENRY FLETCHER said, in the first place, it would be well if he were to ask the noble Marquess the Secretary of State for War (the Marquess of Hartington), what course he meant to take with regard to the Report of the Medical Committee which sat to inquire into the various medical questions which arose out of the Egyptian War? He was desirous that the Committee should receive the assurance that no great change would be made during the Recess, or before Parliament had had an opportunity of considering the Report in question. At present, in the absence of such an assurance, there were one or two matters connected with the Medical Establishment generally in the Army, which he wished to bring under the notice of the noble Marquess. As a matter of fact, this was the only opportunity he and his hon. Friends, who were greatly interested in the Medical Services of the Army, had had, since the Egyptian Campaign, of calling the attention of Parliament to those Services as carried out during that campaign. In the Departmental Committee, presided over by Lord Morley, there was a great difference of opinion as to the Medical Ser-

vices during the Egyptian Campaign; but there was generally a strong feeling that the present medical system in the Army was not altogether satisfactory. Up till a few years ago, there was a regimental system which, in his opinion, and he served under it, was thoroughly satisfactory. Now, however, the regimental system had been abolished. He had the authority of several officers holding high positions, and who gave evidence before Lord Morley's Committee, for saying it was most desirable that a regimental system for the Medical Service or, at any rate, a semi-regimental system should be established. With the permission of the Committee, he would allude to one or two points in the evidence given before Lord Morley's Committee. Major General Hawley, and the hon. and gallant Gentleman the Member for Berkshire (Colonel Sir Robert Loyd-Lindsay), who was not now present, owing to ill-health, dissented from the existing system. The regimental system was one which the officers in the Army, from the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief downwards, were unanimously in favour of continuing. They had also the evidence of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, who commanded the Brigade of Guards in the late campaign, and they had the opinion of Lord Wolseley, who was General Officer commanding the troops in Egypt, all in the same direction. Lord Wolseley, in Answer 6,307, said—

“According to the old system, a man went to his own regimental officer, and the medical officer of the regiment, having a direct interest in his regiment, took care he did not have malingering in the hospital under his command.”

Under the present system, there was great difficulty in ascertaining whether there was any malingering amongst the men of a regiment. He (Sir Henry Fletcher) had had experience of the old Line regiments, and he well remembered that the regimental doctor was the best friend, not only to the officers, but also to the men. He did not intend to propose that the old system should be adopted, of two regimental doctors in each regiment; but he did wish to propose that a system should be established, in accordance with the evidence which had been given before Lord Morley's Committee by His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke of Con-

naught, Lord Wolseley, General Lysons, who, he regretted to say, had just retired from active service, and other eminent officers. All those officers were in favour of a medical officer being attached for a certain number of years to each regiment in Her Majesty's Service. A large mass of evidence was given by every description of officer and non-commissioned officer, and by privates; but if hon. Members would only take the trouble to wade through it, they would be amply repaid by the knowledge they would gain. It was given in evidence that one battalion of the Rifle Brigade was quartered for 14 months at the Curragh Camp; and, during that time, 13 medical officers were attached to the regiment. Under such circumstances, how could any non-commissioned officer or private have any confidence in the medical officer, or how could the medical officer have any feeling towards the men? The old regimental system was an expensive one, and, no doubt, he would be told by the noble Marquess, or by one of the hon. Gentlemen associated with the noble Marquess at the War Office, that it would be impossible to revert to the old system on account of the expense. He (Sir Henry Fletcher) was aware that the old system cost the country something like £22,000 a-year, and he did not suppose the Committee would sanction such an expenditure for the sake of returning to the regimental system. He did, however, earnestly trust that some means would be taken to revert to a semi-regimental system, and that, in accordance with the evidence given before Lord Morley's Committee, at least one regimental officer would be appointed to each regiment in Her Majesty's Service for a period of not less than five years. The system prevailing amongst the Household troops was entirely different to that existing in the Line battalions. In the Household troops, the regimental system had, to a certain extent, existed up to the present moment, although certain changes had been made during the past few years. Formerly, the medical officers were attached to Her Majesty's Household troops for a certain number of years; in fact, they held the office until they were superannuated, either by age or promotion; and, at the present moment, there were two medical officers attached to each regiment of the House-

hold troops. One of the Members of Lord Morley's Committee, Sir John M'Cormack, had made an addition to his remarks in the Report, and that addition was to the effect that the medical officers of the Household troops should be placed on the same footing as the medical officers of other regiments; that there should be one general Staff in London for the Household troops—that, in fact—for it amounted to nothing else—the present good feeling existing between the medical officers and the troops should be done away with. He (Sir Henry Fletcher) begged to assure the Committee that the system now prevailing in the Household regiments had worked well; and he trusted the noble Marquess at the head of the War Office would not do anything to carry out the suggestion of Sir John M'Cormack, before an opportunity had been afforded of thoroughly satisfying not only Parliament, but the country generally, that the existing arrangements were perfectly satisfactory. He knew it was said that the medical officers in the Guards were not brought into contact with the other medical officers throughout the Service; but the medical officers of Her Majesty's Household troops were quite satisfied with the existing arrangements. They had certainly not the means of obtaining that rapid promotion which others in the Medical Department had; but he believed he was right in saying there had not been any complaint whatever made by the medical officers in the Guards on that account. It might also be urged that there was a difficulty with regard to detachments of the Household troops being sent away from London; but, for years and years past, detachments of the Household troops had been sent away from London, and there had been no difficulty at all in carrying out the medical arrangements connected with the regiments forming the detachments. There was another matter he ought to bring prominently before the Committee, a matter with regard to which he gave a Notice some few weeks ago. Up to within a short time, the Foot Guards had their own free hospitals; but, owing to arrangements made by the War Office, those free hospitals had been taken away from the three regiments. The hospitals were kept up by a private fund, collected and managed by the officers, and he gave

Notice the other day, that, if something or other was not settled in regard to those hospitals, he should feel obliged to bring the matter before the Committee. Up to yesterday nothing had been settled. Both for the sake of the officers of the Foot Guards, and also for the sake of the War Office authorities, it was very desirable the question should be settled. The hospital belonging to the Grenadier Guards was freehold property, and its value was something like £16,000. The hospitals of the Coldstreams and Scots Guards were leasehold. There was, however, a considerable money value attached to them. The hospitals had been taken away from the commanding officers commanding the Guards, and handed over to the Medical Department, they were supplied by orderlies of the Army Hospital Corps, instead of by orderlies connected with the Brigade of Guards. The question was exciting some curiosity, and it was as well that it should at once be set at rest, one way or the other. Reverting to the medical arrangements during the Egyptian Campaign, he wished to point out that Lord Wolseley had said, when he gave his evidence before Lord Morley's Committee, that he did not know it was the fact that the hospital which he supposed was the base hospital at Ismailia was the base hospital. They had it in evidence that the field hospitals in Egypt were not up to the mark at the commencement of the campaign. They also had it in evidence that it was most desirable that in future campaigns all field hospitals and the base hospital should be dieting hospitals. It was given in evidence that wounded cases were sent down from Kassassin and the various minor engagements which took place previous to Tel-el-Kebir, and that, when they arrived at Ismailia, no matter what time of the night it might be, they were not able to obtain any refreshment. The answer they received was—"You have come from the front; you were rationed this morning; you arrive here at 10 o'clock at night, and you ought to have brought your rations with you." Could it be expected that a wounded or sick soldier, when about to cross the desert of Egypt to the hospital, 22 miles away, should think of asking for rations to take with him? It was very plain also, that the men who were sent from the

front did not receive the attention which ought to have been paid them. He did not blame the medical officers, and he would not make a charge against the medical officers at the base hospital at Ismailia. The red-tapeism of the War Office was responsible for what happened in Egypt. The medical officers were supposed to ask for everything they wanted from the Commissariat, and the Commissariat maintained that the medical officers did not ask for what they wanted. This brought them face to face with the simple question—Was the medical officer to be in sole charge of the hospital, which Lord Wolseley, in his evidence, said he was, or was he, whenever he required anything, to go through an absurd system of red-tapeism to the detriment, probably, of an exhausted man lying in hospital? There was one other matter he would ask the noble Marquess and the hon. and gallant Gentleman beside him to inquire into. Under the present system, a medical officer was the responsible head in the hospital. It was quite right he should be the responsible being, with regard to the tending and nursing and doctoring of the sick; but he (Sir Henry Fletcher) would suggest—and he did so in consequence of the evidence given before the Committee—that a military commandant should have charge of the discipline of the Army Hospital Corps. A medical officer had quite enough to do to look after the sick and wounded; indeed, Sir John Hanbury himself said—

"It was perfectly impossible for me to carry out all the clerical duties which were supposed to be carried out by me under the existing arrangements."

Furthermore, the conditions of the Army Hospital Corps was not altogether satisfactory. The corps was not recruited from the right sources. The men were picked up in the streets of London. Such was not formerly the case, because the corps was made up of men picked out of the ranks of the Army. He submitted that the men forming the hospital corps should, at least, have an idea of plain nursing; in fact, previous to joining the corps they should be taught the duties of nurses and of trained orderlies. Arrangements should also be made whereby the men should know something of cookery; for it was given in evidence, that the cook-

Sir Henry Fletcher

ing arrangements in the Medical Department were anything but satisfactory. Lord Wolseley gave it in evidence, that he went to Cairo three weeks after the troops had taken up their position there; and, in going to the hospital, he asked the principal medical officer what were the arrangements for cooking. The medical officer showed him some trenches in the garden. Lord Wolseley said—"Are these the only arrangements you have made?" And the doctor said they were. "But have not the men in hospital had a baked pudding yet?" asked Lord Wolseley. The medical officer replied—"Oh, no; we have just beef or mutton, or whatever comes." As a matter of fact, the men in hospital during the Egyptian Campaign had no comforts. He trusted that investigation might be made into the Army Hospital Corps, and that the arrangements for training the men might be greatly improved; for the proper tending of the sick and wounded in any campaign was most essential.

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, he did not rise for the purpose of following the hon. and gallant Gentleman (Sir Henry Fletcher) into all the observations he had made upon the evidence given before Lord Morley's Committee; but, if necessary, he would do so by-and-bye. It might, however, save time if he were to answer at once the first question which the hon. and gallant Gentleman put to him. The hon. and gallant Member asked what course the Government proposed to take with regard to the recommendations of Lord Morley's Committee? He (the Marquess of Hartington) stated, the other day, in answer to the hon. Member for the North Riding (Mr. Guy Dawnay), that Lord Morley's Committee had made a variety of important recommendations upon a large number of subjects. As soon as possible after the Recess, it was proposed that those recommendations should be considered as to what extent they should be adopted. He could not pledge himself further, because the responsibility must ultimately rest with the Government, and not with the House of Commons. At the same time, considering that the House had not had an opportunity this Session of discussing the recommendations of the Committee, it was right that he should undertake that no important changes

should be made during the Recess. They would not come into operation before the House had had an opportunity of discussing them.

COLONEL MILNE-HOME said, he could not but express regret that the discussion on this, one of the most important Votes in the Army Estimates, should have been postponed until half-past 8 o'clock on a Saturday evening, on the 18th of August. Considering the experience he had had in Egypt recently, he should have been glad to have taken that opportunity of entering into the various particulars dealt with in the Report of the Committee, which was a very bulky one. He, however, would refrain from doing so, chiefly in consequence of the statement which had just been made by the noble Marquess. Not only was it the evident desire of the Government, but the "evident sense" of the House—as the emptiness of the Benches showed—that no discussion should take place on this occasion; therefore, he should defer what little he had to say until the discussion took place on the Motion of the hon. Member to which the noble Marquess had just now alluded. He certainly begged to tender to the noble Marquess his thanks, on behalf of the Household Cavalry, for the statement he had just now made. They had been dreading, as the result of the recommendations of the Committee, that their system would be assimilated to that of the Regular Army. Their medical system, he need not tell the noble Lord, was purely regimental—it was more regimental than that of the Brigade of Guards—and it worked so far as they, the regimental officers, thought, efficiently—and satisfactorily. He was therefore—without expressing any opinion at this moment as to the advisability of assimilating the Household Cavalry to the Line, or the Line to the Household Cavalry—glad that no steps were to be taken to interfere with their Medical Service before Parliament met again.

MR. ACLAND said, he was sorry to take up the time of the Committee; but there were two or three points which he had special reasons to desire an explanation of. One was, whether it was intended to continue, and, if so, on what ground, the present arrangement, by which—as was stated in *The Times*, on Friday, the 7th of August, when prizes

were distributed at Netley to the successful surgeons who went up for the purpose of gaining commissions in the Army Medical Department—the candidates would not have the work which they did at Netley counted with reference to their place in the examination; whereas those who went up for the Indian examination did have the work counted? He was anxious to know whether that system was to be continued, and whether there was to be a distinction between the medical work for the Indian and that for the English Army? The other question he had to ask was, whether it was intended to continue the present system, by which the Commandant at Netley was a military instead of a medical officer? The hon. Member for West Aberdeenshire (Dr. Farquharson) had a Motion on the Paper to reduce the Vote by the amount of that officer's salary; but that hon. Member was not now present. He (Mr. Acland) should like to know whether it was intended to continue that military officer at the head of the Netley Establishment, or not? He should like to know, further, whether, next Session, it would be possible for them to have some development of the scheme for training men for the Army Hospital Corps; and whether it would not be possible to give them some kind of indoor duty, so that the men would not regard the ward duty as they did now—namely, with aversion, and as a function which they would do all in their power to escape?

COLONEL ALEXANDER said, he considered that the time at which that Vote was brought on was singularly inconvenient and inopportune. The whole question of hospital management and nursing in the field was of such vast importance relatively, as bearing on the health and efficiency of the troops, that it ought not to be relegated to that late period of the Session, or submitted to the criticism of a weary and jaded House. He felt that it would be idle and unprofitable for him to detain the Committee at that hour with any lengthened reiteration of the accusations bandied about between the officers of the Army Medical Department on the one hand, and the Combatant Authorities on the other, with reference to the medical conduct of the Campaign in Egypt. Like all other human insti-

tutions, no doubt, the Army Medical Department sometimes fall into error; and, no doubt, some of its officers might not always have exhibited the zeal which characterized the Service as a whole. However that might be; of the general body he might say that it had highly merited the commendation bestowed upon it by Lord Wolesley in those now familiar terse words—

“The Army Medical Department, under Surgeon General Hanbury, C.B., did all they possibly could have done for the care and comfort of the sick and wounded.”

That put the case, so far as regarded the Medical Department of the Army in Egypt, in a nutshell. It was not necessary to go beyond the words of that despatch of Lord Wolesley in that matter. As to the system, the Report of Lord Morley's Committee certainly disclosed some grievous shortcomings, which had been brought prominently before the notice of Lord Wolesley. Lord Wolesley, then Sir Garnet, was a man in authority, and would naturally do all in his power to bring about, as far as possible, an improvement. He would, therefore, require all information bearing on the efficiency of this branch of the Service to be submitted to him. One of the first things that struck one in perusing the Report was the faulty organization of the Army Hospital Corps, to which the hon. Member opposite (Mr. Acland) had just now referred. That corps was raised some seven or eight years ago; but the Service, in this respect, had not yet been placed on a proper footing. At the time of the outbreak of the campaign in Egypt, the corps was below its full strength, and if hostilities had continued, it would have been found necessary to send out an additional Bearer Company, which it would be necessary to select from the Militia and the Militia Reserve—that was to say, of entirely untrained men, so far as regarded hospital management. Even during the short campaign in Egypt, 90 men of the Field Hospital Corps sent to the seat of war consisted of volunteers from the First Class Army Reserve, and their places at home were supplied by 158 men also belonging to the Reserve. Of these latter, the Report said that they were on the whole as useful as untrained men could possibly be, which was certainly not saying much. Of the 90 men belonging to the First Class

Mr. Acland

Army Reserve, who were sent to the seat of war, some behaved in a most disgraceful manner. They were indeed worse than useless. It was bad enough when, in the Army, they found themselves saddled with inefficient men; but it was ten times worse, of course, when those inefficient men turned out bad characters into the bargain. There had been little or no time to examine the papers of the men. What was wanted for the Army Hospital Corps was, that it should be extended so as to give it a sufficiently large Army Reserve of its own, and, as the hon. and gallant Member for Horsham (Sir Henry Fletcher) had said, it would be well for that branch of the Service were it more largely recruited from the ranks than was at present the case. The evidence given before the Committee was to the effect that old soldiers were among the most useful and efficient nurses. And then, as to the drill of the Army Hospital Corps, with all due respect to the opinion of Lord Wolseley, he (Colonel Alexander) could not agree with him as to the time which would suffice for drilling a civilian. He did not believe that a week's drill was sufficient. He maintained that the men required a certain amount of company drill. Moreover, they required to be trained as bearers, and it was necessary that they should have a certain amount of club drill in order to strengthen their muscles and develop their chests. Furthermore, it was necessary that all members of the Army Hospital Corps should know how to cook; and not only to cook for men in health, but, what was more difficult than that, to cook for invalids. It was given in evidence, on this point, that, at present, there was no training in cooking for the men, and that they therefore had to pick up their knowledge of cooking as best they could. The British soldier, in this respect, was not like a French soldier, a born cook and, consequently, the cooking the English soldier would pick up would not be likely to be of a very useful character. Miss Lloyd, one of the female nurses, had given evidence distinctly to the effect that the cooking in the British Army hospitals was extremely bad. The Committee—those who had studied the Blue Book—would not perhaps be surprised to hear that the matter to which least attention was paid in the

Army Hospital Corps was that of nursing; indeed, that it was positively discouraged. It was discouraged in this way. In addition to their daily pay all the men in the Army Hospital Corps received what was called "departmental pay," and the amount of that which was allotted to men who volunteered as orderlies or nurses was less than that given to men who officiated as cooks or clerks, so that there was positively no inducement whatever for men to acquire a knowledge of the important duty of nursing, but rather the reverse. That appeared to him a very grave fault in our system, particularly as it was given in evidence by the female nurses, that it was impossible to dispense altogether with the services of men as orderlies or nurses. It was also said that many patients in minor cases preferred to be nursed by men rather than women, although, no doubt, in the graver cases it was important that women should be employed. He was glad that the Committee recommended that the Army Hospital Corps should be allowed the opportunity of practising with war equipments during the time of peace; and it was to be hoped that the noble Marquess (the Marquess of Hartington) would take into consideration the desirability of, at any rate, adopting this recommendation of the Committee. Were it not for the admissions of the Army Medical Department officials, it would be hardly credible that the field hospital was never mobilized by any chance in time of peace, and that the medical officers had thus no opportunity whatever of learning how to pack and unpack, and of seeing how a field hospital was worked in time of war. There was one recommendation which he was glad to hear, from the declaration of the noble Marquess, he was not prepared to carry out at present—namely, the assimilation of the Medical Service of the Guards to that of the rest of the Army. As everyone knew, the present system of the Army was departmental, and it had been shown that the departmental system had entirely broken down. Various General and Field officers, including, as the hon. and gallant Member for Horsham (Sir Henry Fletcher) had said, Lord Wolseley and Sir Daniel Lysons, had all, with one accord, condemned the present or departmental system. Lord Wolseley,

especially, told the Committee that, under the old regimental system, every medical officer knew his men, and consequently had no malingers in his hospital, and that one of the greatest difficulties with which they had to contend under the present departmental system was that of malingering. It was urged that the present departmental system should have a fair trial, and he (Colonel Alexander) had no objection whatever to that. Only let them wait to see whether it succeeded before they deprived the Guards of their present regimental system. One of the greatest objections to keeping up the regimental system in the Army had been the difficulty of keeping up the foreign roster; but that did not apply to the Guards, because they did not take their turn on foreign service with the rest of the Army. Some of the medical officers of the Guards, who were examined before the Committee, said they desired to see the medical officers in the Guards doing duty at station hospitals. That would get rid of the difficulty which was stated to exist through their, at present, having no large practice. If they did duty at station hospitals, that difficulty would at once disappear. That was the system adopted in the German Army. A Staff officer of the German Army had given evidence before the Committee, and had pointed out that, in the German Army, the system was entirely regimental and not departmental, and that the medical officers of the German Army were regimental medical officers who did duty in the station hospitals. He was glad the noble Marquess had given an assurance that, for the present, at any rate, he would not alter the system which, hitherto, had been found to work so well in the Guards.

Dr. LYONS said, that, at that hour, it would be a mistake to attempt to go more than briefly into the subjects mentioned in the Blue Book. Next year they would have a better opportunity of going into the matter. A good deal of dissatisfaction had been created amongst the medical officers of the Army; but, without going into detail, he might say that the noble Marquess the Secretary of State (the Marquess of Hartington), on a former occasion, in a few handsome and generous words, had created a feeling of great satisfaction, by his recognition of the services of the Army Medical

Department. As to the subject of nurses, that was one of a very important character. He (Dr. Lyons) was not so sure that a solution of the difficulty was not offered in the Blue Book—namely, that, in future campaigns, they must look for more assistance from persons of the other sex of a superior character. He was not, himself, a great believer in making men nurses. Though very humane and useful work, nursing was not, after all, a work in which men could win much distinction, or show that energy which might naturally be expected from them. Therefore, he thought it was rather in some judicious extension of the system of female nurses, or, at all events, female hospital attendants and subordinates, that the system could be improved. He did not think they would be able to arrive at a solution of the question, except in that direction, and he spoke with some experience on the matter. He would like to call the noble Marquess's attention to one other point. The noble Marquess had shown that he fully appreciated the fine feelings with which the Army Medical Service was actuated. In their struggles for proper recognition, he knew they had been influenced by feelings of the highest character. They were men of the highest scientific attainments; they devoted their lives, in all circumstances of great difficulty and danger, to the work of their profession—very often they had added to the special dangers they had to encounter in their own profession the dangers encountered by combatant officers, but without a chance of the distinctions of that branch. Medical officers were as much, or very nearly as much, exposed to risk from bullets as from disease. There was one point—he would only just briefly mention it—which touched them very deeply, and on which they had, over and over again, made representations to him and to the hon. and gallant Gentleman opposite; he meant that invidious distinction by which the children of medical officers were not eligible for Queen's cadetships. That was a distinction which put them in a position of great inferiority, and always caused heart-burning, and a feeling of great dissatisfaction amongst gentlemen who had served Her Majesty in all parts of the world, and had given their best energies to the Service, and who

Colonel Alexander

found, when their children grew up, that they were in an inferior position to the children of other officers. He (Dr. Lyons) was quite sure, from the generous spirit the noble Marquess had all through exhibited, that he would fully recognize the hardship in this case. The point was one which must come home to every one of them who had children—when it was known that they were put in a position of inferiority. He would ask the noble Marquess particularly to bear this point in mind; for he (Dr. Lyons) had no doubt it, along with some other matters, was quite capable of being adjusted. If it were adjusted, it would give the highest satisfaction to the Medical branch of the Service.

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, the discussion of the Report of Lord Morley's Committee had better be postponed until the action the Government proposed to take upon it, was brought forward in the early part of next year. He would say just a word or two by way of briefly replying to hon. Gentlemen who had addressed the Committee. As to the departmental and regimental systems, he had carefully examined all the evidence in the Report on the subject, and though he did not deny that the regimental system was still preferred by military men, still he failed to see that there was anything in connection with the campaign in Egypt which, in the slightest degree, impugned the efficiency of the present system, or pointed to the desirability of returning to the regimental system. Several officers were examined, and expressed their preference for the old system; but none of the evidence which was given bore, in any degree, on the medical conduct of the campaign. It was shown, over and over again, that, during war, we could only have a regimental system to a very small extent. All serious cases had always to be brought to field hospitals. He failed to see, in any part of the Report, any proof that the present system had had an evil effect during the campaign in Egypt. It was acknowledged that there had been some shortcomings during the campaign, otherwise the Committee would not have been appointed. The object of the Committee had not been to investigate the conduct of particular individuals, but to ascertain how the organization and administration could

be improved. The Committee would observe that a considerable portion of the recommendations of the Report was devoted to the question of improving the Army Hospital Corps. The hon. and gallant Gentleman the Member for South Ayrshire (Colonel Alexander) had recommended the adoption of a Reserve. It was impossible, in times of peace, to keep idle a force of the Army Hospital Corps sufficient to deal with a great war; but he agreed that every effort should be made for increasing, as rapidly as possible, the Reserve of the corps. They could not, of course, have two corps in existence—one only to be called on in the event of war. Attention had been drawn to the medical conduct of the Egyptian Campaign. Well, it was only necessary to read the Report, in order to see what the result of the medical attendance was. They could not but be struck with the small proportion of deaths in comparison with the number of wounded, and the absence of cases of hospital diseases, such as blood-poisoning and injury to eyesight. That showed that, although there might have been some discomfort and inconvenience, and some want of care in certain details of the profession, still the main object—namely, the preservation of life and the cure of disease—was successfully carried out. He believed, in fact, there never was a campaign in which the medical part of the work had been more successfully carried out than it had been during the recent campaign in Egypt. If that was the fact—and the fact spoke for itself—it showed that there could not not have been any considerable want of care or knowledge on the part of the medical officers. A question had been asked by the hon. Member near him (Dr. Lyons) as to the exclusion of some medical officers—or, rather, their sons—from the privilege afforded to the sons of officers of the Army of becoming Queen's cadets. Whether that exclusion was right or wrong, he could assure the hon. Member that it had not been come to with the intention of placing the children of the non-combatant officers in a position of inferiority. The number of Queen's cadetships was limited, and it would be unfortunate if the number open to the sons of combatant officers were diminished. But that was not the only reason for the exclusion of the sons of medical officers. The object of the cadet-

ships was that the sons of deserving combatant officers might be trained at Sandhurst to the profession their fathers had followed before them—that these officers might easily and naturally train up their sons to follow their profession. The same reasons did not hold good in the case of the medical officers—they could not be trained there to the profession of their fathers. They would have to attend a different Institution altogether to learn that profession. That was one of the reasons why it had been hitherto held that the medical officers had not the same claim for the Queen's cadetships that the combatant officers had. At any rate, there was no intention of inflicting any stigma on the medical officers.

SIR HENRY FLETCHER said, he should like to point out to the noble Marquess that there was evidence in the Blue Book against the departmental system. He had not cared to trouble the Committee with reading the evidence; but he should be willing to do so if it was desired.

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, he did not mean to say that there was no evidence to that effect in the Blue Book. What he had said was that the evidence in favour of the regimental system was not directly connected with the experience of the campaign. As to the head authority at Netley, no decision had yet been arrived at. The Committee had recommended that, in cases of large hospitals, there should be one responsible man in charge, who should be a medical officer. He (the Marquess of Hartington) thought that was the right principle to go upon; but he must say that great objection had been taken to that arrangement by some of the military authorities, and some difficulties had been pointed out. There were a great number of both officers and men employed in connection with these hospitals who did not belong to the Medical Department. There might be some difficulty in settling this question, and he could not actually say what the arrangement would be in the future, although he did not think a military commandant like the present would be appointed.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR said, he had heard the statement of the noble Marquess opposite (the Marquess of Hartington) as to the Guards' hospital

with some disappointment, because he (Mr. Arthur O'Connor) was anxious to hear the details of the arrangement which had been proposed. He was in hopes of hearing that the interests of the public, as distinct from the interests of the Brigade, would have been carefully safeguarded both by the Department and the Treasury. That, he was afraid, would not be the case in the present instance. The Committee might not be aware of it; but, as a matter of fact, in connection with the hospital of the Guards, there had existed for a great number of years one of the grossest scandals and one of the grossest jobs which had ever been perpetrated in the Public Service. There was a certain arrangement made in the Brigade of Guards many years ago—going back to the end of the last century—by which a reduction in the pay of the men provided for the hospital and recruiting services was brought about. As time went on, certain modifications were introduced into the system, until the time of the Crimean War, when Lord Panmure consented to a temporary arrangement, by which the Guards were to receive some thousands a-year to cover these two services, until further inquiry and definite arrangement could be made with regard to them. But that further inquiry never took place, and from the year 1853, he thought, until quite recently, the Brigade of Guards was in receipt, through the Army Estimates, of a sum of over £13,000 a-year. This sum was handed over on the original understanding that the Guards were to provide for their hospital and recruiting services; but, as a matter of fact, they did not provide for either the one or the other. The hospital service was provided for by means of hospital stoppages, and certain other classes of incomes; and the recruiting service was entirely provided for, independent of the Stock Purse Fund, as it was called. It was true the Stock Purse Fund figures were mixed up with the recruiting and hospital figures; but, as a matter of fact, although the Brigade of Guards received this £13,000 a-year to cover the services he had mentioned, those services were practically paid for out of public money, obtained in an indirect manner. It was claimed all through this time by the Guards that these hospitals they had erected, and which were

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used for the soldiers, were their own—that they belonged to the Brigade; but that was a manoeuvre. The public money they had been drawing from year to year was a great deal more than would have bought out the hospitals several times over. As he saw the noble Marquess was only remaining in the House until he (Mr. Arthur O'Connor) had finished his remarks, he would not detain the Committee on this point any longer. The principal reason why he had risen to address the Committee had been to refer to an answer which the noble Marquess had made to him the other day with regard to the vaccination question. He (Mr. Arthur O'Connor) had brought under the notice of the noble Marquess the case of certain men who were vaccinated in Holland, and who were, through that vaccination, poisoned, so that some of them were rendered exceedingly ill, and some of them died. In consequence of that, the Netherlands Parliament insisted on compulsory vaccination in the Netherlands Army being abolished, and a Circular to that effect was issued. He (Mr. Arthur O'Connor) had asked the noble Marquess if he had information in regard to it, and the noble Marquess said he had not, but had promised to make inquiries. He had also said that he had no intention to put a stop to compulsory vaccination in the Army; and as to the provision under which he, as Secretary of State, claimed to be enabled to compel vaccination or re-vaccination in the Army, the noble Marquess had given no answer at all—which necessitated a further inquiry. Subsequently, the noble Marquess had said that the medical regulations prescribed compulsory vaccination; but that was no answer to the question asked, because the medical regulations could not possibly be of higher authority than the Secretary of State himself; and what he (Mr. Arthur O'Connor) had wanted to elicit was the authority under which the Secretary of State, whether by Regulations, or Circular, or other means of communication with medical authorities, claimed the right to compel vaccination. Well, he (Mr. Arthur O'Connor) had referred to the medical regulations, which were in effect that every recruit, without further exemption, should be vaccinated on joining the dépôt to which he belonged, unless the operation was certified to have been

performed successfully subsequently to enlistment. The medical list of every regiment was to furnish records as to the vaccination or re-vaccination that would take place where there was no statement to that effect. Then, he had further inquired from the noble Marquess what authority the Secretary of State had for issuing such a Regulation as that, and the noble Marquess had referred him to the 14th section, paragraph 14, of the Queen's Regulations—

“Medical officers doing duty with the troops will, in all medical and sanitary duties, be guided by the Army Medical Regulations, and by such instructions as they may, from time to time, receive from the principal medical officers of the district.”

The noble Marquess claimed that those words justified the medical regulations he had quoted, and on which he took his stand, the force of the Queen's Regulations themselves. What he (Mr. Arthur O'Connor) wanted to point out to the Committee was that, after all, there was in that no more answer, no more force, no more argument, no more ground than there was in the first response. These Regulations were issued by the Secretary of State. The Queen's Regulations were, he would not say issued by the Secretary of State, but, at any rate, the Secretary of State derived, either from the State, or from the Crown, what authority he possessed. The noble Marquess would not dispute that his authority was either derived from the State, or from the instruments of his appointment. With regard to the Statutory authority, it must be derived from Acts passed with reference to the Master General of the Ordnance, or to the Secretary of State for War, or the Office into which these two appointments had been blended, and which the noble Marquess now occupied. In no single Act of Parliament, however, relating to these high Offices, could a single word be produced on which could be grounded this claim on the part of the Secretary of State to enforce compulsory vaccination. The most recent measure was the Army Act of 1881; but there was not one single word in that Act—just as there was not one single word in the Mutiny Act—on which such a preposterous claim could be based. There was no Statutory authority for this claim—nothing in the batch of appointments to which he had referred. There

was no mention of any such power; and, even if there were, the Secretary of State would possess no such power, because the Crown, which conveyed power—that was the power of the Prerogative itself—did not possess the right to compel men to be vaccinated against their will. It would be a most extraordinary thing, if they were informed that the Crown had an inherent right to compel any subject, military or civil, to submit to a surgical operation against his will. He (Mr. Arthur O'Connor) wondered what the public in this country, or in any other country, would say, if it were suddenly made known that the execution of circumcision were to be revived at the will of the Crown, whatever ground might be alleged for it. The thing would be simply laughed at. But, as a matter of principle, that stood on the same ground as this claim of the Secretary of State for War to the right to enforce vaccination and re-vaccination. This claim having no foundation of a legal kind either in Prerogative, as derived from the Crown, or of a Statutory nature, he imagined that the Army Regulations were altogether *ultra vires*. The Secretary of State had no right to issue such Regulations, which were an interference with the liberty of the subject without warrant. There was not one of the soldiers or recruits, subject to this treatment, but could claim the protection which the Secretary of State for War himself was bound to afford him against the illegal claims of the military or regimental authorities. He (Mr. Arthur O'Connor) did not wish to take the sense of the Committee on the subject, by moving a reduction to the Vote; but he should like to know from the noble Marquess whether he had any reply to make to the arguments which he had ventured to submit, with regard to what he believed to be the undue claims of the Crown on the one hand, and the rights of the soldiers on the other; because it was perfectly unreasonable to suppose that the objection to compulsory vaccination was entirely confined to the civil population? As a matter of fact, that was not so; although, of course, it was very great amongst the civil population. In one place alone, in Eastbourne, no less than 60 summonses were issued for non-compliance with the vaccination regulations on Monday. When they found, in one place, such an enormous number of

summonses, it was impossible that there could not be a considerable amount of opposition to vaccination amongst the general public; and, if that were so, there was bound to be objections on the part of the soldiery. He (Mr. Arthur O'Connor) hoped to hear from the noble Marquess that he was prepared to reconsider the decision he announced the other day, to maintain this system of compulsory vaccination. He had received a letter from a gentleman who had recently been travelling in Holland, and that gentleman assured him that the facts he (Mr. O'Connor) had put in his Question were correct. This gentleman had informed him that of 68 recruits vaccinated, eight of them were subsequently found to be suffering from erysipelas, and three had died. He had not brought forward the inquiry on this subject without having good ground and good information—he did not now make a complaint with regard to the assumption of authority by the noble Marquess, without, at any rate, being able to put forward an argument which, at first sight, appeared to be sound.

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, he had made careful inquiries into the subject, in consequence of the Question put by the hon. Member opposite (Mr. Arthur O'Connor) the other day, and he was unable to find a single instance of a recruit having objected to be re-vaccinated. As to the particular question, whether the Secretary of State had a legal right to issue an Order requiring every recruit to be re-vaccinated, it had never been brought before a Court of Law; and, therefore, there was no legal decision on the point. He had told the hon. Member the other day that he did not claim power under the express provision of any Act of Parliament. The power under which the Secretary of State acted, was that by which he made a great variety of regulations for the discipline and efficiency of the Army. He imagined that, even though he were not acting on the authority of an Act of Parliament, it was undoubtedly within the power of the Secretary of State to advise Her Majesty, on his responsibility—and he was responsible to Parliament for the advice he gave—as to the manner in which she should exercise her Prerogative in respect to the Army. It was surely within the power of the Secretary of State to

Mr. Arthur O'Connor

act on what was considered to be the best medical opinion as regarded the preservation of the health of the Army. The Secretary of State, surely, had as much power to order vaccination as he had to order any sanitary regulation. That was the opinion he entertained of the case. He did not, however, deny that, from a legal point of view, there might be arguments on the other side; but this was the view on which the Secretaries of State had always acted.

MR. HOPWOOD said, he really would ask the noble Marquess to be well advised, as this matter might at any time be raised in a Court of Law. It might be that no recruit had hitherto refused to submit to this operation; but it might be that, before long, someone would refuse. This compulsion to vaccination was a public mischief, constantly practised in the name of the law. The arguments of the noble Marquess broke down altogether; because it might be true that he had been allowing the exercise of a power which did more harm than good. No one could complain of anything done for the soldier in an emergency; but if the noble Marquess's argument was right, he was justified in ordering a disease to be put into a soldier, and in ordering that he should submit to intense pain and suffering—[*Laughter.*—]for, in spite of the laugh of the hon. Member behind him, vaccination did sometimes involve intense pain and suffering. People would obstinately shut their eyes to the facts of the case; but it was incontestible that 53 or more French soldiers in Algiers had been syphilized by its means, and that eight soldiers had suffered in Holland, of whom three had died from the effects of vaccination. He (Mr. Hopwood) was continually, day after day, bringing under the notice of the House cases of children who were suffering cruelly, many of them unto death, from this operation. He contended that the argument of the noble Marquess broke down, if he assumed that, as the Representative of the Queen, he could order any eccentricity the march of science suggested to be inflicted on recruits. He (Mr. Hopwood) contested the right of the Secretary of State to do that. The old theory of the Prerogative was that no one could injure life or limb without the consent of Parliament. Vaccination was something in that direction. [“Oh,

oh!”] Well, he knew hon. Gentlemen thought so highly of the practice that they would sustain it. He (Mr. Hopwood) did not think so highly of it. Could the Secretary of State order surgical operations, or amputation, even of a finger, against the will of the patient? There were some who would prefer that to the detestable process of vaccination. A finger came within the words “life or limb” of the Army Act. Yet the suffering and constitutional derangement caused by vaccination oftentimes made the operation one dangerous to “life or limb.” He (Mr. Hopwood), for one, questioned the power, and he could only say it would be much more seriously questioned later on.

MR. WARTON said, that all Law Officers should respect the law; and it was perfectly clear that the Queen had the power to order vaccination in the Army, if she chose. After the triumphant vindication of vaccination they had heard from the right hon. Gentleman the Member for the University of Edinburgh (Sir Lyon Playfair) the other day—the most interesting speech he (Mr. Warton) had ever heard delivered in the House—he hoped the Committee would allow this discussion to terminate. He hoped the opponents of vaccination would for the future hide their diminished heads, and that the House would never hear anything more about this matter.

Vote agreed to.

(10.) £562,800, Volunteer Corps.

MR. TOMLINSON said, that, under the circumstances in which this most important Vote was brought on, he did not intend to address any lengthy remarks to the Committee; but he wished, in the first place, to express his regret that no proper time had been given for its discussion. He said that, not only on behalf of himself, but also on behalf of other hon. Members who had been or were members of the Volunteer Force. He had been connected with the Force from the commencement of the movement to the present time; and he could not help saying that he thought it a very great pity that a proper opportunity for a discussion of the important question had not been given. The question was especially interesting now, seeing that the Volunteers were treated as an integral part of the British Army. As he had said, he should not attempt to discuss

the question. But he considered that the main problem in regard to the Volunteer Force was, how far it was, at the present moment, a reliable means of defence; what were its defects; and how were they to be remedied? It was a very important question. He looked on the Force as being at present in a state of transition, and as not having nearly arrived at the position it ought to attain to in order to secure an adequate and proper defence for the country. The main point to which he wished to draw attention was that of the arming of the Force. The newspapers and journals of the country had drawn attention lately to the question of shooting in the Force. A juster estimate of the degree of skill acquired by the Volunteers with the rifle was now formed than was previously possible when such meetings as those at Wimbledon were alone taken into account. It was not now assumed that the Force had attained a high degree of skill. It was admitted that their skill was very much above that of the Militia; but still there was a great deal to be done. Perhaps, in regard to that, he (Mr. Tomlinson) ought to express the regret with which he had heard the noble Marquess, in reply to an hon. Friend, say that the Volunteers of Middlesex had been deprived temporarily of the use of Wormwood Scrubbs. The effect of that would be to take away from many members of the Force the only opportunity they had of making themselves efficient. As to efficiency, there was one point which attracted a good deal of attention in regard to the Volunteers of the country, and that was the regulation which allowed a recruit or a member of the Force to make himself technically efficient in shooting by merely firing 60 rounds of ammunition at the butts. It was well worthy of consideration whether some different test could not be applied. The principal point he wished to urge was the desirability of arming the Force with a weapon which was fit for active service. The Volunteers were now constantly reminded that they were a part of the Regular Army, and those who so reminded them did not fail to remark upon any point in which the equipment was inefficient. Well, would anyone say that the Volunteers should be allowed to go into the field with a different weapon to that used by the Regulars?

Mr. Tomlinson

What estimate would foreign nations form of the reality of our reliance on the Volunteer Force and of the organization of our Army if they failed to find it, in such material details as the armament, properly organised? Late as it was, he trusted some Member of the Government would rise in his place, and give them some satisfactory assurance on this matter.

SIR HENRY FLETCHER said, he did not wish to take up the time of the Committee unnecessarily; but he wished to endorse what had fallen from his hon. Friend behind him (Mr. Tomlinson), that some assurance should be given by the Government as to when the Volunteers would be armed with an efficient weapon. This question had been frequently brought under the notice of the Government. The old Snider rifle was completely worn out, and he trusted that a new weapon would now be served out to the men. There was another point to which he wished to draw the attention of the Government. He congratulated them upon having established Schools of Instruction for Volunteer officers. As a commanding officer of a regiment, he could assure the authorities that that was a source of great satisfaction and benefit to the Volunteer officer; but there was one point connected with this matter to which he must call attention. An officer was sent for instruction to the School of Instruction at the Wellington Barracks, or to Aldershot; and, if there were only a certain number sending in their names, he would get a certain allowance whilst he was there. If, however, he was attached to a Line regiment at Aldershot, Plymouth, and so on, he would receive no allowance. He (Sir Henry Fletcher) could not see the distinction made between the two classes of officers. He was placing this matter in a friendly way before the noble Marquess, believing it to be a subject which should be inquired into for the sake of giving satisfaction to the Volunteer officers. With regard to camping, he had been in the habit of camping out his regiment every year for some years. The camp equipage was sent down from Dover to Arundel by ordinary train, where it did duty for eight days' drill, and it was then sent back again. Well, a great deal of cribbing had taken place—blankets and such like had been stolen during the transport to and from the

camp; and that, he thought, should be put a stop to. He had applied last year that a non-commissioned officer should be sent down to look after these matters; but the application had been refused, on account of the expense. Another matter he had to refer to was that he had a General Order, signed by General Taylor, who was at that time Adjutant General, stating that the Commander-in-Chief had directed that no officer of the Auxiliary Forces, or the Reserve, should proceed to the seat of war without the special sanction of His Royal Highness. He (Sir Henry Fletcher) hoped this would not be made a precedent; but that in future, when war had broken out, these Reserve and Auxiliary officers would not be allowed to take part in the campaign. It had created the greatest dissatisfaction amongst the officers of regiments serving in Egypt to find that, although officers were wanted, they were not sent out from England to take part in the war, but that officers of the Auxiliary Forces were allowed to take part in the campaign, and, moreover, had places provided for them in the troopships.

MR. BRAND said, the question of arming the Volunteers with Martini-Henry rifles was under the consideration of the noble Marquess the Secretary of State for War; but it would involve very large expenditure. The Martini-Henry had been issued to the English Militia, and next it would be issued to the Irish Militia; and, when it could be done, it would be issued to the Volunteers. With respect to the ranges at Wormwood Scrubbs, he regretted that it had been found necessary to close them; but he hoped that the necessity would only be temporary. An accident had nearly happened at these ranges; and an investigation had resulted in a Report that the ranges were not safe. The ranges were, therefore, closed; and the practice was confined to experienced shots. The Inspector General had examined the place, and he had recommended certain alterations; and if it was found that those alterations would make the ranges safe, a sum of money would be taken next year for that purpose.

SIR ARTHUR HAYTER said, with regard to the matter referred to by the hon. and gallant Baronet (Sir Henry Fletcher), as to allowances to officers coming up for instruction, it was found

that expenses could not be allowed to officers who came up to Wellington Barracks, but were living with their friends in London.

MR. TOMLINSON asked, whether any arrangements would be made to enable Volunteers to shoot at some other ranges while those at Wormwood Scrubbs were closed?

MR. BRAND, in reply, said, he did not see what arrangement could be made pending the inquiry at Wormwood Scrubbs.

MR. TOMLINSON feared that the result of that would be a loss of efficiency on the part of some Volunteers.

Vote agreed to.

(11.) £278,000, Army Reserve Force.

SIR WALTER B. BARTTELOT said, he was rather in a difficulty, looking at the time of night, because that was one of the most important Votes that the Committee could possibly have to discuss. Next to the Vote for the Army itself, this Vote certainly deserved the fullest consideration; but its being driven off to that late period of the Session gave no opportunity for discussing the important question of the present condition of the Army Reserve. It would be remembered that, some years ago, it was promised that if the Army was destroyed, as it then was, and if afterwards the short-service system was adopted, we should, by this time, have a most efficient and most effective Reserve. He would not now argue the question of short service; because, in the first place, that was not the time to do so; and, in the second place, the object was not to abuse the short service, but to show that, as it had been carried out, it had been a failure; and he thought he might venture to say that he had on his side not only all the regimental officers in the Army, but he had the great authority of His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, and of Lord Wolseley, the great advocate of short service. One of the great conditions of short service had never been fulfilled—namely, that there should have been added to the number of men in the Army, at any rate, not less than 10,000 men. That was a question for the noble Marquess (the Marquess of Hartington) to carefully consider; and he (Sir Walter B. Barttelot) thought he should be able to show that the present number of men in the Army was utterly inadequate to

carry out all the various duties they had to perform. Some time ago, on the 1st of June, he had made some statements upon this subject. He had called attention to the present position of recruiting for the Army, the waste and crime of the Army, and their effects upon the efficiency of the Army, and of the Reserves; but they were severely criticized. He found no fault with that, so far as the criticisms were accurate; but he had been accused of exaggeration, and of bringing forward matters in a Party spirit. So far as the old officers of the Army and the regimental officers were concerned, he would venture to say that the noble Marquess would not contradict what he was about to say. Nearly all that had been done in the past had been done by the carrying out of the regimental system by those very regimental officers who had never failed to do their duty under any circumstances, and in however difficult positions they might have found themselves. It was too much the custom in the present day to say that the regimental officers were inferior to the Staff officers; but he would venture to say that, taking them man for man, if the Staff officers had learnt half as much of the regimental duties as the regimental officers understood, there would not have been those feelings between one class and another in our Army which did, but never ought to exist. Looking at the gallant and distinguished Staff officers who commanded at Majuba Hill, and at the regimental officers who commanded and did duty at Rorke's Drift, under most trying circumstances, he thought he had a right to say that the regimental officers were ready, willing, and anxious, wherever placed, to do their duty. The accusation was, that because it was not so easy to drive the untried team of boys who were now placed under them, therefore they were idle, and did not wish to do their duty, and wanted to have old soldiers, simply because they were easier to drive than young soldiers. He entirely denied that accusation, and what he held was, that the authorities had never given these men an opportunity of having regiments at home which were ready to do, and capable of doing, the duties placed upon them. The noble Marquess knew that that was true. Many regiments, nominally of 450 men, really had not more than 300;

and how many of these were fit for and doing duty? What had they to do? They had to find for their twin battalions, in India or elsewhere, a number averaging from 180 to 200 men in the course of the year; and what was left to them when that was done? If they were in a garrison town, how many men did the commanding officers find fit for the heavy duties a regiment had to perform? How many nights had these young soldiers in bed? Three nights in a week; and the explanation given was that the country was not prepared to spend sufficient money to enable the authorities at the War Office to increase the Army, so as properly to carry out its duties. It was one of the greatest mistakes that could be advanced that the country was not prepared to pay that which it knew to be a necessity. If the noble Marquess had the courage to come down to that House and to state that the Army was inefficient for carrying on the duties placed upon it, the country would cheerfully bear any burden which might be necessary on that account. But the noble Marquess knew perfectly well that many of these men, when they had joined the Army, were absolutely unfit for the duties imposed upon them. In the course of a speech at the Mansion House the other evening the noble Marquess made some remarks upon the Army; and he placed, as clearly as a man could place before the country, the value he put on the action at Tel-el-Kebir, and the way in which our soldiers had done their duty; but he declared that he did not look upon that action as a great victory, nor on Arabi as a great commander. But he said, and said truly, that there were few countries—and, perhaps, none—that could send off 30,000 men 3,000 miles by sea, and place them at the seat of war in the creditable way in which we had sent our men off; and in that he (Sir Walter B. Barttelot) believed the noble Marquess was perfectly right. Now, he came to another point—namely, the number of men it was necessary to call out in sending our Army to Egypt. The whole Army in Egypt numbered 32,000 men, of whom a portion went from India, a portion from the Mediterranean, and 18,800 from home. The Reserve were called out; but of these men only 4,300 were sent to Egypt. But the home duties could not have been carried out

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unless, with those sent to Egypt, rather more than 10,000 Reservemen had been called out to fill up the gaps made in the Home Army. It was rather hard for the papers to say that he had grossly exaggerated the state of the case, seeing that what he had stated was the statement of Lord Wolseley as Adjutant General. If another war occurred we should have to call out the Reserves again, and what he thought should be done was to increase that Reserve as much as possible; and he thought the noble Marquess had taken a step in the right direction by presenting a Memorandum defining certain plans both for shorter and also for the extension of the Service. By that scheme the Brigade of Guards would be able, after a certain time, to extend the period of service to 21 years, and the Line regiments would be able to do the same. He presumed and hoped that the noble Marquess intended this extension to be continuous; because, if such a rule was laid down, and when the ranks were filled no further extensions of service were to be granted, that would be one of the most mischievous things possible in regard to recruiting. He had always held that we ought to have at least 25 per cent of old soldiers in every regiment in the Service; and if we extended the term of service from 7 to 12 years we should have done much to make our regiments efficient. But there was a class of men who would, perhaps, like to go into the Army for three or four years; and if we took those men, as was now proposed, we should get men who would look to going back to their occupations, and we should give them a chance of doing so; but it should be a condition of taking them for this short period that they should be of good character, and should know their work thoroughly before leaving their regiments; for, in talking of the Reserves, it should be remembered that when the Reserve was called out to fill up the gaps in the regiments at home only those who had recently gone into the Reserve were called out. The Government did not call out the older men, and he thought they were, perhaps, right in not doing so, when they wanted men in a hurry, because those men had not been called out to go through annually their drill, or to keep up their knowledge of the rifle, which he thought such men, to be

efficient, ought to go through. Until that was done, we should not know whether we had an efficient Reserve or not. In that respect he held that the Government had failed to do their duty. The Reserves considered that they ought not to be called out for small wars, and he believed that question had had a serious effect upon the present position of the Reserve; but what he wished to point out was that, whether the war was great or small, as our Army was at present constituted, we had to call out the Reserves, otherwise we should not have sufficient soldiers to send out of the country. The noble Marquess had stated that it was found necessary to have these men better drilled before they were put into the ranks; and he had given an order that they should remain with their regimental centres for three months, or something like that time. But three months were not long enough, and he (Sir Walter B. Barttelot) thought a leaf might be taken out of the book of some of our principal regiments. The Guards had their men drilled at Caterham; the Rifle Brigade and the 60th Rifles sent their men to Winchester; the Marines—and no men distinguished themselves more than the Marines in the late war—sent their men to Walmer, where they were kept till they knew their work thoroughly. They had most excellent officers and non-commissioned officers, who knew the class of men they had to deal with, and all their peculiarities and infirmities. Nothing could be more irksome to men taken from the plough, or from the factory, than to be put into uniform, and set to drill from morning to night, and then to go to school; and it required the best and kindest men as officers and non-commissioned officers, who could show them how to get through the work with pleasure. Another important point was that our soldiers did not get enough to eat; and when the hon. Member for Scarborough (Mr. Caine) talked of our soldiers getting drunk, he (Sir Walter B. Barttelot) would tell him that it was the want of sufficient food that led many of the men to take something as a stimulant which they otherwise would not take. Again, the men found, when they went into barracks, that there were more stoppages than they expected, and that they did not get the clear amount of pay which had been promised them. It was quite

true that they got their uniform; but it was also true that during drill the uniform was very much worn, and they were charged for repairs which they had not expected. If they were to have the right class of men they must be better fed, and the pay must be paid directly into their hands. After a man had enlisted and was properly drilled, he ought to know whether he was to remain with his regiment at home, or be sent away to India. For instance, at present, two brothers might join a regiment; and while one was kept at home for seven years' service, the other might be sent to India and have to serve eight years, and be kept for nine years if there happened to be a war going on. Every man should know what he would have to do, and should be allowed to remain with the officers and men whom he knew; and, if that plan were adopted, a far better feeling would spring up than at present existed. We ought to have 10,000 more men to carry out the duties of the Army properly, and no regiment ought to be less than 600 strong; otherwise, it would be impossible for the men to perform the multifarious duties required in a garrison town. He wished, further, to refer to another branch of the Service—the Cavalry. The noble Marquess had stated that he had no intention of dealing with that branch of the Service at present; and he (Sir Walter B. Barttelot) was very glad to have heard that statement. In the Cavalry there was no lack of recruits; the discipline was much better than in the Infantry; and the men knew their officers, because they remained in the same regiments. What was necessary for the Cavalry was that instead of a troop there should be a squadron at Canterbury or elsewhere, from every regiment serving abroad—each squadron to be commanded by a field officer of its own regiment. A few weeks ago he made a statement which was thought to be very strong, and that was that 1,400 men had joined one regiment of Infantry in two years. He never exaggerated facts; and he had a Return from the regiment which showed that in two years 1,448 men had joined. It was stated that recruiting had been increasing; but he would advise the noble Marquess to go to the St. George's Barracks, and not be satisfied with seeing the men in their clothes, but have them examined in order to learn whether they were men

or boys—whether they were 16 or 17 years of age, because that slight difference of age was a most serious matter. Next, he would ask the noble Marquess whether the Order was not plain that men considered eligible might be taken at 5 feet 3 inches?—a height under which, he believed, men had not been taken since 1859. If men of that class were taken, they would have to be fed, and otherwise provided for, during two or three years, before they would be fit to go abroad, and fight the battles of their country. He would now ask the attention of the noble Marquess to the number of men of the Infantry who were fit to be put into line. He had bestowed a good deal of trouble on this calculation; and he found there were at home 72 battalions of Infantry, and seven battalions of the Guards. If he took the numbers voted in the Estimates, there would be something like 45,380 Infantry, and 5,600 of the Guards; but he believed, notwithstanding the recruiting which was going on, that the regiments at home would show a deficiency of something like 5,000 men. He would, however, take, without any deduction, the full number of men on the Estimates—that was to say, 45,380 Infantry of the Line and 5,600 Guards. Amongst the Infantry there were 4,000 men or more under 20 years of age, and who would not be, by the present Orders, allowed to go to India; but, passing by these, there were besides, amongst the number mentioned, 17,000 recruits who had not learned their duty, and could not, therefore, be relied upon. Taking these into account, there would remain only 34,000 men available for the first line of defence. If they wished to fill up the ranks of the Army at home to the war strength, they would require altogether 79,000, putting each battalion at 1,000 men; and here he would remark that when the regiments were sent out to Egypt, they were, instead of 1,000, only 750 or 800 strong. How was the number to be made up? It was said there were 32,000 men of the Reserve; but he should put down the number that could be relied upon as 28,000; and these could no doubt be called out, and put into line to-morrow if necessary. Then there were 27,000 men of the Militia Reserve, who could be taken; and these two bodies of Reserves, being

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added to the 34,000 above referred to, would, if they all came out, rather more than make up the war complement. They must remember, however, that many of the Militia might not turn out, and also many might be unfit for service. But what had they to fall back upon? There were the 17,000 recruits, and the rest of the Militia and the Volunteers. Now, he asked whether that was a state of things creditable to the country, looking to the position of France, and the extraordinary credit she had taken for the Army, as well as what she was doing for her Navy, and bearing in mind the statement of Lord Wolseley on the Channel Tunnel Scheme, with reference to the prevention of the landing of a French Army with the force at our command? He thought it right, upon this most important Vote, to draw the attention of the noble Marquess to the facts he had brought forward, and he would ask him to visit some of our principal stations himself; and if he did so, he (Sir Walter B. Barttelot) felt sure he would come to the conclusion that the Army was not in a proper condition. Let the noble Marquess go to Aldershot, unattended by those officers who generally surrounded him; let him converse with the commanding officers of any regiment that he thought fit to call to the front, who would give him all the information he required, and which would enable him to form a sound judgment upon all the points to which he had thought it his duty to call the noble Marquess's most earnest and anxious attention. Amongst other things, the noble Marquess would see that his (Sir Walter B. Barttelot's) statement as to the deterioration of discipline was correct. By that statement he was prepared to stand, it being borne in mind that he had pointed out that the Cavalry discipline was superior to the discipline of the Infantry. He would conclude by expressing his conviction that if the noble Marquess would do as he had suggested, he would earn the gratitude not only of that House, but of the Army and the country at large.

SIR HENRY FLETCHER said, he would venture again to refer to a matter that he had, on two former occasions, laid before the right hon. Gentleman the Chancellor of the Exchequer, when he filled the Office of Secretary of State for

War. He referred to the drafts of men from newly-arrived regiments for employment as clerks and messengers in the divisional offices; and, notwithstanding that the regiments in garrison towns were no doubt weak, he had urged that these places should be filled by men of the Army Reserve. He took the opportunity presented by the Vote of calling the attention of the noble Marquess to the subject, in the hope that he would see the desirability of carrying out the suggestion he had made.

MR. PULESTON said, his hon. and gallant Friend behind him (Sir Walter B. Barttelot) had referred to an agreeable statement made a few days ago at the Mansion House by the noble Marquess the Secretary of State for War, to the effect that, up to that time, 5,000 more recruits had been enlisted this year than last. It would be gratifying to the country if, in addition to the number, the noble Marquess could state that the men were superior in character to those enlisted under the recent system.

COLONEL ALEXANDER said, the Committee, as well as the country, were, in his opinion, deeply indebted to his hon. and gallant Friend the Member for West Sussex (Sir Walter B. Barttelot) for the clear, vigorous, and perspicuous language in which he had more than once, in the course of the Session, described the serious and critical condition of the Reserves, and also the condition of recruiting throughout the country. His hon. and gallant Friend was right in saying that the question of Reserves was intimately connected with that of recruiting. The two systems must stand or fall together; because on what else than our recruits were we to depend for our Reserves, three or, it might be, six years hence? He was glad that some time had elapsed since this question was last discussed, because it had enabled them to consider the proposals formulated by Her Majesty's Government to meet what was admitted to be the serious deficiency in the number of recruits; and he was bound to say that, having studied those proposals, together with the speech of the noble Marquess, they appeared to him to be totally inadequate to arrest the progress of the evil with which they had at present to cope. The noble Marquess, in the first

place, proposed to arrest temporarily the progress of men from the active Army into the Reserve; and that, it appeared to him, was an admission of the complete breakdown of the short-service system. For 12 years they had been laboriously building up an Army Reserve, by prematurely forcing men into it from the active Army; and they had at last been able to scrape together 32,000 of the 80,000 men that were originally promised by Lord Cardwell, and now they were going to take a step to check the course of that system. We seemed, in respect of the system of short service, to be like the man described in the parable as beginning to build a house without counting the cost, and being afterwards exposed to the derision of his neighbours because he could not finish it. In order to build up a Reserve the country had sacrificed its active Army; they had filled its ranks with boys, because they were comforted by the assurance that they would obtain thereby a trustworthy and reliable Reserve; but if they could not maintain the Reserve in an efficient condition, he said that the motive for short service ceased to exist. The noble Marquess seemed to acknowledge that himself, because he had returned, as the right hon. and gallant Member for North Lancashire (Colonel Stanley) had described it, to "permissive long service." But it needed no prophet to say that that return must be a failure; and he hoped he did the noble Marquess no injustice by saying that he expected it would not succeed, although, of course, the noble Marquess did not like to admit that it would be a failure. The noble Marquess, in his speech delivered in that House on the 1st of June last, confidently anticipated the failure of the proposal when he said—

"It may appear that, in these proposals, there is some risk of increasing the Pension Vote; but that, in my opinion, is not a very serious risk, because at the expiration of 12 years the men will be entitled to £36 as deferred pay. But they would not be entitled to that deferred pay until they leave the Army in the event of their re-enlisting, and the prospect of receiving £36 in ready money will weigh very strongly with them when they consider whether they should re-enlist or leave the Army."—(3 *Hansard*, [279] 1666.)

He (Colonel Alexander) agreed that the prospect of receiving £36 deferred pay would act strongly, and deter all but an

infinitesimal portion of the men from continuing with the Colours, in order to qualify for a pension which they might possibly lose by the breakdown of health or some other circumstance. The horror in which the War Office held all pensions was exemplified by the fact that the sergeant who happened to commit himself in the course of his second engagement lost all claim to a pension by being compelled to take an immediate discharge. Then, the proposals of the noble Marquess were without any element of permanency, because they were entirely dependent on the state of recruiting throughout the country, and on the number of men who, at any particular time, might feel inclined to adopt the new system. Now, it seemed to him that certainty was the very essence of this question. It was uncertainty as to the time during which the men were to serve, and uncertainty as to the regiment in which they were to serve, which made service in the Army so unpopular, and deterred men from enlisting. The conditions of the Warrant lately issued were so complicated that it was absolutely impossible for a man desiring to enlist to understand it; and a high official engaged in administering recruiting throughout the country had told him that he had himself the greatest difficulty in interpreting the conditions of the Warrant. Under those circumstances, it appeared to him that the proposals were a delusion and a snare, and that they afforded no real test as to the number who would, on more favourable conditions, agree to prolong their service with the Colours. £36 down, after 12 years' service, would always carry the day against a problematic pension. As his hon. and gallant Friend had remarked, the noble Marquess, in his speech at the Mansion House, had stated that the recruits were coming in more freely. He was glad to hear that; but he believed the Scots Guards were still 400 below their strength. It must, however, be remembered that this increase in the number of recruits had been obtained by the relaxation of the medical conditions as to age, height, and chest measurement, so carefully established by the noble Marquess's Predecessors in Office. His hon. and gallant Friend had referred to the statement of Lord Morley, in the House of Lords on Tuesday last, that the minimum standard

Colonel Alexander

of height for the Army was still 5 feet 4 inches; but he (Colonel Alexander) held in his hand a letter, dated the 27th of April last, from the Inspector General of Recruiting, directing the enlistment of men for the Infantry of the Line, of 5 feet 3 inches in height and 33 inches chest measurement, and that Circular Letter was still in force; so that he contended, in spite of Lord Morley's statement, that 5 feet 3 inches, and not 5 feet 4 inches, was the standard of height for the Army. Under those circumstances, the noble Marquess had nothing to boast of in the fact that he had a larger number of men, because a reduction of standard would always insure that result; and if it were now reduced to 5 feet 2 inches a still greater number of men would be obtained than the noble Marquess had at present. He would conclude by saying that if Her Majesty's Government desired to establish an efficient system of recruiting the conditions of enlistment should be laid down once for all, and never relaxed.

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, he shared in the regret that had been expressed that so important a discussion should take place so late in the Session; but he must remind the Committee that already two, if not three, discussions on the Army had already taken place; one on the evening when the Estimates were introduced, when the debate turned on the very subject brought forward on the present occasion; another on the Vote for the Administration of Martial Law; and a third discussion, which was raised on going into Committee of Supply by the hon. and gallant Baronet the Member for West Sussex (Sir Walter B. Barttelot) himself. With regard to the debate of that evening, he (the Marquess of Hartington) was unable to say that he had heard anything new, or, indeed, anything that he had not heard at least once or twice before; and, therefore, he thought that it was entirely unnecessary to follow the hon. and gallant Gentleman (Sir Walter B. Barttelot) in respect of a large portion of his speech. His (the Marquess of Hartington's) Predecessors in Office, he would not say on that side of the House alone, but on both sides, and he himself, also, had expressed their opinion on the subject of short service, and the impossibility of a return to the system of long service, so greatly regretted by hon. and

gallant Gentlemen opposite. Everyone who had great responsibility in this matter being of opinion that a return to long service was an impossibility, was it not a waste of the time of Parliament that, instead of making new suggestions, nothing should be heard from hon. and gallant Gentlemen opposite but lamentations over a system that had passed away? Now, his hon. and gallant Friend had spoken of the small strength of the battalions, and had asked how a battalion of 450 men could furnish drafts of 250 men for India and the Colonies. In the first place, he (the Marquess of Hartington) had to point out that they had in the present Session raised the strength of the battalion from 450 to 520 men, a number which did not very greatly fall short of that which his hon. and gallant Friend had mentioned. Although the Establishment of 520 was voted by Parliament, it would always be the case, as he had pointed out in introducing the Army Estimates, that the average strength of the battalions throughout the year could not be equal to the Establishment voted, which could not be exceeded. If, then, the hon. and gallant Gentleman thought that the average strength of the battalion ought never to be lower than 600, he was really advocating a considerable increase of the existing Establishment; but if he only advocated the Establishment voted by Parliament, then he (the Marquess of Hartington) would point out that there was no great difference between that which he proposed and that which already existed. The hon. and gallant Gentleman had said that the battalions were quite unfit for garrison duty. But, although it had been admitted by his Predecessors that the battalions, while they remained at a lower strength, would have to supply the necessary drafts for India and the Colonies, and form *cadres* which could be fitted for service, it had never been contended that they were ready to take the field, or that they were ready to undertake severe garrison service. Garrison duty, owing to the necessity of keeping a large portion of the Army in Ireland, had, no doubt, been very heavy; but he would point out that that was no condemnation of the short-service system. He had been asked whether the alterations announced when this subject was last discussed were temporary or

permanent? Certainly, there was no intention of continuing them longer than the necessity for them existed. Whatever view might be taken hereafter, they were not pledged, either to Parliament or to the country, to make the changes more than temporary. The hon. and gallant Member said they could do nothing more unwise than make them temporary. But he was unable to perceive the force of that argument. If, when they enlisted the men on one set of conditions, they should afterwards say that the circumstances had changed, and that those conditions no longer applied, that, he would admit, would not only be unwise, but very unfair; but he could see no unfairness, or want of wisdom, in not making permanent that which had been adopted as a temporary measure. Reference had been made to what was called the reduction of the standard, and it was said that 5 feet 3 inches was the lowest standard we had had in time of war. There had been some misunderstanding on this subject. The minimum standard was that at which the recruiting officer was bound to take a man who was medically sound. But relaxation was not reduction of the standard; and the recruiting officer was not bound to accept a man of 5 feet 3 inches or 5 feet 4 inches, even if he was medically sound. He had only to take a man of 5 feet 3 inches or 5 feet 4 inches if the recruiting officer was of opinion that the recruit was eligible as a recruit, and was likely to become an efficient soldier. Therefore, the reduction to 5 feet 3 inches was not absolutely a reduction of the minimum. The hon. and gallant Member had asked how many men could be put into line in an emergency. He (the Marquess of Hartington) would not follow the hon. and gallant Member into a calculation of those numbers, because everybody could ascertain the number. The hon. and gallant Member was able to make deductions from the nominal strength of our Army, and say this set of men should not be admitted, or that set of men should be left behind; but no two calculations would agree. But he (the Marquess of Hartington) could state how much the Army was below the Establishment voted by Parliament, and what had been done to reduce that deficiency. He had stated in June that he expected the deficiency at home and in India would amount to 8,000 men,

and might amount to 13,000. We had now passed the most critical period. The great flow of men, through discharge and transfer to the Reserves, had now ceased; and, on the other hand, the recruits were coming in rapidly. That had been the case during the last three or four weeks; and, for the first time, the supply of recruits had been in excess of the men who had taken their discharge, or been transferred. For the next two months this drain, which had been comparatively slack, would, he hoped, continue as slight.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR asked from what sources the recruits were coming in?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON, in reply, said, that he was not speaking on that point, but on the numbers. He had stated that he expected the deficiency might be 13,000, and the deficiency amounted to 11,000 in all arms and ranks. The Infantry in India was 4,712 below its Establishment; in the Colonies 2,794, and at home 971—total, 8,477. That was a deficiency which must tend to diminish. The hon. and gallant Member for South Ayrshire (Colonel Alexander) had been extremely severe on the War Office, and the relaxation of some of the existing Medical Regulations; but some of those Regulations which had been relaxed were imposed partly because the supply of recruits was, at the time, greater than was desired, and it was absolutely necessary to place some check upon it. In July, 1881, the Army was 1,300 below its Establishment, and at that time it was considered that the age might be raised from 18 to 19 years; but, notwithstanding that, the recruits still came in so rapidly that 14,000 were enlisted in the six months prior to January, 1882, and there was an excess of 2,250. It became necessary to systematize the process of allowing men to go into the Reserve before the expiration of the six years, and, for a time, men of three years' service were allowed to pass into the Reserve; and in the 12 months from July, 1881, to June, 1882, 3,500 men so went into the Reserve before their time had expired. At the same time, the Medical Regulations, which the hon. and gallant Member said never ought to have been relaxed, were made more stringent, partly in order to impose a check. The effect of that step was that

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in the middle of 1882 the numbers were brought down to the Establishment. What was not foreseen at that time was that a large number of men had been enlisted in 1870-1 under the old system of obtaining their discharge at the end of 1882. If that abnormal drain in that year had been foreseen, it was probable that those Regulations would not have been imposed, and the Army would have been allowed to remain for a time somewhat over its Establishment. Finding that in the present year the Army was considerably below the Establishment, the natural, and obvious, and necessary course was to first reverse the course taken by his Predecessor at the War Office, when other circumstances prevailed. To some extent, the stringency of the conditions had been relaxed, and the result was that we were now getting 700 recruits a-week. Notwithstanding that, the hon. and gallant Member for South Ayrshire had stated not only that the Reserves were in an unfortunate condition, but that the Army was in an inefficient state, through the deficiency of recruits. He (the Marquess of Hartington) maintained that there was no deficiency of recruits. The existing short-service system had shown that it was capable of doing that which the long-service system, which some hon. Members so much regretted, never did—it could supply the necessary number of recruits for the service of the Army in that year. The deficiency was entirely owing to additional restrictions, when it was supposed that the Army was too full, and also to an abnormal drain. There was no reason whatever for supposing that when these abnormal influences were removed, and only a normal number of men were required, recruiting would be insufficient. With regard to the Reserve itself, he could only say that in the speeches that had been made, no new suggestions were put forward—no help was given to the military authorities; and it seemed to be out of the power of hon. Gentlemen opposite, who criticized the War Office, to offer any suggestion, except a return to the long service, which had been admitted by everyone else to be absolutely impossible.

SIR HENRY FLETCHER said, the only suggestion he had made was, that Reserve men should be employed as messengers and clerks.

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, his right hon. Friend the Postmaster General had been able to give employment to several Reserve men in connection with the Parcels Post.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR asked, whether the noble Marquess could inform the Committee from what particular recruiting field these large numbers of men were coming in—at the rate of 100 a-day—whether from the urban or the agricultural districts?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, he could not tell; but there had been recruiting going on all over the country. The recruits were not entirely urban.

Vote agreed to.

(12.) £34,000, Miscellaneous Effective Services.

(13.) Motion made, and Question proposed,

“That a sum, not exceeding £241,800, be granted to Her Majesty, to defray the Charge for the Salaries and Miscellaneous Charges of the War Office, which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884.”

MR. PULESTON said, he wished to speak on Vote 15. Was this Vote 15?

THE CHAIRMAN: Vote 15 has been passed. It was passed before the hon. Gentleman rose.

SIR JOHN HAY said, three or four hon. and gallant Members had been waiting to discuss special matters, one of which was the question of the Contagious Diseases Acts. He understood that that Vote had not been reached, and he should move to report Progress, and take some other opportunity to discuss these matters.

THE CHAIRMAN: I thought the hon. Member (Mr. Puleston) was on the wrong Vote. If he had asked me, I should have told him.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR said, he was quite aware of the intentions of his hon. Friend (Mr. Puleston) to raise this question on Vote 15, and he himself wished to raise the question; but, seeing his hon. Friend rise, he hesitated to do so, and now he found himself precluded from discussing the subject.

MR. PULESTON: It was distinctly understood that a discussion on the Contagious Diseases Acts should be raised; and in this I will be borne out, I am sure, by the noble Marquess and other

Members of the Government. Unless this discussion is now permitted I must move to report Progress.

THE CHAIRMAN: Vote 16 is not passed.

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON suggested that it would be in Order to discuss the question on Vote 16.

THE CHAIRMAN: That would be quite in Order.

SIR JOHN HAY said, the subjects to which he wished to call attention had no reference to Vote 16. He wished to refer to medals and decorations.

THE CHAIRMAN: There are miscellaneous charges under Vote 16. I think it will be perfectly in Order to deal with questions under Vote 15 upon Vote 16, which applies to miscellaneous charges.

MR. PULESTON said, he had no intention to propose any Resolution, at that late hour and time of the Session, with reference to the vote of the House on the Contagious Diseases Acts; but he thought it of great importance, both locally and nationally, that the Committee should know, before separating, what the policy of the Government upon this subject was going to be. Statistics of a very alarming character had already come in, showing the vastly-increasing injury that was being done to men in the Army and the Navy, particularly those in garrison towns, through the recent action of the Government. The opinions of the noble Marquess the Secretary of State for War, and of the First Lord of the Admiralty, and the Secretary of State for the Home Department—the three Departments concerned in the administration of the Acts—upon this subject were well known. Without any precedent whatever, legislative force had been given to an abstract Resolution—a Resolution passed in obedience to what might be called some maudlin sentimentality; and the reason given for that extraordinary step by the Government was that, in withdrawing the compulsory powers of the Acts, and making the Acts practically nugatory, they were acting simply in obedience to the vote of the House. That, however, was a reason which would not hold water for a moment, for everyone knew that if a strong Government, with a great majority, put into the Estimates a sum for the police expenses, as usual, there would be no question whatever raised

against that. He ventured to say that neither the hon. and learned Member for Stockport (Mr. Hopwood), nor the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Halifax (Mr. Stansfeld), who had succeeded in getting the Resolution passed, in his wildest imagination, thought that such prompt effect would be given to the passing of the Resolution. It would have been intelligible if a Bill had been brought forward to repeal, or amend, or alter the Act; and if the Government had taken that course, the House and the country would have considered that they had acted in good faith in regard to the voice of Parliament as expressed in that Resolution. In answer to a deputation, the Secretary of State for the Home Department had said it was shocking to contemplate the effect of the action of the Government, if the fears of the deputation were realized; and the result of the course taken by the Government had never been more graphically described. [Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT: I did not say that.] He begged the right hon. Gentleman's pardon; he was very frank, and used the word "shocking" with great emphasis. It was pointed out that prior to the passing of these Acts the average number of deaths of women in Portsmouth alone had been 120 yearly; but after the Acts came into operation it was only three. The noble Marquess the Secretary of State for War had given answers the other day, in reply to Questions put in the House, as to the already terrible effects of the withdrawal of the police examination; and he said the state of things in connection with this matter was something appalling. If that was the condition of things already in three or four months, what was it likely to be in the months between now and Parliament re-assembling? Surely that was sufficient reason for his (Mr. Puleston's) rising at the eleventh hour to try to find out what the immediate policy of the Government was to be. The Prime Minister had been very emphatic the other day, in reply to an hon. Member, as to having great regard to carrying out the law in spirit and in letter; but all that was now asked of him was that the same loyalty to the law should be shown in this case, especially when the consequences would be otherwise appalling. The noble Marquess, when he spoke on this subject some time ago, said these

Mr. Puleston

Acts were not passed to promote the morality of certain districts; but if Devonport, Chatham, Plymouth, and Portsmouth were used as garrison towns in the interest of the nation, certainly this became at once an Imperial question, and the residents in those towns had a right to some protection by the law. This disease was becoming worse and worse, and it was no exaggeration to say that the people in these towns were all but in a state of panic on the subject. The right hon. and learned Gentleman the Judge Advocate General (Mr. Osborne Morgan) had made a very strong speech on this matter differing from the Prime Minister; and the statistics which had reached him (Mr. Puleston) would more than justify every word of that speech. This question being one of such great importance to the towns in which the Acts had been enforced, and to the country at large, in view of the effect on our Army and Navy, he thought the Committee had a right to expect, and he hoped they would have some explicit statement from the noble Marquess as to what might be expected from the Government.

Mr. ACLAND said, that feeling, as he did, how very important it was that the opinions of those who had had actual experience of the moral, as well as the sanitary, results of the operation of these Acts in the towns in which they had been enforced should be carefully gathered, he was most anxious that, whatever course the Government might think fit to take in consequence of the Resolution which was passed by the House early in the Session, it should be announced beforehand. Hon. Members would then have an opportunity of ascertaining what was the real feeling of the country with regard to the precautions which ought to be made use of in reference to these terrible diseases. He quite understood and appreciated the feelings of those whose opinions with regard to the moral effects of these particular Acts he did not altogether share; and he appreciated, as he had said in the course of the debate early this Session, the thoroughly justifiable character of the intentions of those who conducted the agitation against these Acts. But he was convinced that there was a strong feeling existing amongst those who had not shared in that agitation that if the Government acted under the recent vote

of the House, some positive precautions should be taken with the object of protecting the inhabitants of these towns from what appeared to be the very terrible result of the relaxation of these Acts.

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, that the hon. Member for Devonport (Mr. Puleston) had used an entirely new argument in this matter. The hon. Gentleman had not dwelt only on the effect of the suspension of the compulsory examination upon our soldiers and sailors, or upon the increase of disease—he had based his claim for the retention of the complete operation of these Acts upon the preservation of order in the district which he represented and in other similar districts. The hon. Member said that the Government sent a large number of troops and sailors into such towns as Plymouth and Devonport, and that the inhabitants of such towns had a right to ask the Government for protection from the consequences of that large influx of men. He (the Marquess of Hartington) would venture to say that that was a totally new argument, and one that had not been heard in these discussions before. As a matter of fact, these Acts gave no power whatever to the police for the suppression of vice. That they had an indirect effect in keeping in restraint a certain unfortunate class of women was undoubted; but that was not the direct result. He was not going to argue the question whether the inhabitants of those towns had a right to claim protection or not. Possibly they had. But, if they had, then that protection ought to be given openly and directly. If, in consequence of the introduction of a large body of troops into these towns, it was the duty of the State to give some additional police protection to the localities, such additional protection ought to be provided for distinctly and openly. He believed that everything in the direction of public order and decency, which was claimed and which was desired by the inhabitants of these towns, might be given altogether apart from the operation of these particular Acts. He believed that the measure which was introduced in "another place"—whatever they might think of some of its provisions—would have enabled local authorities to preserve order much more effectually than any indirect action under the operation of these Acts. He wished to say

that he regretted the Resolution which the House arrived at some time ago in regard to these Acts; but, at the same time, it was his business to lay as correct information as he could before the Committee, and there could be no good in exaggerating the consequence of what had recently taken place. He laid on the Table of the House the other day a Memorial which had been presented to the Prime Minister by the Secretary to the Association for promoting the extension of these Acts. In that Memorial, by some atrocious reasoning which he was unable to follow, it was alleged that the consequence of the suspension of compulsory examination had been that no women at all had voluntarily entered the hospitals since the suspension of the order. That was not the fact. There had been a considerable diminution, it was true; but there were now 130 women in hospitals, almost the whole of whom had gone in voluntarily. There were about half the number of women in hospital now that there were before the Act was passed, and it had always been found that a much larger number went into hospital voluntarily in the winter than in the summer. It was not the fact that the suspension of the order for the compulsory examination had made the Act totally inoperative. As to the effect upon the troops, anyone who had to study these figures at all must see that it was extremely difficult to follow these statistics, because there were alterations in the rates of these diseases which were beyond any calculation. The statement he had made, in answer to various Questions, was said to be extremely alarming. He must admit that the increase of disease had been somewhat remarkable. In the first place, as to the admission of troops suffering from these diseases into hospital, the comparison he had given in answer to a Question showed that, comparing the four weeks ending the 6th of July with the four weeks ending on the 4th of May, there had been an increase in the admissions into hospital from these diseases of 5·5 per 1,000. But then, during the same period, there had been an increase in the unprotected districts of 2·8 per 1,000, so that the increase attributable to the suspension of the compulsory examination might be set down at 2·7 per 1,000. Now, that increase in the average force in the pro-

tected districts represented an increase of admissions for what were set down as venereal sores and gonorrhœa, in the four weeks, of 109 men, or a total of 1,400 men a-year, out of a total force of 40,000 men; 1,400 represented the mere admissions into hospital of men suffering from these diseases, many of which were but of a slight character. They had no knowledge whatever of the cause of the increase of those remaining in hospital in the unprotected districts of 1·23 per 1,000, showing an increase attributable to the suspension of the Acts of 1·88 per 1,000. That increase represented, in the unprotected places, 76 men permanently in hospital. That was, no doubt, very deplorable; but a force of 76 men permanently in hospital was not a fact of that alarming character which it was represented to be by hon. Gentlemen opposite. Personally, he would rather extend than restrict the operation of these Acts; but he would admit that there was considerable difficulty in defending a system which could only be so partially applied as these Acts had been. He did not think it would be possible to accomplish any very striking result, where they could only work over so limited an area; and everyone admitted that, in the present state of public opinion, it would be absolutely impossible to dream of extending the area. Under those circumstances, the hon. Member opposite (Mr. Puleston) asked the Government what they proposed to do. He (the Marquess of Hartington) had nothing to add to what was stated by his right hon. Friend the Secretary of State for the Home Department (Sir William Harcourt), and by himself, in the discussion which arose two months ago, on the Motion for the Adjournment of the House, made by the hon. Gentleman himself. The Government had stated that, in their opinion, the effect of the Resolution which was passed at the beginning of the Session was conclusive, so far as the opinion of the House of Commons was concerned. They had pointed out that the operation of these Acts depended not only upon the use by the Government of their Executive powers, but also upon the will of the House. The hon. Member for Devonport (Mr. Puleston) said it was ridiculous to allege that the assent of the House would not be given, and urged that a

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strong Government like the present would have no difficulty in carrying any Vote which it proposed to the House if it intended to introduce legislation. That was the hon. Member's opinion. It was not the opinion of the Government. The Government believed that the opinion of the House was conclusively expressed in the Vote that had been come to. They believed that after the passing of the Resolution proposed by the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Halifax (Mr. Stansfeld), the majority of the House would not be willing to stultify itself by assenting readily to a Vote for the purpose of putting into operation and giving the assent of the House to the operation of the law which they had condemned. They thought, therefore, they had acted in the only way it was possible for them to act, looking at the opinion held by the majority of the House of Commons. They had laid on the Table Bills which they desired to pass for the repeal of these Acts, and for the substitution of other provisions for the maintenance of public peace and order. Circumstances had prevented progress being made with either of those Bills in that House. The Government had nothing more to add, except that they did not propose to ask the House, after the expression of opinion which had been given, to vote the sum necessary for putting into operation the compulsory examination of these women.

MR. CAVENDISH BENTINCK said, he should be very sorry to allow one word to fall from him which should be, in the least degree, disagreeable to the noble Marquess (the Marquess of Hartington); but, at the same time, he must traverse the statement with which the noble Marquess commenced his observations. The noble Marquess said that the whole object of these Acts was simply to relieve the soldiers and sailors who were suffering from these diseases, and to add to the strength of Her Majesty's Forces, whether military or naval. He (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) was a Member of that House, and attended all the debates which took place during the passing of these Acts. No doubt, only very short Reports were kept of the proceedings on those occasions; but he remembered that he based his support of these Acts not solely on the interests of the Army and Navy, but mainly

for the relief of the suffering women who had been driven into the sad career of prostitution. Any hon. Gentleman who had taken the trouble to observe the course of examination which he (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) thought it his duty to pursue in the Committee which sat upon the Contagious Diseases Acts would see that his views were entirely in that direction. Therefore, not only was he justified in the remarks he made on a former occasion, but he would be still further justified in calling the attention of the Committee to what had happened since with regard to these unfortunate women. He had always felt it his duty to make a personal investigation of these subjects; and only last week, when he found himself at Canterbury, he made searching inquiries concerning the operation of these Acts. He ascertained that the universal opinion, whether it was Conservative, Ministerialist, or Radical, was that with regard to the condition of these unfortunate women, the Government had made a fatal mistake in the course they had pursued. It was, he thought, desirable that he should present some indisputable facts to the Committee. Here was one case which would illustrate the unfortunate results which were following on the action of the Government. In the month of June, a woman went into the City of Canterbury. She resided in the neighbourhood of the barrack, and there carried on the profession of a prostitute. [*A laugh.*] He did not think it was a laughing matter. It was, in his opinion, a matter rather for grief than laughter. Well, after a fortnight's time, this woman became so badly diseased that, being unable to continue her calling, she went to the workhouse as a pauper, and he would read to the Committee what had been written to him concerning her by an active Poor Law Guardian from Canterbury. He wrote—

"The case I mentioned to you is as follows:—Sarah Goram, aged 17, was admitted at the Canterbury Union Workhouse at 8.40 p.m., on Saturday, June 2, and was taken to Mr. Barratt on Monday, 4th of June. She was in such a sadly diseased condition that Mr. Barrett telegraphed to the Police Inspector at Chatham, and he came down and took her to the Lock Hospital. This poor wretch was seen by Barratt some week or two before in the street, and advised by him to give up her trade and he would send her to the hospital. The effluvia from the poor girl in the Union and at Mr. Barratt's was dreadful. You have the parti-

ticulars up to the 4th; and I have no doubt she can be followed on. As regards the propagation of disease, girls—mere children—are to be had in our streets by scores. They seem to be perfectly delighted that this is a “free country.”

This unfortunate girl was sent to the Lock Hospital at Chatham. He (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) followed her there, and he had a letter from Miss Webb, a lady who was well known to hon. Members who sat on the Committee appointed to inquire into the operation of these Acts. Miss Webb confirmed the statements he had just quoted. She pointed out that this was only one instance out of the many, and added—

“I hope things will not remain like this till next Session. It will be terrible if they do.”

He gave Miss Webb's name because he was not in the least afraid of doing so, and he knew she was not afraid of her name being known. She gives a return on the 16th of August of the number of women in the Lock Hospital at Chatham. She says:—

“But of the hundreds on the streets in Chatham only three are in. The patients now presenting themselves are in such a state, I hear from the nurses, that they must have done an enormous amount of mischief, and will be a long time probably in hospital. It is a terrible prospect, that women in this condition are to be allowed in future to do as they please with regard to being cured.”

He would also read a paragraph from a letter written recently by Miss Webb to *The United Service Gazette*—

“The state of Chatham since the withdrawal of the Contagious Diseases Acts police is terrible, and becoming daily worse; the factory girls and others, who have hitherto been kept in check by their presence in town, are becoming rapidly demoralized; in fact, the young of both sexes are going fast to ruin, since where there is a great military centre vice is usually rampant, but while there was the protection of these police hundreds were deterred from entering on the downward course. The hospital, where we had, in the early days of the working of the Acts, 73 patients, at this time only has 11 patients, three of whom have been brought by their friends, and cannot be said to belong to the dangerous class, while the naval and military hospitals have a great number of patients in them, caused by this terrible malady. Ignorance is the main cause of the opposition to the Contagious Diseases Acts, I believe; and therefore the spread of knowledge on the subject, which is free from impurity, is essential.”

These allegations were entirely borne out by the statements made to him (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) in Canterbury last week; and if the noble Marquess would only read the evidence which was put before the Committee,

he would find that the whole of the order of the streets in these towns was maintained by the Metropolitan Police. [“No, no!”] An hon. Member dissented; but he (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) maintained the position he had taken up, and any hon. Member who chose to take the trouble to inquire into the facts would find that the local police had a great deal more to do than attend to these women; whereas the Metropolitan Police, who were drafted into the towns, having nothing else to do, did nothing else. That had been proved over and over again. He would cite a greater authority than he had hitherto done on this question, and one whose opinion must, he should think, have great weight with the right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister, whom he was glad to see in his place, and with the noble Marquess the Secretary of State for War. That authority was no less a person than the noble Earl the First Lord of the Admiralty (the Earl of Northbrook). He (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) was in “another place” not long since, when he heard some observations made by the First Lord of the Admiralty, and he took note of them. The noble Earl said—

“For his own part, he was strongly in favour of the Acts, which he believed had done much good. Her Majesty's Government, however, felt it was undesirable, after the vote of the other House of Parliament, to continue to employ the Metropolitan Police in carrying out the compulsory clauses of these Acts; but the action of the Metropolitan Police had been most beneficial in keeping young girls off the streets, and in leading to their reclamation.”

Those were the observations of a Member of the Cabinet—a noble Earl who sat in the Cabinet with the right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister and the noble Marquess the Secretary of State for War. He (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) really thought it was not necessary to go further, when he had on his side such an authority as the First Lord of the Admiralty. Passing from these unfortunate results of the action of the Government—results which, he did not hesitate to say, were proved to demonstration to any reasonable mind—let them see why these Acts were, he would not say repealed, but suspended to all intents and purposes, after the period of 16 years and more, during which they had borne such beneficial results. The First Lord of the Admiralty and the noble Marquess the Secretary of State

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for War said that the House of Commons chose to pass this Resolution, and therefore they were bound to obey it, and to take the action which they had taken. He (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) really did not know why that should be the case. Even that Session they had known Resolutions passed by a majority of the House, in regard to which the Government had, the very next day, tried to reverse the decision which the House of Commons had come to; and he should have thought they might have done something in the same direction in the case of a policy which had been carried out so successfully for 16 years. He had noticed with surprise certain remarks which were made by the right hon. Gentleman at the head of the Government. The right hon. Gentleman (Mr. Gladstone) had said that he knew nothing about these Acts; that they were passed *sub silentio*; and that, therefore, he knew nothing of them. [Mr. GLADSTONE: I never said anything of the sort.] The right hon. Gentleman had certainly stated that the Acts were passed so silently that he knew nothing about them. Now, however, he (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) came to the very important point of who was to blame. It was not the House of Commons. They all knew that, on the occasion when the recent Resolution was arrived at, there was what was called an arrangement made by the promoters of the ideas which had led to all this misery, this increase of disease, and this inefficiency of our soldiers and sailors. By that arrangement a Whip was made by the opponents of the Acts, and nothing was done on the other side. The result, therefore, was hardly surprising. The worst feature was that the Government never appeared to know their policy. He (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) had served on the Committee with the right hon. Gentleman opposite (the Judge Advocate General), and within a few hours of the debate commencing he thought he should have had the whole strength of the Government on his side. To his utter astonishment, however, he found that right hon. Gentleman opposite rising in his place, and stating that he had no mandate from the Government to speak on the question. A very casual perusal of the Division List would show what the Government's intentions were in the matter. While only six Members of the Government

voted in favour of the policy which they had maintained so successfully for years, there were 19 Members of the Government who voted or paired in favour of the Resolution of the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Halifax (Mr. Stansfeld). He believed the right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister paired on that occasion. He should like to ask, having some considerable experience in Parliament, what right the right hon. Gentleman had to pair on any great question of policy? Why was he not in his place? Why was he not present to say, as he had said on many other occasions, that he had changed his mind?

MR. GLADSTONE: Because I have not altered it.

MR. CAVENDISH BENTINCK: Why did he not then propose the repeal of the Acts?

MR. GLADSTONE: I supported a proposal to repeal them in 1872.

MR. CAVENDISH BENTINCK asked why the right hon. Gentleman did not propose the repeal of the Acts in 1880? The right hon. Gentleman had put matters in a ten times worse position by his interruptions. In 1880, when the right hon. Gentleman assumed the reins of power, he allowed these vicious and abominable Acts—as he professed to regard them—to continue. Certainly, under these circumstances, the right hon. Gentleman had to-night uttered his own sentence of condemnation, and he might repeat that if ever there was a place in that House where the word “humiliation” should be written, it was the seat then occupied by the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. Gladstone). But he (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) was saying, when he was interrupted, that there were 19 Members of the Government who supported the Resolution of the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Halifax; and, therefore, the mischief which had arisen was entirely of their making. It was quite clear that the Government had made up their minds that those Acts should be repealed; and the fault he found with them was that, instead of proposing their repeal straightforwardly, they brought about the result they desired by pairing, or by voting without speaking. He maintained that it was their duty to have come forward straightforwardly, and, rising in their places, to have said they agreed with the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Halifax, and that he should have

their support. He did not know why the Secretary of State for the Home Department (Sir William Harcourt) was not present when the vote was given. He should have thought that, inasmuch as the right hon. Gentleman really had the administration of the Department, and was the Chief of the policemen who had done all these beneficial acts, with whom no fault could be found whatever throughout the lengthened inquiry which had taken place, and against whom no case whatever had been made out, he would have been present to say a word in their favour. He (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) found that the Representative of the Admiralty in that House (Mr. Campbell-Bannerman) was away, and that the hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General (Sir Henry James) and the hon. Gentleman the Surveyor General of the Ordnance (Mr. Brand) were also absent. He could not, for a moment, believe that want of success of these Acts was the cause of that defection on the part of the Government. Numerous Petitions had been presented to the House, and he (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) would admit that there was a strong feeling against the Acts amongst a class of persons who were described, in a leading newspaper of that evening, as "crotcheteers and faddists"—a class of persons who regarded these terrible diseases as nothing more or less than God's punishment of wicked men. The persons by whom these unfortunate and superstitious opinions were held were very small in number. No doubt, they had certain influences at election times, and they never neglected an opportunity of waiting upon a candidate to ask him to vote for the repeal of these Acts. He himself had frequently been waited upon by these persons; but he had invariably resisted their advances; and if the Government had only been as firm in this matter as he and many others had been, and remained steadfast to their true opinions, they would not now find themselves in their present unfortunate position. After all, the opponents of these Acts were hardly trustworthy men or women. They did not depend upon facts for the position they took up; otherwise, they would not agitate all through the country unscrupulously telling terrible falsehoods. It was his duty, when he last addressed the House

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upon the point, to expose a certain statement made by one Wheeler, of Rochester, who was a witness before the Committee to which he had already referred. ["Oh, oh!"] The hon. and learned Member for Stockport (Mr. Hopwood) said "Oh, oh!" He (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) was glad of that, because it enabled him to challenge the statements of this Wheeler of Rochester, and to show, as he had done before, that his allegations were utterly devoid of truth. He should have thought nothing of this Mr. Wheeler, because he was only an obscure individual; but very lately a publication had been sent to several Members of that House, upon which he thought it his duty to comment. He considered it his duty to take that course, because this document emanated from persons whose condition of life and position in society was very much more important and more influential than that of this one Wheeler, of Rochester. There had been a pamphlet issued by a certain Society in the East of London, formed for the purpose of obtaining the repeal of the Contagious Diseases Acts. He observed, with the greatest possible regret, that the Chairman of that Society was no less a person than the hon. Member for Bristol (Mr. S. Morley). The Vice Chairman was the hon. Gentleman the Member for Lambeth (Sir William M'Arthur); and amongst the other names upon the pamphlet he found those of the hon. Member for Norwich (Mr. Colman), the hon. Member for Cambridge (Mr. W. Fowler), the Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade (Mr. J. Holms), the hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for Stockport (Mr. Hopwood), the hon. Baronet the Member for Finsbury (Sir Andrew Lusk), the hon. Member for Leicester (Mr. P. A. Taylor), and the hon. and learned Member for Edinburgh (Mr. Waddy). It was necessary that the statements made in that pamphlet should receive contradiction in that House, otherwise they might produce ill-effects—if, indeed, they had not already done so. He (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) had himself more than once called the attention of the hon. Member for Bristol to the scandalous fabrications which were set forth in that publication. He wrote to the hon. Member last November concerning them, and the hon. Gentleman said he had not time to attend to the

matter. Only yesterday, when he found the hon. Gentleman exerting himself to prevent cruelty to pigeons, he told him it would be far better if he would endeavour to prevent cruelty to women; and that whenever the matter came again before the House of Commons, he (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) should call attention to this pamphlet. The pamphlet contained the following statement:—

"Who can wonder that women, driven to desperation, should have again and again terminated their lives, when confronted with such a tribunal, and that maidens, innocent of a knowledge of the very terms used for their entanglement, have been placed on the registers, deprived of their natural liberty, and subjected to the outrage perpetuated under the Acts? Cases have happened of girls, yet in their state of maidenhood, being subjected to the Acts on the oath of a police constable. 'I (Mr. C. J. Tarring, Barrister-at-Law, writing to *The Protest*, under date April 16th, 1878) am frequently informed of women being positively hunted about by the spy police; and being "deterred," not from entering, upon, or pursuing, any evil calling, but from succeeding in their efforts to avoid or escape from it.' For, in all large towns, there is many a poor woman, shuddering on the brink of the abyss, to whom the suspicion of the policeman, followed by his prompt order to 'go up to the examination house,' is the last push which sends her over the edge. There are many, too, who have, alas! succumbed in their hour of weakness to dire temptation, who yet are struggling to return to the path of honesty, but whose struggles grow fainter under the leer of the detective, with his 'Come, now, you know you are no better than you ought to be,' and who receive the *coup de grace* from his short order to 'go up to the examination house, or it will be the worse for you.' It is not surprising that there are well-authenticated instances of women, in their wretchedness and despair, having sought relief even in death from the cruel persistence of their police tormentors. A girl of twenty, named Brown, drowned herself at Plymouth from this cause, in July, 1874, after a previous attempt to cut her throat. Another, named House, threw herself out of the window of the Royal Albert Hospital at Devonport, in May, 1869; and a third, named Mulcarty, who had only recently been married, drowned herself at Milbay, in April, 1873. And in the summer of 1876, the widow of an actor, named Percy, committed suicide at Aldershot, after having written to the newspapers to complain of being prevented by the police from getting an honest living. And innocent maidens have been terrified into signing the disgraceful fraud called 'the voluntary submission' (by virtue of which they are straightway inscribed on the register of prostitutes, although there is not the faintest indication of such an effect in the paper itself), and compelled to undergo the degrading consequences, without having had the slightest idea what they were entrapped into. How much is there behind and beneath what is known of this kind that never comes to light: for the class to which these women belong

does not find a very ready access to the public ear with their tale of wrong. In April, 1881, a girl of the name of Elizabeth Burley was chased through the streets of Dover by the spy police, and actually threw herself into the harbour to escape from their clutches."

He (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) thought it right to say that all these allegations—he did not scruple to use the phrase—were entirely false. [The JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL: Hear, hear!] He was glad that the right hon. Gentleman confirmed that statement. Almost all these cases were brought before the Committee, but they broke down without exception. Every case that it was thought might have a chance of establishing a charge against the police was brought before the Committee. The cases were thoroughly investigated by the Committee, and they were all entirely disproved. There, in his place in Parliament, he did protest against these statements being made. Under such circumstances—"Divide, divide!" He was not at all surprised that some hon. Members cried "Divide!" He would repeat that, in his place in Parliament, he protested against these statements being made; and he wished to express his regret and grief that Members of Parliament, so distinguished and so respected in their several positions as the hon. Members he had enumerated, should allow such a foul and discreditable and disreputable document to be issued under their names. He did not intend to mince matters. He had strong opinions on these points; and he thought it most deplorable that Her Majesty's Government should have allowed themselves, for one moment, to give way to pressure of this sort, and, practically, to condemn the Acts which he knew were supported by the vast majority of the intelligent people of the country—by all reasonable men, by all those who had really investigated the subject thoroughly, and certainly by the vast majority not only of the Medical Profession, but of the Learned Professions. He was very sorry that he had been called upon to hear the statements which had been made by the noble Marquess that night. He had been in hopes that there might have been some signs of repentance exhibited by him, and that the Government might have resolved not to leave our soldiers and sailors unnecessarily open to the ravages of this terrible disease—although that

was the least important element in the case—and that they would have done something to alleviate the sufferings of those unfortunate women whose miserable lot, as they saw it when passing through the streets, was one which touched them to the very soul. He had felt it his duty to make these observations; and, certainly, if there was a chance of giving another vote, he should give one in favour of the continuance of these Acts.

MR. BULWER, who rose exactly at midnight, said, he did not intend to detain the Committee long. [*Cries of "Sunday!"*] He was not going to say anything, although the subject was not a savoury one, which would be at all unbecoming for a Sunday. He had been a Member, during two Parliaments, of the Committee which was appointed to inquire into the working of the Contagious Diseases Acts. He joined the Committee originally with rather a prejudice against the Acts; but he had not served very long before he ascertained what was the nature of the opposition that was made to them. He found that the opponents to the Acts were concerned less about arriving at the truth than establishing a foregone conclusion, and that the opposition was based mainly upon what was, in his opinion, a mass of falsehood. Figures were produced which, of course, dexterously manipulated, might prove a great deal, or might prove nothing; and he found that almost all the cases which were brought against the Acts, the so-called instances of mal-administration and of injustice, had absolutely no foundation whatever. He found that Petitions were got up against the Acts in a manner which certainly reflected no credit on those who had charge of them, and that these Petitions were signed by ignorant persons who knew nothing whatever about the circumstances. He had no hesitation, therefore, although he had voted on some questions against those who supported the Acts, in agreeing to the admirable Report which was drawn up by the hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for Limerick (Mr. O'Shaughnessy), who so ably presided over the Committee. He must express his regret that, by the Resolution of the House, the Acts had been virtually repealed, because he could not fail to see that the operation of the Acts had been most beneficial. It was

clear that, without compulsory powers, the benefit of the Acts would be almost entirely gone. The noble Marquess the Secretary of State for War (the Marquess of Hartington) spoke of the number of women who had been brought into hospital. What he (Mr. Bulwer) wanted to know was, whether the women would be kept in hospital until they were cured?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON, in reply, said, the women were detained there until they were cured.

MR. BULWER said, he was glad to hear it, as he had thought that they would be at liberty to leave the hospital when they pleased. Undoubtedly, the number of women who now entered the hospitals was much smaller than the number who entered in a diseased condition under the Compulsory Clauses of the Acts. He extremely regretted the action of the Government in stopping the operation of these Acts, which, in his opinion, had done an infinity of good. There had been a good deal of misrepresentation; but the Acts had received the approval of most persons conversant with the facts and competent to form a just opinion. He had had conversations forced upon him by women on this subject; but he had told them that the subject was one he could not discuss with them, because they did not understand it. The opposition to the Acts was mainly fostered by means of falsehood and exaggerated statements told to women to excite their feelings, and to prejudice them against the Acts. At that late hour of the night, however, he would not detain the Committee further.

SIR JOHN HAY: I rise to move, Mr. Chairman, that you do now report Progress, and ask leave to sit again.

Sir ALEXANDER GORDON and Sir JOHN HAY rising together,

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. COURTNEY) called upon Sir ALEXANDER GORDON.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON: It has occurred to me, in listening to this debate—

SIR JOHN HAY: I rise to Order. I moved, Mr. Chairman, that you do now report Progress, and ask leave to sit again.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. COURTNEY): The hon. and gallant Gentleman (Sir Alexander Gordon) rose before the right hon. and gallant Gentleman

the Member for Wigtown (Sir John Hay).

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, it seemed to be considered by hon. Gentlemen who had spoken on the subject, that the withdrawal of the police from the towns in which they had been employed was a necessary consequence of the Vote passed by this House. It must be remembered that on the withdrawal of the Metropolitan Police from the towns in question, those towns became subject to increased expenditure, inasmuch as they had now to provide their own police. The great desire of these towns was to get back the Metropolitan Police, and he regretted very much that the Bill brought in by the Government was not persevered in, although there were one or two clauses in it which, to his mind, were objectionable. The measure, however, on the whole, was framed in a very desirable manner, and might have done great benefit if it had passed into law. He could not help thinking that the Government acted rather in a hurry; for, on the very day following that on which the Resolution was passed, they gave orders for the withdrawal of the Metropolitan Police. He hoped the Government would, next Session, bring in the Bill which they had been obliged to drop, because he was quite sure that something in that direction was very desirable.

SIR JOHN HAY said, it was now 10 minutes past 12 on Sunday morning. The House had been sitting for 12 hours, and, of course, if there was any chance of completing the Army and Navy Estimates before 8 in the morning, or within a reasonable time, he should not think of interrupting the proceedings. ["Hear, hear!"] He could not speak for the Army Votes. He did not know how much discussion there was to be upon those Votes; but he should imagine that, upon the subject to be raised by his hon. and gallant Friend the Member for Horsham (Sir Henry Fletcher), there was every likelihood of a considerably long debate. After the Army Estimates, it was intended to enter on an important discussion to be raised by his hon. and gallant Friend (Captain Maxwell-Heron) on the Court Martial Vote. There were also the Greenwich Hospital Vote and other Naval Votes, which would require some consideration. After sitting for 12 hours, it was utterly impossible to sit for six or eight more; and

he therefore moved that the Chairman report Progress. ["Oh, oh!" and "Hear, hear!"]

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Chairman do report Progress, and ask leave to sit again."—(Sir John Hay.)

MR. GLADSTONE said, he should have thought that the right hon. and gallant Gentleman (Sir John Hay) would have seen the wisdom of finishing the Vote they had now in hand, and that the Committee would not think of reporting Progress until that Vote was disposed of. He hoped, however, that when the Vote was disposed of, the Committee would take seriously into view the present state of affairs. The right hon. and gallant Gentleman might be better acquainted with the case than he (Mr. Gladstone) was; but he was under the impression that there were no Votes remaining which would occupy any considerable time in discussion. Certainly, the question to be raised by the hon. and gallant Gentleman (Captain Maxwell-Heron) was one of a personal nature, and the discussion arising upon it must, therefore, be limited. He hoped the right hon. and gallant Gentleman the Member for Wigtown would allow the Committee to take the present Vote before he made the Motion to report Progress.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR said, he should be compelled to follow the right hon. and gallant Gentleman the Member for Wigtown (Sir John Hay) into the Lobby, if he pressed his Motion to a Division. He should do so on the ground that it was now Sunday morning. It seemed to him (Mr. Arthur O'Connor) a most unseemly proceeding on the part of the House of Commons and the Government, for the sake of curtailing the Session by, possibly, a day, or half-a-day, that they should be sitting into Sunday morning in order to pass Votes in Supply. It must be remembered that they had been sitting until 3 or 4 o'clock in the morning for the past week. Hon. Members were thoroughly exhausted, and when it came to repeating the same process on a Sunday morning he thought it time to enter some very serious protest. On that ground, he should support the right hon. and gallant Gentleman in his Motion to report Progress.

MR. J. LOWTHER said, he could not wonder that his right hon. and gallant Friend (Sir John Hay) had made that Motion, especially having regard to the disorderly interruptions which emanated from certain quarters opposite. In common candour, he could not help remarking that the disturbance was not discountenanced in certain quarters of the Treasury Bench. [MR. GLADSTONE: Oh, oh!] As the right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister challenged him, he would repeat the statement. In certain quarters of the Treasury Bench—

THE CHAIRMAN (MR. COURTNEY): The right hon. Gentleman must address himself to the Question of reporting Progress.

MR. J. LOWTHER: That was exactly what I was doing, although, Sir, in consequence of the disorderly interruptions of the Prime Minister, you were prevented from hearing what I had to say.

MR. GLADSTONE: I wish to know, Sir, whether it is competent for the right hon. Gentleman, who has been called to Order, to allege that the Chairman of Committees did not hear what he had to say?

THE CHAIRMAN (MR. COURTNEY): I beg the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. J. Lowther) to keep to the Question before the Committee.

MR. J. LOWTHER said, he would at once bow to the Chairman's ruling; but he thought he was justified in saying that the right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister most unnecessarily interrupted him. He was saying that interruptions emanated from certain quarters of the Treasury Bench, and he gave that as a reason why his right hon. and gallant Friend (Sir John Hay) should move to report Progress.

THE CHAIRMAN (MR. COURTNEY): I must ask the right hon. Gentleman to remember that, under the New Rules, he must confine his remarks to the Motion to report Progress.

MR. J. LOWTHER said, he should be strictly within those limits if he confined himself to entering an emphatic protest against the money of the taxpayers of the country being voted away in a thin House upon a Sunday morning, amidst disorderly interruptions initiated upon the Treasury Bench and participated in by the Prime Minister himself.

SIR JOHN HAY said, he thought there was good reason for reporting Progress when the right hon. and

learned Gentleman the Member for Whitehaven (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) had been interrupted in a disorderly manner from one quarter of the Treasury Bench. The discussion which had taken place, and the way in which Business was being interrupted by the Prime Minister, were a sufficient reason why, on Sunday morning, a protest should be made against the money of the taxpayers being voted amidst interruptions of a disorderly character, initiated in many cases by the Treasury Bench and defended by the Prime Minister himself.

MR. SHEIL said, he understood that the Motion to report Progress was made on the ground that it was now Sunday morning. Sometimes he had heard it said—"The better the day the better the deed;" and he would remind the Committee that, on a former occasion, when Progress was moved upon the Coercion Bill, after most of the Irish Members had been expelled, the right hon. Gentleman who now moved to report Progress (Sir John Hay) said he was quite ready to go on through Sunday, because the Battle of Waterloo was fought on a Sunday. That reason still held good, and he (Mr. Sheil) thought the Committee might go on with this matter for a certain time; but he wished to ask the Prime Minister, whether, if further Progress was made with Supply, he would undertake to then report Progress in order that the Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland) Bill might be taken.

CAPTAIN MAXWELL-HERON said, he did not think the Motion he wished to make would be a question of a few minutes, as the Prime Minister supposed. His Motion had reference to a gallant officer, a brother of his; this was the third time he had been prevented from bringing on that Motion, and he was now naturally anxious to put it off to a better opportunity, as it was absolutely necessary that the discussion should be reported. He hoped the Prime Minister would take his position into consideration.

MR. GLADSTONE said, he would suggest that the present Vote should be taken, and then Progress might be reported.

MR. J. LOWTHER said, he thought that a reasonable proposal, and hoped his right hon. and gallant Friend (Sir John Hay) would agree to it.

SIR JOHN HAY said, he wished to say, in reply to the appeal of the Prime Minister, that the present Vote might, he thought, fairly be finished; but there was another subject under these Estimates which his hon. and gallant Friend the Member for Horsham (Sir Henry Fletcher) had to raise, and it would be very inconvenient to proceed with that under this Vote. He was willing to withdraw his Motion on the understanding suggested.

Question put.

The Committee divided:—Ayes 15; Noes 42: Majority 27.—(Div. List, No. 303.)

Original Question again proposed.

MR. J. LOWTHER said, the Prime Minister had very truly stated, the other day, in reply to the hon. Member for Mid Lincolnshire (Mr. Chaplin), that it was beyond the competency of any House of Parliament to interfere with the Statute Law of the land. That was a very sound Constitutional doctrine; but, in this case, the right hon. Gentleman had adopted a line of action precisely the opposite of what he had so soundly inculcated. He had, in effect, said this—that although the Statute Law of the land provided that certain steps should be taken, and because one branch of the Legislature had expressed a different opinion, therefore the Government would adopt a line of action in opposition to that which was contained in the law of the land. The right hon. Gentleman had supplied some clue to what was previously a mystery. His right hon. Friend the Member for Whitehaven (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) had said that the right hon. Gentleman had, on a previous occasion, stated that these Acts were passed *sub silentio*, without his being aware that they were enacted. The right hon. Gentleman, with promptitude, contradicted that statement; and when the right hon. the Member for Whitehaven went on to show that the Prime Minister had on that, as on many other questions, changed his mind, the Prime Minister again interrupted him, and said he had not changed his mind. What did that mean? That the Prime Minister, who, as Chancellor of the Exchequer, and a Member of the Cabinet, was primarily responsible for the introduction of these Acts, contrary to his own opinion, and who was more or less—and he feared

more rather than less—during the time in which the Acts had been in operation, responsible for carrying them out, also against his own opinion—the right hon. Gentleman having found that the majority of the House was prepared to run counter to Acts of Parliament for which he had originally been responsible, and which he had carried out for many years, now laid down, with regard to those Acts, an entirely different line of action to that which he had laid down with regard to the Cattle Diseases Acts a few days ago. The right hon. Gentleman had, to his own satisfaction, convinced himself that he was perfectly right in assenting, originally, to the Acts which were passed contrary to his own judgment, and which he had carried out without saying a word that would lead anyone to believe that he was the unwilling instrument in carrying them out; and he now appeared to think he was justified in coming down and saying he never approved of the Acts. [“Oh, oh!”] [MR. GLADSTONE: I did not say that.] He understood the right hon. Gentleman to say that he had not changed his mind; but, apparently, he had misunderstood him, and he would allow the right hon. Gentleman to explain, if the hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General would allow the debate to proceed without unseemly interruptions; and it was to the hon. and learned Attorney General, and not, as had been erroneously supposed, to the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Judge Advocate General (Mr. Osborne Morgan), to whom he had previously referred as having interrupted the discussion.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR said, that, earlier in the Sitting, the Chairman had decided that the hon. Member for Cavan (Mr. Biggar) was out of Order in saying “Hear, hear!” when the Prime Minister was speaking. He wished to know whether a similar, or even a worse, interruption from the Treasury Bench was not also out of Order?

THE CHAIRMAN: The interruption by the hon. Member for Cavan (Mr. Biggar) was very peculiar, and it seemed to me to be of a very unseemly character. I am not prepared to say whether the interruptions now are directly in Order; but they certainly are not of an unseemly character.

MR. J. LOWTHER said, he did not suppose that the hon. and learned Attorney General intended any personal

discourtesy; but he (Mr. J. Lowther) did think the debate might be allowed to proceed in some sort of Order. As to the question he had been discussing, he thought the country had a right to demand one of two things—either that the Executive should carry out the law as it stood, or endeavour to amend it. What said the Secretary of State for the Home Department on the subject the other day? The right hon. Gentleman, he believed, was perfectly sound on the subject, and being asked a Question as to the employment of the local police to carry out the Acts, he said, most distinctly, that he had no control over those police; and that, if the local authorities wished to carry out the Statute Law of the land, they had the law in their own hands, and that it was in their power, by means of their own local police, to carry out the Acts in as efficient a manner as had previously been done by the Metropolitan Police. A similar Question was subsequently put to the right hon. Gentleman the Home Secretary, and he seized that occasion to modify what he had distinctly stated, and intimated that that was a difficult point, upon which he should like to have Notice, and the subject was dropped; but he thought the Committee had a right to ask this. Assuming that the Prime Minister succeeded in what he was apparently determined to do—namely, to pass this Vote, without the necessary quota, enabling the Acts to be carried out in the former fashion—did the Secretary of State for the Home Department adhere to his opinion, that the local authorities had power to carry out the Acts in their integrity, without recourse to Imperial Funds? That was a point which, he thought, ought to be cleared up, even assuming that the Acts could be efficiently carried out. He was glad the Prime Minister was intending to reply, and he hoped the right hon. Gentleman would, in addition to being short—which the right hon. Gentleman intimated he intended to be—be also precise, and would inform the House of what they had a right to ask—whether the local authorities had the power under the law of the land to carry out the Acts, without the intervention of the Metropolitan Police? If they had that power, that would go a long way in mitigation of the action of the Government; but unless that was made perfectly clear, he

thought he had a right to ask the Government whether they considered themselves justified in allowing the law of the land to be practically set aside through their own neglect?

MR. GLADSTONE said, the speech of the right hon. Gentleman opposite (Mr. J. Lowther) was, no doubt, of interest to him, and if he could concur in the right hon. Gentleman's opinion, he should make no scruple in following him. But he did not see any interest so great as the right hon. Gentleman attached to his speech; and there was not a single proposition which had been delivered by the right hon. Gentleman that was accurate, and the consequence of his going into details was that the aggregate result was entirely false. There was one charge which he took to be serious. The right hon. Gentleman said that, having laid down the principle that the law of the land was superior to a Resolution of Parliament, he (Mr. Gladstone) had now departed from that principle in regard to these Acts. The doctrine of the right hon. Gentleman was, that when an Act of Parliament was passed it was the duty of the Government, under all circumstances, to provide the sums required, and that it was the absolute duty of the House of Commons to vote them.

MR. J. LOWTHER said, the Government were bound to propose the Votes necessary for carrying out the law.

MR. GLADSTONE: Where does the right hon. Gentleman find that? In what Parliamentary commentaries, or law?

MR. CALLAN: Common sense.

MR. GLADSTONE said, he would leave the question of common sense to the judgment of the hon. Gentleman who was so distinguished for it. The House of Commons was under no obligation to vote money; and when the Government had the most conclusive reason to know that the House of Commons would not vote the money, they were under no obligation to propose it.

MR. CAVENDISH BENTINCK said, that he had stated in the course of his speech that the Prime Minister had said he had no knowledge of the passing of these Acts. The right hon. Gentleman had to his (Mr. Bentinck's) great surprise denied that; for on referring to a speech made by the right hon. Gentleman on the 7th of May last on a Motion for Adjournment, he found that the right hon. Gentleman had said—

Mr. J. Lowther

"He was a Member of the Government at the time the Acts were passed; but he did not know how they passed, or by whom they were carried through the House;"

and he (Mr. Bentinck) would further remind the Prime Minister that he was then Chancellor of the Exchequer, and that the Estimates for the Acts must have been approved by him.

MR. GLADSTONE said, that what he had stated was, that the Acts were passed in general obscurity, and were never brought before the Government.

MR. J. LOWTHER said, that the right hon. Gentleman was charging his own Colleagues.

MR. GLADSTONE asked whether that frivolous discussion was to proceed simply in order to make him occupy the time of the House? What he had stated was, that the Acts were withdrawn from general notice, simply with the most honourable motives; but it was a great misfortune in reference to the policy of the Acts, because the country became committed to most important principles.

COLONEL ALEXANDER said, he would suggest that the Committee should now allow every Vote to pass without discussion, and that everything should be allowed to be discussed on the Report of Supply, which must be taken as the First Order on Monday, in order that the Appropriation Bill should be brought in. The debate on the *Clyde* Court Martial would occupy at least two hours.

MR. CALLAN said, this was the Vote for Miscellaneous Charges at the War Office, and it would be in the recollection of the Committee that, towards the end of July, the hon. Member for Oxfordshire asked the Secretary of State for War why the evidence of the Departmental Committee had not been printed, as well as the evidence before the Departmental Committee as to the out-pensioners of Chelsea and Kilmainham Hospitals. The noble Marquess the Secretary of State for War replied that the reason was the expense of printing this evidence; and a few days later, he (Mr. Callan) himself asked a Question on the same subject, the answer to which was not given in any newspaper. If it had been given in one paper and not in any other, that would have been a mere accident; but it was a most extraordinary coincidence that both the Question and the answer were suppressed in every paper. It was now nearly the end of August,

and no Member could get a copy of that evidence. If the evidence was not circulated, it should, at least, be left at the Vote Office for those who might require a copy; but, up to the present time, when the Army Estimates were being taken, it had been carefully suppressed. It was, as he had said, a most extraordinary fact, that no hon. Member could get a copy of the evidence to connote or comment upon. And, now, hon. Members were detained in the House, and taking part in that discreditable proceeding, a Sitting on Sunday morning. Fifteen years had he been a Member of the House, and only once before, during that time, had the House sat for a few minutes into Sunday. On that occasion, it was to pass a Coercion Bill; and, on that occasion, he spoke of the discredit of such a proceeding. How a Member for Mid Lothian, a Sabbatarian constituency, could be in the House, and lend himself to such a breach of Sabbatarian institutions, he could not understand.

MR. GLADSTONE said, he would trespass on the time of the Committee for a moment, to refer to what had been said by the hon. and gallant Member for South Ayrshire (Colonel Alexander), who suggested that the Votes should be taken in Committee; and, in order that a day might not be lost, the discussion should be taken on the Report stage. For that suggestion, he had to thank the hon. and gallant Member; and, in proposing to adopt it, he hoped the Votes would be taken now in their usual course, the Report being taken at the usual hour on Monday. His opinion was that this arrangement would be advantageous.

SIR HENRY FLETCHER said, he had a matter to bring forward in connection with the Vote quite distinct from that on which the Committee were engaged.

MR. GLADSTONE said, that might be taken on Report too.

SIR HENRY FLETCHER said, he did not think that would be so convenient. It was not often he interposed in the proceedings; but the matter to which he wished to refer was a soldier's question. In connection with this Vote, he wished to ask the noble Marquess the Secretary of State for War a question about the distribution of medals. This year £600 was devoted to the purpose, and last year £850, and he wished to bring before the Committee the claims,

under this head, of certain men who held beleaguered garrisons during the Transvaal Campaign. In April last, he asked a Question on the subject of the noble Marquess, and the answer he received was unsatisfactory, and he thereupon intimated he would bring the matter forward on the first opportunity. There was some misunderstanding, if the noble Marquess would allow him to say so, in the answer he gave. His words were that the rewards given were one C.B., six Victoria Crosses, and six Distinguished Conduct Medals. Now, he (Sir Henry Fletcher) could not discover that this number of crosses and medals had been distributed, and he fancied there had been some misunderstanding between the Transvaal Campaign and other South African services. He wished to point out that the beleaguered garrisons in the Transvaal who, for three months, held Pretoria, Potchefstroom, Standerton, and other towns, did most honourably, most nobly, do their duty; and Sir Evelyn Wood, when he visited these garrisons, when peace was concluded, promised most distinctly, to the troops who had held these posts, that he would use his best endeavours that decorations should be given for their gallant conduct. These troops did most gallantly hold the forts for three months; they received no decorations; they had not even received a General Order, thanking them for their services, which they ought to have had after having from Sir Evelyn Wood a promise of a recognition of their services. Colonel Bellairs received a K.C.M.G., and one or two other officers, who held subordinate posts under his command, were rewarded with the honourable distinction of Aides-de-Camp to Her Majesty. Other officers received brevet rank, and Colonel Montague, of the 94th, the 2nd Battalion of the Connaught Rangers, received a C.B.; but, with these exceptions, no decorations had been bestowed on officers and men, beyond those Victoria Crosses and Distinguished Conduct Medals referred to by the noble Marquess, for services rendered to Queen and country. He might be told that it was in consequence of the campaign not having been successful, that no decorations could be given; but he maintained that these forces in the Transvaal were entirely separate from the forces in Natal during the unfortunate incident at Majuba Hill. They had nothing to do with the

forces in Natal, and for three months they were cut off from communication with them; they held their own during that time, and at the end of those three months they delivered up the beleaguered towns in the same state in which they undertook the defence of them. He brought this matter forward simply, as an old soldier, for the purpose of expressing a hope that the Government would make some recognition of these services, because there was no doubt the treatment these troops had received had in some sort interfered with recruiting for Her Majesty's Army. There was a precedent for what he proposed in the case of Sir Frederick Roberts' march from Cabul to Candahar; decorations were given to those who took part in that march; and he trusted Her Majesty's Government would bestow some decoration on these gallant men who held out in these garrisons, and suffered great necessities, and received nothing in return. In the Egyptian Campaign "batta" was given to the troops; but, in the Transvaal, nothing was given, though, in many instances, the men lost all their clothing.

SIR JOHN HAY said, as to the influence upon recruiting, spoken of by his hon. and gallant Friend (Sir Henry Fletcher) in connection with this subject, he could speak from his own knowledge of a similar feeling among his own countrymen in Wigtonshire and Ayrshire, and that great dissatisfaction had arisen from the fact that no recognition of the services of these troops had been shown to any person but the Colonel, and none to the subordinate officers and rank and file for 99 days' service under fire. No more grand deed of arms was ever performed by officers and men of the British Army. Under fire, they had to raise defences for the protection of women and children who had taken refuge with them, having to expose themselves to all danger, because the only shelter possible to even the wounded men was given up to the women who had taken shelter in a small fort. Their exertions and their sufferings deserved the recognition of the country. As he had said, with regard to the effect on recruiting, he could confirm his hon. and gallant Friend the Member for Horsham as to the effect in Ayrshire and Wigtonshire, caused by the neglect of the battalion of Royal Scotch Fusiliers, after going

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through a heroic defence which ought to be recognized as most brilliant service.

COLONEL ALEXANDER said, he should like, as Member for South Ayrshire, being the county with which the regiment concerned was most connected, to say a few words in support of the appeal of the hon. and gallant Member for Horsham (Sir Henry Fletcher). His right hon. and gallant Friend (Sir John Hay) had mentioned the presence of women during the siege, and, of course, that added greatly to the responsibility of officers and men. The ladies were for 97 days confined to a small space which they could not leave, one woman was wounded, and another succumbed to typhoid fever. After a siege of 97 days, under the pressure of exhaustion of provisions, and being obliged to abandon all hope of succour, they accepted, not the terms first proposed by the Boers, but honourable terms, such as might be accepted without question. They marched out with all the honours of war, being allowed to retain their side arms, and the men their property. Seventy-seven men were killed and wounded, out of a small force of 213 men. He would ask the noble Marquess the Secretary of State for War, could he not bestow some small decoration—it would cost almost nothing—on these gallant men? Rewards and decorations had been showered down rather freely of late; but not even a small bit of ribbon was given to these gallant men. He could assure the noble Marquess they would remember with gratitude any small cross or medal that might be bestowed. It had been said the defence was unsuccessful, because Potchefstroom surrendered. He denied that altogether; because it was found out afterwards that it ought not to have been surrendered, and the capitulation was annulled subsequently. No doubt, if the troops at Majuba had succeeded, they would have had medals, and those who fought at Potchefstroom would have had a clasp; why, then, should they suffer from the fault of the Commander at Majuba? The feeling of these men was that attributed to an illustrious King of England—

“By Jove, I am not covetous of gold;
But if it be a sin to covet honour,
I am the most offending soul alive.”

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, he regretted extremely that the hon.

Member for Louth (Mr. Callan) had found any difficulty in regard to the Kilmainham and Chelsea Hospital Papers. He had given instructions, and did not understand why they had not all been given. He had never understood that the Papers were to be circulated; but they were to be placed in the Library, and he was informed that had been done. Certainly, he had taken no measures to suppress them.

MR. CALLAN said, he never meant to attribute anything of that kind.

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, he thought it was extremely probable the same fate would overtake the conversation which had taken place now as had befallen the Question and answer the hon. Member had referred to. With regard to the point raised by the hon. and gallant Member for Horsham (Sir Henry Fletcher), it had reference to a subject which was brought forward last year, and a Question on the subject was put to his Predecessor in Office (Mr. Childers). His right hon. Friend gave the reasons why the military authorities did not consider it desirable to distribute medals for the gallant services of the troops in that campaign. No action was taken in regard to that answer last Session, and he must tell the Committee that there must be some finality in decisions of this kind; and he did not think it would be for the best interests of the Army that another decision should be arrived at in the following year. It had been said that medals might be granted to the troops who garrisoned these towns, though it was quite unnecessary to give them to the troops who had taken part in the less fortunate engagement. But that, he thought, would be most unfair. He did not think that medals should be given for one part of military operations only; it would be casting a stigma upon men engaged in another part of the operations, because they were unsuccessful. The hon. and gallant Member for Horsham said he could not trace out the number of decorations which had been said to have been given for services in the Transvaal; but the hon. and gallant Member could hardly expect that he should give a long list of men. He could only give the information with which he had been supplied by the military authorities, and the War Office had every reason to suppose it was accurate. The War Office fully acknow-

ledged the very gallant defence made by these garrisons; and, while it would have given him great pleasure to reward these gallant men, he did not think it was possible for him to re-open the question decided last year by the military authorities and by his right hon. Friend.

SIR HENRY FLETCHER said, he had asked a Question on the subject this Session; but he did not refer to it last year.

THE MARQUESS of HARTINGTON said, a Question was put by some hon. Member.

COLONEL ALEXANDER said, he ought to have said that the surrender of Potchefstroom was obtained under false pretences; and, as that was so, the capitulation was subsequently annulled; therefore, it could not be said the defence was unsuccessful.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR said, it was now proposed to take the Vote closing the Votes for the Effective Services, and then the Non-Effective Votes; and that any discussion proposed in reference to the Non-Effective Services, and to the remaining Naval Votes, should be postponed to the stage of Report. In the present condition in which the House found itself, and the languid mood of the Committee, any proposal to relieve them would be willingly accepted, and he would not do more than enter his emphatic protest against the management. He had anticipated the reception the proposal would meet with from Her Majesty's Government; and, naturally, the Prime Minister rose to accept with alacrity what he (Mr. O'Connor) conceived to be an extremely mischievous proposal. He would not invoke the shadow of Joseph Hume, or the Constitutional spirit of Sir Robert Peel; or ask, what Benjamin Disraeli would have had to say to this—one of the most mischievous precedents that could be established in the House of Commons. Why was it that the House made arrangements for the discussion of Votes in Committee, where each Member was allowed to speak several times over to make his statements clear? Simply, because it was absolutely necessary for some such arrangement to be made for the support of the very foundations of public liberty—the control by the House of the public purse. It was now proposed to take a whole bushel of Votes, to pass them in a formal manner,

arranging for discussion upon a stage utterly unsuited for the subject-matter of the Votes. He did not think it necessary to make any prolonged opposition to the arrangement, under the circumstances; but he rose in order to be able hereafter to say that, when it was attempted to establish so mischievous a precedent, one Member of the House protested against it.

MR. WARTON said, there was another Member who joined in the protest just made. Next Session a still more crowded list of Orders might be expected, with the Government insisting upon having them passed anyhow, to meet the date for Prorogation, or, possibly, Dissolution. This new practice, as regarded the Estimates, was utterly unconstitutional. That Parliament would go down to posterity as the most selfish Parliament that ever sat; a Parliament which, in order that its Members might get away to their sports and pastimes, scamped the Business of the Session. Last October the promise from the Prime Minister was that additional facilities would be given to Supply, and the Government were allowed to go into Committee on Mondays and Thursdays, without preliminary discussion; but the proceedings of that night were the result of those pledges.

MR. TOMLINSON said, he also supported the protest against the deliberate abandonment of control over the voting of public money, simply because the Prime Minister wished the Session to terminate on a particular day. He should not like his constituents to think that he lightly regarded the duty devolving upon that House of guarding the Public Expenditure.

Original Question put, and *agreed to*.

(14.) £22,800, Rewards for Distinguished Services.

(15.) £80,000, Half Pay.

SIR HENRY FLETCHER said, he understood the Committee would not proceed with Votes upon which discussion would arise. He had a question to raise in connection with this one.

THE MARQUESS of HARTINGTON said, the arrangement which had been accepted was to run through the Estimates, taking the remaining Votes without discussion; and it was against this arrangement that the three hon. Members who had just spoken had made

The Marquess of Hartington

their protest. The understanding, which he understood to be universally accepted, was that all discussion should be taken on the Report.

COLONEL NOLAN said, he was going to say a few words on Vote 23, in reference to a case about which he had made repeated applications to the War Office.

Vote agreed to.

(16.) £1,134,000, Retired Pay, &c.

(17.) £118,200, Widow's Pensions, &c.

(18.) £16,000, Pensions for Wounds.

(19.) £32,900, Chelsea and Kilmainham Hospitals.

(20.) £1,269,900, Out-Pensions.

(21.) £195,000, Superannuation Allowances.

(22.) £48,000, Retired Allowances, &c. to Officers of the Militia, Yeomanry Cavalry, and Volunteer Forces.

(23.) £1,230,000, Army (Indian Home Charges).

COLONEL NOLAN said, he had, in reference to a particular case, been three or four times to the Pension Office and the War Office, and would take that opportunity of bringing it to the attention of the noble Marquess the Secretary of State for War. It was the case of a man who belonged to his (Colonel Nolan's) late regiment, the Royal Artillery, and he was a native of Galway; so he was doubly interested in the case. The facts, as he had often stated them at the War Office, were simply these. The man enlisted in the Indian Army, on the condition that he should receive 1s. a-day pension after 21 years' service; he served through two or three campaigns, and had received two war medals; and except that, shortly before his discharge, there was a case of drunkenness against him, his conduct was good. He was discharged for varicose veins some 21 days, or three weeks, before his full time expired, and thus he was pensioned at 9d. a-day instead of 1s. That, he (Colonel Nolan) could not help regarding as a gross breach of contract. He had tested all the facts, and made repeated application to the War Office; but the War Office did not seem to understand the rules under which the man joined. Would the noble Marquess take note of the facts, for the

man certainly ought to get his 1s. a-day?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, he had some sort of recollection of the case; but, of course, without refreshing his memory, he could not go into it. He would venture to point out, but he was not certain, that this might be a case which would come under the change recommended by the Committee on Kilmainham Hospital, and which was proposed to be carried out by the Bill before the House the other day. Under the present law, the Secretary of State for War was not the interpreter of his own Warrant as regarded pensions; the Chelsea Commissioners had the power, under Statute, to interpret the Warrant; and there had been instances occasionally in which the Commissioners had insisted on an interpretation that the Secretary of State thought extremely hard and injurious to the soldier. It had been considered better that this power should not be in the hands of an irresponsible party. But he would make inquiries into the case.

Vote agreed to.

(24.) £60,600, Medicines and Medical Stores, &c.

(25.) £10,400, Martial Law, &c.

(26.) £154,332, Greenwich Hospital and School.

House resumed.

Resolutions to be reported upon Monday next.

SUPPLY.—REPORT.

Resolutions [17th August] reported.

First Resolution agreed to.

Second Resolution read a second time.

MR. SHEIL said, he did not think it was understood that the House was to go on with the Report of Supply. He thought the Orders of the Day were to be proceeded with.

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, the Report of the Supply voted the previous day was an Order of the Day.

Resolution agreed to.

Following Thirty-four Resolutions agreed to.

Thirty-seventh Resolution read a second time.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That this House doth agree with the Committee in the said Resolution."

MR. WARTON said, he considered this one of the most important Votes that could be passed. Over £3,000,000, in connection with the Post Office, had been passed in Committee without a single word; and, as the Postmaster General had left the House, he would suggest that the Report of this Vote be taken on Monday.

MR. COURTNEY said, he was not aware there was any wish to discuss the Vote; but any observations might be made now. There was no necessity to postpone the Vote to Monday.

MR. TOMLINSON said, as a justification for the proposal to postpone the Vote, he might mention that a right hon. Friend had expressed to him (Mr. Tomlinson) his intention of saying something on the subject of the Vote. It was not expected that it would be taken at such an hour on Sunday morning, and it would be well that hon. Members unaware of the proceeding should have an opportunity of making the observations they desired to make in regard to the Vote.

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (Sir FARRER HERSCHELL) said, had the right hon. Gentleman of whom the hon. Member opposite (Mr. Tomlinson) spoke been in the House during the day? Of course, it was not known that the Vote would not come on during the afternoon?

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR said, he hoped the Government would agree to postpone the Vote, for he knew there was something to be said, and questions to be asked, in reference to the position of sub-postmasters in Ireland and of letter-carriers in the West of Ireland, now laden with immense burdens, in connection with the new Parcels Post system. There were also other matters hon. Members desired to bring before the House.

Question put.

MR. WARTON: On a point of Order, Mr. Speaker, I proposed that it be postponed to Monday.

MR. SPEAKER: I am putting the Question, which I understand the hon. and learned Member proposes to meet with a negative.

MR. WARTON: I beg pardon. That is not what I intended. I intended only to postpone it.

MR. SPEAKER: If the House disagrees with the Motion, it will be for the House to say if it shall be postponed to another day. The House will agree, or disagree, as it sees fit.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR: Can I not move the adjournment of the debate?

MR. SPEAKER: The Question is, "That this House doth agree with the Committee in the said Resolution."

The House divided:—Ayes 44; Noes 11: Majority 33. — (Div. List, No. 304.)

Subsequent Resolutions agreed to.

TRAMWAYS AND PUBLIC COMPANIES (IRELAND) BILL.—[Bill 286.]

(Mr. Trevelyan, Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Attorney General for Ireland, Mr. Courtney.)

CONSIDERATION. THIRD READING.

Bill, as amended, considered.

Clause 1 (Grand jury may present in favour of baronial guarantee).

MR. BIGGAR said, the Amendment which he had to propose was to leave out, in page 1, the words after "Act," in line 12, to the end of line 16. This Tramway Bill would give over to a lot of swindling Companies full authority to rob the barony without limit. What he wished to do, if possible, was to limit the amount of appropriation that might take place. A considerable number of Irish Members were of opinion that it was desirable that there should be some limit to the power to be given; and another advantage in what he proposed was, that if an undertaking was believed by the promoters to be infeasible, and not likely to pay working expenses, they would not be bound to push the scheme on. But if the words he referred to in the Amendment were allowed to remain in the clause, the projectors of a scheme would have every inducement to lead the people to go on with their scheme, even if they knew it would not be successful. He moved the Amendment for the purpose of raising this question; and, if the Government agreed to it, they might introduce on the third reading, or in "another place," a

consequential Amendment which would meet the case. He was perfectly willing that the ratepayers should be bound to provide a guarantee to the extent of 3 per cent as long as the tramway worked; but he thought that was quite a sufficient sum to require them to pay. If a line worked, then the Government would pay 2 per cent, and the ratepayers would pay 3 per cent.

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 12, to leave the word "Act," to the word "baronies," in line 16.—(*Mr. Biggar.*)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Bill."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, the very essence of the Bill was that tramways should not only be made, but should work, and it would be impossible consistently with the Bill to accept the Amendment.

Question put.

The House divided:—Ayes 50; Noes 4: Majority 46.—(Div. List, No. 305.)

Clause agreed to.

Clause 10 (Provision shall be made by Order in Council for the working of line).

Mr. LALOR said, he had an Amendment to propose which he had understood the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland was willing to accept with some trifling modification; but it appeared now that the Government were not willing to accept it. He proposed to insert, in line 18, after the word "completed," the words "by the Company." These clauses were intended to guard the baronies against careless extravagance, and against Companies getting hold of works.

Amendments made.

Amendment proposed, in page 6, line 18, after the word "completed," to insert the words "by the Company."—(*Mr. Lalor.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, the hon. Member (Mr. Lalor) was not correct in saying that the Government had given

any undertaking to accept his Amendment. They had given a promise to consider it, and they had done so; but they had come to the conclusion that the acceptance of the Amendment would render the Bill unworkable.

Question put, and *negatived*.

Amendment proposed,

In page 6, line 29, after the word "jury," to insert the words,—“Should the Company fail to complete the undertaking within the stipulated time, having expended the estimated and guaranteed amount, and should the guaranteeing baronies be called on, in consequence, to contribute money in order to complete the Tramway, the amount so contributed by the guaranteeing baronies shall, with the consent of the Lord Lieutenant, be deducted from the amount already expended by the Company, and on the balance alone shall the guaranteeing baronies be obliged to pay the guaranteed dividend;

“Should the Company, having completed the necessary arrangements in conformity with the requirements of this Act, and having commenced the execution of the works in connection with a Tramway, fail to continue or complete the execution of such works within the prescribed time, and before the estimated amount necessary for the purpose has been expended;

“In that case the Company shall forfeit to the guaranteeing baronies any portion of the work that may have been executed without receiving any remuneration whatsoever, and shall not be entitled to receive any portion of the guaranteed dividend on the amount so expended.”—(*Mr. Lalor.*)

Question, "That those words be there inserted" put, and *negatived*.

Other Amendments made.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, he must now ask the House to allow the Bill to be read the third time.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Bill be now read the third time."—(*Mr. Attorney General for Ireland.*)

Mr. HARRINGTON said, the Bill provided that the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland might devote £50,000 of the £100,000 it dealt with for emigration. The object of the £100,000, however, was clearly emigration. Irish Members had so far sunk their feelings with regard to emigration, as to accept the Bill; but certainly that was on the express condition that only £50,000 should be devoted to emigration, and if he could not get any assurance from the Treasury Bench that only that £50,000 was to be devoted to emigration, he

should divide the House upon this Motion. He did not see how it could be consistent with the proposals of the Government, or with the speeches which had been made from the Treasury Bench that such an assurance should not be given, because they had led hon. Members to believe that only £50,000 would be devoted to emigration, and £50,000 to migration. If they were acting *bond fide*, he should ask them for that assurance; but if, after all the trouble the House had had in considering the Bill, and after the manner in which Irish Members had sunk their feelings—for they felt very strongly on the subject—£100,000 might be devoted to sending people out of Ireland, that would be simply a case of breaking faith with Irish Members. He did not say that was the intention of the Government; but he wanted an assurance from some one responsible for the Government. He would appeal to the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland, who was now present, to give him that assurance.

Mr. SHEIL said, he thought his hon. Friend (Mr. Harrington) was needlessly alarmed. The object of the Bill was clear; and, in the speech he had made, the hon. Member had not done justice to the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) for the remarkable skill with which he had managed to make this Bill so useful and valuable as it was now expected to be for Ireland. The original Bill proposed to provide £100,000 for emigration; but the hon. Member for the City of Cork had reduced the amount for emigration to £50,000, and, moreover, had obtained, for the first time, a Parliamentary sanction to the counter-scheme of migration.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, the Government had not the slightest intention to devote more than £50,000 to emigration.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

Bill read the third time, and *passed*.

WAYS AND MEANS.

Considered in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

Resolved, That, towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the service of the year ending on the 31st day of March 1884, the sum of £22,734,011, be granted out

Mr. Harrington

of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom.

Resolution to be reported upon *Monday* next.

STOLEN GOODS [PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION].

Order for Committee read.

Notice taken, that 40 Members were not present; House counted, and 40 Members being found present,

Matter *considered* in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

Resolved, That it is expedient to authorise the payment of Compensation to second-hand dealers for their expenses in assisting in the recovery of Stolen Articles, in the same manner as the expenses of a prosecution in cases of felony are paid in Ireland, and as the expenses of criminal prosecutions are paid in Scotland, which may become payable under the provisions of any Act of the present Session for amending the Law relating to the recovery of Stolen Articles.

Resolution to be reported upon *Monday* next.

MEDICAL ACT AMENDMENT [COST OF CERTIFICATE].

Considered in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

Resolved, That it is expedient to authorise the payment, out of moneys to be provided by Parliament, of the cost of the Certificate of the death of any registered Medical Practitioner, which may become payable under the provisions of any Act of the present Session for consolidating and amending the Law relating to Medical Practitioners.

Resolution to be reported upon *Monday* next.

House adjourned at half after
Two o'clock in the morning
till Monday next.

HOUSE OF LORDS,

Monday, 20th August, 1883.

MINUTES.]—SELECT COMMITTEE—*Second Report*—Office of the Clerk of the Parliaments and Office of the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod. [No. 206.]

PUBLIC BILLS—*First Reading*—Parliamentary Registration (Ireland)* (204); Local Government Board (Scotland)* (207); Medals* (208); Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland)* (205); Public Works Loans* (209).

Second Reading—Education (Scotland) (199); Expiring Laws Continuance * (197).

Committee—Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) (189); Labourers (Ireland) (183), *deferred*; Bankruptcy (195-211); National Debt * (196-212).

Committee—Report—Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 9) * (125).

Report—Isle of Wight Highways * (191); Local Government Provisional Order (No. 2) * (203); Patents for Inventions * (201); Cholera Hospitals (Ireland), * (193).

Third Reading—Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 1) * (157); Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 6) * (159); Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 7) * (160); Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 5) * (173); Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 8) * (174), and *passed*.

Royal Assent—Companies Acts Amendment [46 & 47 *Viet.* c. 28]; Metropolitan Board of Works (Money) [46 & 47 *Viet.* c. 27]; Supreme Court of Judicature (Funds, &c.) [46 & 47 *Viet.* c. 29]; Payment of Wages in Public-houses Prohibition [46 & 47 *Viet.* c. 31]; Greenwich Hospital [46 & 47 *Viet.* c. 32]; Companies (Colonial Registers) [46 & 47 *Viet.* c. 30]; Railway Passenger Duty, &c. [46 & 47 *Viet.* c. 34]; Irish Reproductive Loan Fund Act (1874) Amendment [46 & 47 *Viet.* c. 33]; Diseases Prevention (Metropolis) [46 & 47 *Viet.* c. 35]; Parochial Charities (London) [46 & 47 *Viet.* c. 36]; Mersey River (Gunpowder) [46 & 47 *Viet.* c. clxxxiv].

TREATY OF BERLIN—ARTICLE X.— THE VARNA RAILWAY.

QUESTION.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY: I wish to ask, Whether the noble Earl the Foreign Secretary, to whom I have given Notice of the Question, can give any further information with respect to the fulfilment of the 10th Article of the Treaty of Berlin in relation to the claims of British subjects on the Bulgarian Government with regard to the Varna Railway? A Question was asked on the subject some months ago, and the matter was said to be then under the consideration of the Bulgarian Government. I should be glad if the noble Earl can give any information on a subject which interests the British people to a very great extent.

EARL GRANVILLE: I have nothing to add to the answer which I gave to the noble Earl on the 24th of July, excepting that on the 27th of that month Mr. Lascelles reported that M. Zancoff had assured him that the question was occupying the serious attention of the Bulgarian Government, who were fully alive to the necessity of arriving at a satisfactory solution.

MADAGASCAR — ACTION OF THE FRENCH AT TAMATAVE—THE CASE OF THE REV. MR. SHAW.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY asked the noble Earl the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether he could give any information with respect to the case of Mr. Shaw, a missionary, who had been mixed up in recent incidents in Madagascar, and appeared to have suffered a good deal, perhaps not altogether from his own fault?

EARL GRANVILLE: My Lords, in answer to questions which I put to M. Waddington as to what were the charges against Mr. Shaw, whether that gentleman was informed of them, by what tribunal he would be tried, and whether he would have full facilities for his defence, he told me that he was informed by the French Government that when the French Consul left Tamatave, Mr. Shaw's case was still under consideration. The charges against him were complicity with the enemy and hostile action respecting the French colours. They did not yet know the result of the inquiry. He was not in prison, but on board one of the French ships, where the French Consul saw him walking up and down. The French Government said the prisoner must have been informed of the charges against him, the Code for the Navy making this necessary. He will be tried by a court martial formed according to the Rules laid down by the said Code, and he has the right of appeal before a Court of Revision. There is no reason whatever for supposing that he will not have every facility for preparing his defence. M. Waddington added that the letter addressed by the Governor of the Mauritius to Admiral Pierre received a courteous reply.

PRIVATE BILLS.

Standing Orders Nos. 1, 26, 33, 39, 61, 62, 64, 66, 99, 113, 114, 128, 150, 153, 154, and 155: *Considered and amended*; and to be *printed as amended*. (No. 210.)

EDUCATION (SCOTLAND) BILL.

(The Lord President.)

(NO. 199.) SECOND READING.

Order of the Day for the Second Reading read.

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL), in moving that

the Bill be now read the second time, said, that its main object was to remedy several defects in the Scotch Education Act, which had been pressed upon the notice of the Education Department by various School Boards in Scotland, and which he believed all the friends of education in that country admitted that it was desirable to cure. They related principally to the subject of school attendance, and the means of securing that attendance in a satisfactory way. At present those means were in some respects imperfect, and were not the same as in England. He would describe, in a very few words, the effect of the principal clauses. The 3rd clause was intended to increase the facilities for having school board cases tried. These cases, at present, could only be heard before the Sheriff Court, and that appeared very often to be a matter of great inconvenience and difficulty from the distance which the parties had to go. The clause, therefore, provided that such cases might be heard not only in the Sheriff Court, but by the Sheriff when he went on Circuit for the determination of small-debt cases, and also by the Police Courts of the burghs. By Clause 4 it was proposed to amend the corresponding clause of the Education Act of 1872, by requiring that a parent should not only provide an elementary education for his children—which, as the law now stood, might be satisfied by sending the child to a very inefficient or unrecognized school—but that the parent in future should provide efficient elementary education. It also extended the time of compulsory attendance from the age of 13 to the age of 14. As things now stood—very absurdly—although under the Factories Acts a child could not be employed until he was 14 years of age, the power of sending him to school compulsorily ceased at the age of 13. It was desirable that such an anomalous state of things should be put an end to. By Clause 5, enactments were made which would put an end to doubts in the law, the effect of which was, according to certain decisions, that the parents of a child were able without much difficulty to evade the compulsory provisions of the law by simply sending the child to school at the time when prosecution took place, although he had not been attending school for months beforehand. The rest of that clause extended the

power of payment for poor children, as the former clause extended the compulsory attendance from 13 to 14. Clause 6 was of some importance, being intended to put labour in Scotland on the same footing as in England. At present, under the Factory Acts in Scotland, a child could work in a factory or workshop as a half-timer from 10 years old, provided that he then went to school. The child was not required, as in England, to have passed any examination under the Standards whatever; so that in many cases the parent did not begin to send his child to school until he was 10 years of age. That was quite contrary to the spirit of the Acts. Clause 9 greatly improved the means of enforcing school attendance precisely upon the lines of the English Act. At present, in Scotland, the parent could only be prosecuted for gross and habitual neglect in sending his children to school—which were very wide words indeed, and had given rise to great difficulty in the Scotch Sheriff Courts. There were no bye-laws, as in England, by which they could require the attendance of a child unless there was some reasonable excuse; but under this clause the Court might make an order which would have the same effect as the bye-laws of English School Boards. Clause 11 defined what reasonable excuse should be. Clause 12 allowed other persons, such as the School Inspectors, to put the school board in motion in these matters. Under Clause 13, provision was made for another matter which was very much desired in Scotland—namely, the power of requiring school boards in certain cases to combine for the formation of a joint board. There were cases in which parishes adjoined, and where there was a very small number of children in each—there might be a dozen—and yet for some reason or other, which could not be a good reason, they declined to join in a common school board, and in having a common school. He trusted their Lordships would accept the Bill, because these changes would effect a real improvement in the Scotch Education Act.

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^d."
—(*The Lord President.*)

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he had not seen the Bill before coming down to that House; but he had very great confidence in the judgment

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of the Scotch Education Department, especially in the knowledge with regard to Scotch matters which was possessed by Sir Francis Sandford. Yet there were certain things in this Bill which struck him as being rather strong. According to the 6th clause, a child under 10 could not be employed unless he had passed the Third Standard. It was not a provision that such a child should not be taken on full time, but that he should not be employed at all. He ventured to say that that was really impracticable. Farmers would now and then employ children to dig potatoes and do light farm work; but what means had they of knowing whether the child had passed the Third Standard or not? That seemed to be over-legislation.

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, that the law already prohibited the employment of such children, except in factories and workshops; and the Bill proposed to extend the prohibition to factory and workshop labour.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he could assure his noble Friend that if the law now was that a farmer could not employ a child under 10 years of age, it was a law which was not much observed. The only other part of the Bill which struck him as being rather strong was the 13th clause, where the Education Department had absolute power of their own discretion, and without remonstrance from anybody, to require that school boards should be what the Education Department required them to be. That clause had some bearing on another measure which was about to come before their Lordships—namely, the Local Government Board (Scotland) Bill. He was not, perhaps, so much in favour of that scheme as some of his noble Friends; still, there was much to be said in favour of the improved management of Scotch Business; but he might say he felt sure that, whatever improvement was made in the local government of Scotland, the people of that country were extremely desirous—desirous almost above all things—that the new powers which were about to be given to the new body should include education. As to what was now called the Scotch Education Department, he believed that he himself had long had the honour of being a Member of it; and he did not

recollect having ever been summoned to attend on more than one occasion during a considerable number of years. The practical result was, that the Scotch Education Department were the officials of the Privy Council Office. It was true that good work had been done through the exertions of eminent educationists interested in Scotland; but it did not follow that the system would continue to work well under different circumstances. Therefore, the Department were to have absolute power, without consultation with any Scotch body, to require the junction of school boards with surrounding or contiguous districts. He thought there should be an appeal to somebody in Scotland in regard to that power, as it might operate inconveniently in some places. As at present advised, he thought that was a stronger power than should be conferred on the central authority in London.

LORD BALFOUR, speaking from his own experience as Chairman of a school board, said, that the provisions of the Bill were really very much required in the interests of education in Scotland, more especially that provision which enabled school boards to keep back children at school until the age of 14. By a curious anomaly in the Factory Acts and the Education Act, when read together, they could prevent a child from working full time above the age of 13 and below the age of 14; but they could not keep that child at school. He believed that the school board of which he was Chairman was, if not the first, at least one of the first, to bring this anomaly to the knowledge of the Department. He was glad it was now in a fair way of being cured. He quite agreed with the noble Duke (the Duke of Argyll) that the law as to the employment of young children was not very rigidly enforced; but perhaps that was a part of the law which was best left to the discretion of the local authorities. But this he must say from experience, and from the evidence laid before the Factory Commission some years ago—that it was of the utmost importance, in the interests of the child, that he or she should be well grounded before going to work. If the child went to work half time without any education at all, the half-time attendance at school was practically useless to the child. If he had been well grounded before going to

work, half attendance was nearly as good as whole time. He should be very much pleased to see this Bill passed through Parliament, and he believed it would have the very best possible effects upon Scotch education.

Motion *agreed to*; Bill read 2^d accordingly, and *committed* to a Committee of the Whole House *To-morrow*.

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS (CORRUPT AND ILLEGAL PRACTICES)

BILL.—(No. 189.)

(*The Earl of Northbrook.*)

COMMITTEE.

Order of the Day for the House to be put into Committee, read.

Moved, "That the House do now resolve itself into Committee."—(*The Earl of Northbrook.*)

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, that his view of the particular provisions of this Bill was much modified by the fact that the measure would come to a termination in December of next year. There were many controverted points connected with it, and points as to which they might naturally feel doubtful; but on the whole he thought that, as the Bill was to come to an early termination, the wisest plan would be to allow it to go forward very much as it was, reserving to themselves entire freedom, when it came to be renewed, or to be made a permanent measure, to move any Amendments which experience might dictate.

Motion *agreed to*; House in Committee accordingly.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he wished to invite the attention of the noble Earl who had charge of the Bill to a point of much importance to certain parts of Scotland. He believed that by this measure the conveyance of voters to the poll was made a corrupt practice, and that it put an absolute prohibition on candidates paying the expense of conveying voters to the poll. He now expressed no opinion as to the general expediency or wisdom of that provision; but he would mention that in the West of Scotland, and especially in some of the Islands, where the voters were of a comparatively poor class, it would amount to their practical disfranchisement not to allow them to be conveyed to the poll; and if such a prohibition

were enforced the Government would be bound to establish a much larger number of polling places.

THE EARL OF NORTHBROOK said, that Clause 47 provided for the conveyance of voters by sea, where they could not reach their polling places without crossing the sea, or an arm of the sea.

THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH said, he was aware of that clause; but the difficulty was, how voters were to be conveyed, perhaps, 18 or 20 miles to the polling places? In such cases there was scarcely the least chance of the voters going to the poll at all. He himself would have to go 23 or 24 miles to the poll. The result would be the disfranchisement of a great number of voters, and to give the towns a great advantage over the rural populations.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said, the number of polling places was to be increased under Clause 46, by which, so far as practicable, every elector would have a polling place within a distance not exceeding three miles of his residence if there were 100 electors in the district. With regard to the point as to prohibiting the conveyance of voters to the poll, Clause 14 expressly provided that electors might combine together for the purpose of being conveyed to the poll.

EARL FORTESQUE said, that, in order to get a real expression of the opinion of the constituency, it was necessary to secure the attendance of a great number of electors at the poll; but that was incompatible with very narrow restrictions as to expenditure. He thought the multiplication of polling places would entail great additional expense upon candidates. He could not help thinking that the prohibition of conveyance would be a virtual disfranchisement of the poorer classes of the rural population.

THE EARL OF NORTHBROOK said, he hoped the Bill would not have the effect anticipated. The expenses of providing polling places would be reckoned outside the maximum.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, he believed the only real remedy for the difficulty which had been raised was one which had been always popular in that House, but unpopular in the other—namely, voting papers. He did not think there was any other way out of the difficulty without great expense. He imagined the result of the Bill would be very likely to show that there was very

Lord Balfour

considerable disfranchisement in the less populous places, and that this would supply political force enough to bring about the introduction of a system of voting papers.

Amendments made: The Report thereof to be received *To-morrow*.

PUBLIC OFFICES SITE BILL.

QUESTION. OBSERVATIONS.

LORD STRATHEDEN AND CAMPBELL, in rising to ask Her Majesty's Government whether it is intended in the present year to proceed to operations under the Public Offices Site Act, said: My Lords, it is not in Order to accelerate the operations of the Government under the Public Offices Site Act that I have put this Notice on the Paper. My aim is wholly different. Let me remind your Lordships how the question stands at present. According to the declaration of the Government last Session, until plans have been delivered to the Houses, no new building will commence. No such plans are yet before us. But the Act empowers the Government to destroy Spring Gardens and the Admiralty. At the same time, they are not bound to take any course under the Act; and until the Treasury permit they are not qualified to do so. My Lords, there are many reasons why the Treasury should be slow to grant the latitude in question. The arguments against the Bill were wholly unreplicated to. It was opposed to the utmost by the Institute of Architects. It is not by trampling on architectural opinion that any capital has ever been embellished. Although upon the face of it adopted, the Bill has never had the virtual sanction of the House, as no Division was resorted to—erroneously perhaps—and it is far from certain that a Division would have led to the Bill being carried. Its only pretext was economy, which cannot shelter it, however, as there is not the slightest definition of the outlay it may possibly accumulate. But there is one circumstance which last Session quite escaped the House, and I reproached myself for not having adverted to it. It is the mode in which the Bill would operate if carried out on the quarter made up of Carlton Gardens and Carlton House Terrace. As I am not one of its inhabitants, or likely to become so, I refer to this part of the case with greater freedom

and with more impartiality. During a long course of years their view of St. James's Park—the particular advantage they have bought and paid for dearly—will be—if the Bill goes on—a view of dust, of dirt, of beams, of ladders, of demolition and confusion. When the result is gained, a new, a vast, and possibly a hideous edifice will stand on what is now an area of verdure and tranquillity. There can be no doubt whatever that the value of these houses will be considerably lowered. No family of ordinary prudence would think of choosing that locality while such a course of building was going on, and such an end might be anticipated. The unfortunate proprietors will not be able to escape without heavy loss, and not be able to hold on with any decency or comfort. But there is something else to be remembered. As far as I am able to inform myself, these houses are held under leases from the Crown. It naturally is so, as they are well known to have been placed, some 50 years ago, on the site of a Royal Palace. The holders are entitled to look to the Crown for protection from disturbance, so far, at least, as the Crown is qualified to give it, having purchased from the Crown with a security that no disturbance would arise. The Crown, however, could do nothing to protect them by itself, unless in the form of legislative veto on the Bill, which does not fall within the practice of our age, however just it would have been upon its merits. But what the Crown cannot do by itself the Treasury, which represents the Crown in some of its financial attributes, which has gradually become the first Department of the State and central force of the Executive, may take upon itself with perfect regularity and perfect order to accomplish. The extraordinary outlay which the country has incurred in Egypt, and which could not be foreseen when the Bill was carried, would fully justify prohibitory conduct upon their part. It could not be resented even by the supporters of the Bill, and it would deserve the gratitude of all who value beauty in the capital. The Treasury would merely imitate a function of the Supreme Court in the United States—that of arresting Bills by which a fundamental principle is violated. My Lords, I put the Question which stands in my name on the Paper.

LORD THURLOW: In reply to the Question of the noble Lord, I beg to say that the Chief Commissioner of Works proposes very shortly to invite the competition of architects for the new buildings for the War Office and Admiralty to be erected on the Spring Gardens site; but I am to add that no building will be erected or commenced until the next financial year, when a Vote for the purpose will be presented to Parliament, and opportunities will be given for a full discussion of the merits of the scheme. In regard to the Parliament Street site, I may also add that it is determined by the Office of Works to widen Parliament Street in the manner that has been proposed; and the site, when it is clear—and it will probably be some time before that happens—will be exclusively devoted to the erection of such buildings as banks and clubs and insurance companies' offices, and other noble buildings of that kind, with fitting architectural elevations, which will have to be approved by the Office of Works as suitable to the surroundings of the neighbourhood. Before that is done, ample warning would be given for a further discussion of the subject. That is all the information I am at present able to give. I may take this opportunity of stating, in reference to a Question asked the other night by the noble Earl on the Cross Benches (the Earl of Wemyss), that there could not be found in the Office of Works any trace of the model of the buildings proposed to be erected in Parliament Street when Mr. Layard was First Commissioner, and there is no knowledge at the Office as to what has become of it.

THE EARL OF WEMYSS said, that the model cost £500, and was worth £1,500. He would suggest that a further search should be made for it.

THE EARL OF REDESDALE (CHAIRMAN of COMMITTEES) said, that in a short time proposals from architects would be received for the erection of a new War Office and Admiralty on the site already sanctioned, and money would be required for that purpose next Session. Before, however, money was asked, he hoped Parliament would have full opportunity of passing an opinion on the selected architect's designs. He confessed he was sorry to hear the conclusion at which the Government had arrived with regard to the widening of

Parliament Street. He did not want clubs, banks, and hotels there. Such plans would be extremely injurious in a variety of ways. Now that Public Offices were in immediate contiguity to Parliament Street, he had hoped that other Public Offices would be erected, so as to be in the immediate neighbourhood of the Houses of Parliament. The proposal of the Government was an extremely injurious and unfortunate one.

LABOURERS (IRELAND) BILL.

(*The Earl of Dunraven.*)

(NO. 183.) COMMITTEE.

Order of the Day for the House to be put into Committee, read.

THE EARL OF DUNRAVEN asked that their Lordships should allow this Bill to pass through Committee to-day. He had several Amendments; but as they were of an unimportant character, and were not yet in print, they could be taken, he thought, on the Motion for the third reading to-morrow.

Moved, "That the House do now resolve itself into Committee."—(*The Earl of Dunraven.*)

EARL FORTESCUE said, he must enter his protest against what he thought was an objectionable course in regard to a most questionable Bill. The more he looked at the measure the more he disapproved of it, and the more dangerous did it appear to him. He had very great objection to the power contained in it of erecting cottages being placed in the hands of the Boards of Guardians, who might erect cottages in districts already congested. There was a very great tendency on the part of Irish legislators to assent to any measure which involved an advance from the Treasury for expenditure in Ireland. He supposed there was a general idea that it was a good thing for money to be laid out like this, and that it was a good thing to allow interest to get into arrear, so that it might eventually be wholly or partly forgiven. He protested against Amendments being taken on third reading, contending that ample time should be given for the consideration of the new proposals. Amendments to Bills of this kind were discussed with much greater advantage when the noble and learned Earl the Lord Chancellor was not in the Chair.

LORD VENTRY said, he had some small Amendments to propose; but he was prepared to postpone their consideration till the third reading of the Bill.

THE EARL OF REDESDALE (CHAIRMAN of COMMITTEES) said, he hoped that their Lordships would not allow Bills to be treated in the way proposed by the noble Earl (the Earl of Dunraven). He supposed the Amendments would be moved, and then the third reading. It was bad enough to have Bills coming to their Lordships' House so late in the Session; but they were asked practically to have no Committee on this Bill, but to reserve the Amendments to a later stage. He thought this was treating the legislation of that House with the greatest possible contempt. He should object to the Bill going through Committee on that occasion.

THE EARL OF DUNRAVEN said, there was no Amendment of any importance whatever of which Notice had yet been given. The Amendments of the noble Lord (Lord Ventry) were purely verbal, and those of which he himself had given Notice were not calculated to take up any time in their consideration; and he hoped their Lordships would allow the third reading to be taken to-morrow.

On Question? *Resolved* in the negative: House to be in Committee To-morrow.

BANKRUPTCY BILL.—(No. 195.)

(The Lord Chancellor.)

COMMITTEE.

Order of the Day for the House to be put into Committee, read.

Moved, "That the House do now resolve itself into Committee."—(The Lord Chancellor.)

LORD FITZGERALD, in presenting a Petition against the Bill being passed into law during the present Session, said, he did not concur in the prayer of the Petition, as it would not be desirable, or for the public benefit, that the Bill should be thrown over to another Session, although he could have desired more time to consider it. It was a Bill that appeared to have been prepared with great care, and made most efficient provision for the immediate protection and realization and distribution of the

properties of bankrupts, from which he hoped for very great advantages. He would, therefore, although presenting the Petition, humbly recommend their Lordships to pass the Bill.

LORD BRAMWELL said, he was not in the House when the Bill was read a second time, though he should have felt it his duty, if he could, to have rendered assistance to their Lordships; but he knew he could be of no use, because he could not say that the Bill was a good or a bad one, as he had not had an opportunity of reading it. He knew the second reading would pass, because the Bill was introduced by the Lord Chancellor, and because their Lordships knew that a Grand Committee had been for two months "cutting and carving it," which he believed was the right expression to use towards an honest attempt to improve a Bill. He could show their Lordships a string of Amendments that he had had sent to him, and he had himself made 67 notes and queries of things he would like to have had an explanation about; but he should not trouble the House with any one of them, as he knew it would be utterly hopeless. The clause relating to disclaimer he really could not understand, though, if he was sitting in their Lordships' House when the matter came there for decision, he should be under the necessity of coming to some conclusion upon it. He could not but think it was altogether wrong and unreasonable that the Bill had not been placed before their Lordships in such a way and at such a time that those of their Lordships who were competent to speak on the matter should have been heard. He was not opposed to the Bill; he believed it to be a good Bill, and it would be a great pity if it did not pass through Parliament this Session; but it was a most alarming and improper thing to pass a Bill in the hope that in some future time they might be able to amend it. Its severity was most wholesome, and he hoped it would have the effect contemplated, of deterring people from the fraudulent and reckless bankruptcies which were now only too common.

LORD BALFOUR said, he would remind the House of a proposal he made a few weeks ago, that Bills might be postponed from one Session to another, with the possibility of taking them up again at the point where they

were left. The position in which the House was placed was, that either they must reject the Bill, because they had not time to consider it, and so nullify a great deal of hard work in "another place," or they must accept the Bill on the responsibility of the Lord Chancellor. The latter was the course they were to adopt, and it was the right course under the circumstances; but surely it would be much more dignified if, when Bills of this magnitude and importance came up at so late a period of the Session, their Lordships had power to postpone the consideration of them until the commencement of the next Session. It was derogatory to the dignity of the House that it should be entirely cut out from the consideration of the Bill. It was not a Bill which excited much political feeling, while, at the same time, it was one which some of their Lordships were very well qualified to discuss. Their Lordships would be well occupied in the beginning of next Session in hearing the answers to the 67 notes and queries of the noble and learned Lord who had last spoken.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he was very much struck by a remark of the noble and learned Lord (Lord Bramwell) when the Bill was read a second time in that House. He said he felt it a positive humiliation to do so. That was a very strong expression. They must remember, however, that some Acts, notably the Settled Land Acts, had been passed by that House with even less consideration, from the technical nature of the subject, than they were giving to this Bill; and they ought also to bear in mind the great length at which the whole Bill had been discussed by the Grand Committee, under the able Presidency of Mr. Goschen. Under these circumstances, they might fairly be satisfied with the competency of the hands it had passed through. Although some noble Lords had expressed irritation at the impossibility of considering the Bill, yet none of them had expressed serious objection to any of the principles of the Bill. There would be a serious responsibility on the part of the House, and one which he would not be willing to share, if they were to throw out the Bill, which had taken so much labour in "another place," without their Lordships having very good reasons for its rejection. There was only one provision which he

regarded with dislike, and that was of great political importance. He alluded to the immense patronage conferred upon the Board of Trade. He did not approve of placing such enormous patronage in the hands of the Executive for the time being. The Board of Trade would appoint the administrative staff—that was to say, the Official Receivers of debtors' estates all over the country; and they would not be attached to the Court of Bankruptcy, but would come under the superintendence of the Board of Trade. Thus the Board would have a larger amount of patronage than any other Department of the Government. He did not wish to move any Amendment in this matter; but was it absolutely necessary that the appointment of the Receivers, who held a most important office under the Bill, should be in every part of the country taken out of the hands of the local authorities and placed in those of the central authorities? He remembered, when he was at the Post Office, there was a large amount of patronage there; but the minor appointments were practically in the hands of the Treasury, and the more considerable ones were distributed strictly on the principle that they were rewards for good service. In this case, however, the appointments might be used to reward electoral services.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, he was sorry the noble Duke had not proceeded beyond a protest, and either moved, or given Notice of moving, an Amendment to the Bill in the very salutary direction in which his speech had pointed. Undoubtedly, one of the greatest dangers to the Constitution was that of permitting the American maxim, "that the spoils belonged to the victors," to become acclimatized here; and the enormous patronage which the Bill conferred upon the Board of Trade might, unless carefully watched, work in that direction. Thirty years ago, or more, statesmen of this country were very much alarmed at this danger, and they introduced a system of competitive examinations for the purpose of guarding against it. He had no doubt whatever, notwithstanding what had been said against that system, it had been very effective for that purpose, and had entirely divested those smaller appointments, in a great number of Departments of the State, of any political or electioneering character. But they were now about to create a very large series of

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valuable appointments which were above the level of competitive examinations. Therefore it was obvious it would have to be very carefully provided that they did not become rewards for merits of an electioneering character in the various parts of the country where they existed. The very fact that they were spread all over the country would make them all the more valuable for rewarding services of a Parliamentary and electioneering character. He confessed that he should very much prefer that the precedent set in respect of another kind of office—namely, that of a Revising Barrister, should be followed in this instance. His appointment was in the hands of a Judge of the Crown. There was no reason why these appointments should not be placed in the hands of either the Judges or County Court Judges, or some non-political or permanent officer whose judgment in such matters would not be affected by any political considerations. He could not now, without Notice, move in Committee the institution of any such change in the Bill as that; but, certainly, if he found the opinion of the House encouraged him in moving an Amendment in that direction he should be disposed to move it upon Report.

EARL FORTESCUE said, he thought that the discussion which had just taken place quite justified the comments which he had made on the second reading of the Bill. There were some six pages of doubtless valuable Amendments about to be moved by the noble and learned Earl on the Woolsack. Now, during the present Session the House had enjoyed the advantage of the services of a body of Legal Authorities of, he believed, an eminence and judicial experience unequalled at any former period; and he could not help thinking that in all probability some one or other of those high Legal Authorities might also have suggested some Amendments of considerable value. He hoped that the public would consider that for any defects in the working of the Act, the management or mismanagement of the Government—they best knew which—in sending up that Bill for consideration in detail in the third week of August would be responsible.

THE EARL OF MILLTOWN observed, that that Bill bade fair to become law without having been examined in either House of Parliament. Discussion was deprecated in the other House on the

ground that the Bill had been fully considered by a new Institution called a Grand Committee; and now in this House, because the Commons had accepted it, their Lordships were practically asked to give up all their rights and privileges to a Grand Committee of the other House, and to abdicate the function which the Constitution vested in them. It seemed to him doubtful whether they had any moral right thus to forsake their duty.

THE EARL OF REDESDALE (CHAIRMAN of COMMITTEES) said, that if they did not pass the Bill through Committee it would be equivalent to throwing it out for this Session; and, for his part, he thought the Bill ought to be thrown out, and allowed to come up at a reasonable period next Session.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said, that, complaints having been made as to the circumstances under which that Bill came before their Lordships, he wished to notice a few of the particular criticisms which had been offered in the course of that discussion. The noble Earl who spoke last but one had referred to the formidable array of Amendments on the Paper, consisting, as he said, of six pages. Those Amendments were only formidable in appearance. The draftsman of the Bill had performed the useful function of revising the form and expression of the measure in its last stage; and nearly the whole of the Amendments in those six pages were merely intended to give greater precision of expression, without altering the substance. There were, indeed, a few Amendments to which that remark did not strictly apply; but these were framed only to clear up some points of detail, without altering any principle of the Bill. With regard to the question of patronage, the noble Duke (the Duke of Argyll) was under a mistake in respect to the Official Receivers. If the Board of Trade were to appoint all over the country the persons who were from beginning to end to deal with the property of bankrupts and to administer it, it would, no doubt, be a serious matter; but the functions of the Official Receiver were of an entirely different character from that. The creditors were to have the right to appoint their own trustees, as they did under the present law; but during the short interval that might elapse between the initiation of proceed-

ings and the choice of the trustee, in order that the estate might not suffer, those officers, the Official Receivers, were to be appointed to protect the interests of the general public in regard to fraudulent and reckless trading, and also to protect the interests of the creditors at an early stage of the proceedings, by providing them with the information without which they would be helpless, and which experience showed that they could not obtain for themselves. Those officers were to be *ad interim* receivers pending the appointment of the trustee and the manager by the creditors. The other officers were only that portion of the existing staff who discharged what were called administrative duties. With respect to the alleged severity of the Bill, he would point out that it did not make any new misdemeanours. Those acts of fraudulent bankruptcy which were punishable as misdemeanours remained, in substance, as they were. The Bill did, undoubtedly, enumerate various acts discreditable to a debtor, which might be—but not necessarily must be—a ground for refusing his discharge. He was very sorry indeed that there should be anything to prevent himself and their Lordships from having the assistance of those who were so well qualified to give it as his noble and learned Friends opposite, and other noble and learned Lords not present. He did not think it would be profitable to enter into any explanation now of the causes which, whether in that House or in “another place,” had contributed to prevent the Bill from coming earlier before their Lordships. One of those causes was the great care and pains taken with it in the Grand Committee of the other House, and also, subsequently, in the other House itself. He could very much wish that this and other Bills also had reached their Lordships sooner. With all the important legislative Business which the Government had to transact, and with the encroachments on the time, limited as it was, which was at its command, he should be very glad if, by any greater economy or better distribution of time, it would be possible to bring important Bills at an earlier date before their Lordships. But he did not think it would be a wise course for their Lordships to throw out all Bills of importance which came up to them after

they had been carefully considered elsewhere, and had been, on the whole, approved by the best authorities on the subjects with which they dealt. He did not think it would be wise to reject this Bill in the hope that it would be possible to legislate better on the subject in a future Session; and with regard to the suggestion of his noble Friend (Lord Balfour) that Bills might be taken up in a future Session at any stage which they might have reached before Prorogation, there were two considerations to be borne in mind if that question should ever come before their Lordships—first, the enormous accumulation of Bills in various stages, which might then be expected to arise from Session to Session; and, in the next place, the great temptation that would arise to introduce Bills of a character which their Lordships might not think deserving of encouragement, and to throw out other Bills by postponing their stages, in order that they might be taken up in another Session. However, those questions were not now under consideration. All he could say was that, as their Lordships were aware, the greater part of this measure was the re-enactment of former laws, without any alteration in those points which experience had shown did not require alteration; and, with regard to those points in which alterations had been made, those were matters which had not been done in a corner, for they had been for a long time subjects of consideration by the mercantile community, and by both Houses of Parliament. This Bill had been prepared after great deliberation and consultation between the Government and all those officers of the Bankruptcy Courts and County Courts on the one hand, and of the Board of Trade on the other, who were best able to bring valuable information to bear upon the subject; then it passed into the form in which it had been introduced in the other House, and it was then referred to the Grand Committee on Trade, by whom no Amendment of importance was introduced without full time being given for its consideration. Therefore, their Lordships had all the guarantees before them upon the subject which could be given. He would not presume to say there were no points in the Bill which experience of its operation might prove to require amendment; but he could say con-

fidently that few measures had ever been presented to their Lordships upon which more care had been bestowed.

THE EARL OF CAMPERDOWN said, that, with regard to the point of patronage which had been raised, it was very natural that Parliament should be extremely jealous of vesting any large amount of patronage in any Department of the State. He had been expecting to hear from the noble and learned Earl on the Woolsack some very strong reasons for vesting patronage of this kind in a Department of the State, instead of Courts of Law or local authorities. These receivers would be a kind of *interim* officers of the Court; but the noble and learned Earl had not pointed out why they could not as well be appointed by a Court of Law. He thought the importance of their duties was a reason for giving this patronage to the Courts. The Board of Trade had power, not only to appoint these officers, but to remove them. He hoped that on a future stage of the Bill the House would have some further explanation on this point.

Motion agreed to; House in Committee accordingly: Amendments made: The Report thereof to be received on *Wednesday* next; and Bill to be printed as amended. (No. 211.)

House adjourned at a quarter past Seven o'clock, till To-morrow, a quarter past Four o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Monday, 20th August, 1883.

MINUTES.]—SUPPLY—considered in Committee—Resolutions [August 18] reported.

WAYS AND MEANS—considered in Committee—Resolution [August 18] reported.

PUBLIC BILLS—Resolution in Committee—Contempts of Court [Stamp Duty]*.

Ordered—First Reading—Consolidated Fund (Appropriation)*.

Second Reading—Merchant Shipping (Fishing Boats) [288].

Committee—Report—Third Reading—Epidemic and other Diseases Prevention* [277], and passed.

Committee—Report—Considered as amended—Third Reading—Municipal Corporations (Borough Constables)* [296], and passed.

Third Reading—Revenue and Friendly Societies* [269], and passed.

Withdrawn—Post Office (Protection) (re-comm.)* [298]; Crown Lands (re-comm.)* [198].

QUESTIONS.

LAW AND JUSTICE (IRELAND)—THE BELFAST CONSPIRACY TRIALS.

MR. BIGGAR asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether, since, on the trial of James Smith and Patrick Donohoe and others, before Mr. Justice Harrison, at Belfast, the chief witness gave different evidence as to the relative culpability of the several parties from what he did at Tullyvin, county Cavan, before the magistrates, with the result that Smith and Donohoe got sentence of fifteen months' imprisonment, while the others got twelve months', which latter has now expired, the Lord Lieutenant will now remit the remainder of sentence passed on Smith and Donohoe?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, I cannot enter into any question as to the merits of the evidence, and obviously it is no part of my duty to do so. The case has been more than once carefully considered by the Lord Lieutenant, and he sees no reason to interfere with the sentences passed.

BOARD OF NATIONAL EDUCATION (IRELAND) — THE ASSISTANT TEACHER OF ROSTREVOR NATIONAL SCHOOL.

MR. BIGGAR asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether an epidemic of measles existed in Rostrevor for the six months ending in July last, and that the number of children attending school consequently fell off very much; whether he is aware that the salary of the assistant teacher has been stopped on the ground that the average attendance fell below seventy; and, whether, seeing that the decline of numbers was of an exceptional nature, and from causes beyond the control of the assistant teacher, he will order the salary to be paid?

MR. TREVELYAN, in reply, said, that in the March quarter measles prevailed, and the Commissioners allowed for the payment of an assistant, although the attendance had fallen off. With regard to the June quarter, the Commissioners informed him that they would make special inquiries into the matter, and if the result was satisfactory payments in full would be made.

INLAND NAVIGATION AND DRAINAGE (IRELAND)—THE SHANNON.

MR. MOLLOY asked the Secretary to the Treasury, If his attention has been called to the injury caused by the late heavy rains, and the flooding of the Shannon; if it be true that the sluice-gates at Meelick and Lusmagh were not raised till much injury had been done; and, if he will arrange that in future orders shall be given to raise the sluice-gates at all times when the water shall have risen, or is likely to rise, above a certain defined level, such as the summer level?

MR. COURTNEY: The recent floods have been the first since the new works on the Shannon were complete; and I am glad to say that I am informed that the works came up to the expectations formed of them. It is true that some of the sluices were, through a misapprehension, opened a few hours later than was desirable; but it is not believed that this led to any appreciable damage, and it will not occur again, as a Code of Instructions has been prepared for the persons in charge, embodying, among other things, the suggestion contained in the final paragraph of the hon. Member's Question.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR asked whether any compensation would be made to the people whose crops were destroyed?

MR. COURTNEY: I have stated that no appreciable damage was done.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR: I say there was great damage done.

CROWN LANDS ACT—THE NEW BRIGHTON FORESHORE.

MR. BIGGAR asked the Secretary to the Treasury, Whether, in the negotiations now going on regarding foreshore at New Brighton, regard will be had to the claims to the foreshore of the owners of property abutting thereon; and, whether there is any intention to convey to the Local Board any right of sub-letting?

MR. COURTNEY: The neighbouring owners have as yet made no claim to any right over the New Brighton foreshore, and it may be assumed that they have none. The Local Board had, under the old lease, the power of sub-letting, though not of assigning. It

may be matter for consideration whether the former should be continued to them under the new lease; but as the lease was, and should be, determinable at short notice, the power of under-letting was under sufficient control.

PRISONS (IRELAND) ACT—VISITS TO PRISONERS.

MR. O'KELLY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Why Mr. John Q. Regan, who is undergoing six months' hard labour under the Crimes Act for writing a threatening letter, was refused permission to receive the visit of Mr. Ridington on or about the 12th instant; whether Mr. Regan was convicted on the 7th of May; whether he is not entitled by law to receive a visit; and, whether the state of Mr. Regan's health renders his further detention dangerous to his life?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, Regan was convicted on the date mentioned, and would have been entitled to receive a visit on the 8th of this month if his conduct in prison had been good; but, owing to misconduct, he lost marks, and was not entitled to receive a visit when Mr. Ridington called. The state of his health is not such as to render further detention dangerous to his health. I have in my hand a joint certificate from the two medical officers of the prison, dated the 17th instant, in which they state that they have carefully examined the prisoner and found him in good health.

MR. HARRINGTON: May I ask the right hon. Gentleman whether the result of those marks will not be that, while he is in prison, Regan cannot receive a visit?

MR. TREVELYAN: I do not know how long a time it will be during which he will be deprived of visits.

MR. O'KELLY: What was the conduct for which the man was deprived of visits?

MR. TREVELYAN: I got a telegram describing his offences to be eight or nine, principally disobeying orders and idleness in performing tasks.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR: I beg to ask the right hon. Gentleman if he can explain why the Governor of the prison informed Mr. Ridington, on the 10th August, that he could not give permission for a visit to Regan, because the time entitling him to a visit had not

expired; and why the Governor had not then given any other reason?

MR. TREVELYAN: I cannot know all these details. I answered the Question on the Paper and stated facts.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR: But I wrote to the right hon. Gentleman on this question some days ago, and he promised to make inquiry.

MR. TREVELYAN: I did make inquiry. These facts are the result.

MR. HEALY: No; they are not.

SEA AND COAST FISHERIES (IRELAND) —THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

MR. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. If he can give a Return of the names of the Trustees to Aid Sea and Coast Fisheries, the dates of their election, and the number of their attendances at the meetings of the Board; could he say if it be a fact that any of them are resident in England, and consequently unable to attend to their duties as Trustees, and if the other Trustees have taken any steps to appoint residents in Ireland in their room; and, can he give the date of the scheme sanctioned by the Court of Chancery for the administration of this fund, as referred to in Trustees' letter to the Chief Secretary, dated 17th November 1882, page 2, and if a Copy of that scheme is in possession of the Chief Secretary, as one of the Trustees, or, if as such, he will obtain a Copy and lay it upon the Table; also date of the appointment of the present secretary?

MR. TREVELYAN: I have no objection to forward to the hon. Member a statement giving all the information he requires, except so far as the number of attendances is concerned. That, I presume, could also be stated without difficulty if any period were fixed. All the existing Trustees reside in Ireland. I do not include in this statement those *ex officio* Trustees whose duties in this House require their absence from Ireland. There are at present two vacancies on the Board, and two gentlemen are up for election at the next meeting.

MR. HEALY said, that, as this matter was likely to be the subject of legislation next Session, he would wish to know whether the Return could be laid on the Table before the House separated?

MR. TREVELYAN said, it was likely the matter would be the subject of legislation next Session; and he would see whether the request of the hon. Member could be complied with.

LAW AND JUSTICE (IRELAND)— CROWN SOLICITORSHIPS.

MR. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. What are the respective duties and salaries of Messrs. Matthew Anderson, Samuel L. Anderson, George Bolton, Alexander Murphy, and William Lane Joynt, Crown Solicitors for the City of Dublin; whether, formerly, Mr. Matthew Anderson singly discharged the duties of Crown Solicitor for the City of Dublin at a salary of £1,500; and, whether now, the amalgamated salaries of the five solicitors amount to nearly £5,000?

MR. TREVELYAN: Only one of the gentlemen named—Mr. Matthew Anderson—is Crown Solicitor for Dublin. His salary is £600 a-year, with £500 for expenses. He is sometimes assisted by Mr. Bolton and Mr. Murphy in his ordinary duties; but this is a matter of arrangement between themselves, and involves no charge to the public. When Mr. Anderson is specially directed to conduct an investigation at the Police Courts without counsel, he is allowed an assistant, who is paid a fixed rate *par diem*. Mr. Bolton and Mr. Murphy have on some recent occasions acted as such assistants. Mr. Lane Joynt is Crown and Treasury Solicitor in Ireland. His duties are chiefly of a civil character, and his connection with criminal business relates only to prosecutions in the Queen's Bench. His salary is £1,200 a-year, with £800 for expenses. The late Mr. Kemmis formerly discharged the duties now divided between Messrs. M. Anderson and Joynt, and received a salary something higher than the united salaries and allowances of his successors. The other gentlemen named hold Crown Solicitorships in other parts of the country, wholly unconnected with the Dublin appointments—namely, Mr. S. L. Anderson, Kilkenny and Waterford; Mr. Bolton, Tipperary; and Mr. Murphy, Clare and Kerry.

VACCINATION—COMMUNICATION OF DISEASES.

MR. HOPWOOD asked the President of the Local Government Board, Whe-

ther the Scientific Committee to whom was referred the case of Dr. Cory and his inoculation of himself with syphilis in the course of vaccination have completed their examination; whether the fact that syphilis can be and is inoculated by vaccination was not well known previously; and, if any Report has been made, will he lay it upon the Table of the House?

MR. GEORGE RUSSELL (for Sir CHARLES W. DILKE): The Committee to which was referred the case of Dr. Cory have completed their examination. It is the fact that an operation professing to be vaccination can be the means of conveying syphilis; and this fact was, principally from some foreign experiences, well known before Dr. Cory's experiment. It is not the fact, in general terms, that syphilis is inoculated by vaccination. Dr. Cory's experiment had for its object a better understanding of the conditions under which any such conveyance was possible. The Report of the Committee has been made, and will appear in the annual Report of the Medical Officer of the Board, which is presented to Parliament. That Report is now in preparation.

MR. HEALY: Is it intended to reward Dr. Cory for the sacrifices he has undergone in pursuing these examinations?

MR. GEORGE RUSSELL: I am not aware that it is.

PUBLIC HEALTH—DRAINAGE, &c.— CERTIFICATES.

MR. ANDERSON asked the President of the Local Government Board, Whether there is any rule under which any householder, or anyone purposing to buy or hire a house, can apply to the local sanitary authority, and for a reasonable fee obtain an inspection and certificate as to the sufficiency of the drainage and other sanitary arrangements; and, if there be no such rule, if he would consider the expediency of establishing such an arrangement with all sanitary authorities?

MR. GEORGE RUSSELL (for Sir CHARLES W. DILKE): There is no rule under which a person can obtain from the sanitary authority of the district, on payment of a fee, a certificate as to the sufficiency of the drainage and other sanitary arrangements of a house; and

the Board think that, as a general rule, it would not be desirable that sanitary authorities should undertake the responsibility of granting such certificates. The sanitary authorities and their officers should be on the watch to discover sanitary defects; and there would be some reason to fear that if such certificates as suggested were granted by the authority they might subsequently be hampered in their action by the fact of the certificates having been given. A certificate might be given without the knowledge of facts which might subsequently come to light, and in the case of old houses it is not always easy to ascertain accurately the facts. These certificates might also be used, although there might be a different condition of things after the examination was made. If, however, a local authority were to propose that the Medical Officer of Health and Inspector of Nuisances should jointly give such a certificate as proposed, on payment of a reasonable fee, the Board would not object to such an arrangement, by way of experiment, provided the duties of the officers were not thereby interfered with.

PUBLIC PROCESSIONS AND CEREMONIES—VOLUNTEER BANDS.

MR. O'BRIEN asked the Secretary of State for War, Whether his attention has been called to a report in the "Glasgow Evening Citizen," of August 11th, which states that a procession of Orangemen of the Grand Black Chapter, which marched through that city, was accompanied by a Renfrewshire Volunteer Band; and, if the report be true, whether he approves of a force aided from the Imperial Exchequer participating prominently in partizan demonstrations offensive to a large section of the population?

SIR ARTHUR HAYTER (for the Marquess of HARTINGTON): In reply to the second Question of the hon. Member for Mallow, I have to say that such a proceeding on the part of a Volunteer band would be entirely contrary to the Volunteer Regulations, which state in paragraph 479—

"That no body of Volunteers will in any case take part in a public procession or ceremony without the special authority of the General Officer commanding the district."

My noble Friend at once directed a tele-

gram to be sent to the General Officer commanding the troops in North Britain, who addressed an inquiry to the commanding officers of the corps in question; and they, with one consent, assured him, in reply, that not one of their bands attended the Orange procession in question.

IRELAND—THE KILDARE COUNTY INFIRMARY.

MR. O'BRIEN asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether it has come to his knowledge that dissatisfaction exists throughout the county Kildare regarding the management of the county infirmary, which is principally sustained by a grant of about £1,300 from the cesspayers; whether it is a fact that at the last March Presentment Sessions the cesspayers refused by ten votes to five to renew the grant; whether Judge Harrison, to whom the governors appealed at the Naas Assizes, decided that the ratepayers were within their right in refusing the presentment; whether at the May Presentment Sessions the cesspayers were overruled by the votes of nine magistrates, four of whom were governors of the infirmary, and the presentment again imposed upon the county; and, whether the ratepayers have any representatives on the Board of Governors, or have any detailed statement of accounts submitted to them?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, the Secretary of the Grand Jury of Kildare informs me that no widespread dissatisfaction with regard to the management of the county infirmary in question exists. Many of the ratepayers have gone to the expense involved in keeping it up. The hon. Member must know that this is not a matter over which the Government has control, the question being purely a local one. It is true that at the Presentment Sessions previous to the Spring Assizes the presentment was rejected, and that when the matter came before the Judge, Chief Justice Morris, he decided that it was not compulsorily. At the next Presentment Sessions it was passed on a division, eight magistrates and two cesspayers voting for it, and eight cesspayers against it. With regard to the last part of the Question, I understand that it is competent for a person to become a governor on the payment of three guineas a-year, and

that there is a statement of accounts supplied to the ratepayers every half-year. The secretary of the infirmary submits vouchers at the Sessions if called on by the ratepayers to do so.

MR. O'BRIEN: Is it not a fact that that presentment was carried by four magistrates who are also governors of the infirmary?

MR. TREVELYAN: I am not informed on that point.

MR. O'BRIEN: I will renew the Question then; and I will also ask whether there is any tribunal before which the management of the infirmary may be tried?

INDIA (MADRAS)—SPECIAL POLICE TAX.

MR. MOLLOY asked the Under Secretary of State for India, Whether he will inquire into the truth of certain statements in the "Madras Standard," dated June last, as to the method of levying a special Police Tax which has been imposed on the inhabitants of the town of Salem, in consequence of a riot which occurred there, viz., that—

"The Tax is fixed in accordance to the will and caprice of a revenue officer, and that the collector simply confirms the assessment;"

and, if this be a true statement, he will take steps to relieve these people from undue taxation?

MR. J. K. CROSS: The special police tax, to which the hon. Member for Queen's County refers, is levied on the inhabitants of Salem under Madras Act III., of 1882, which corresponds with the law in other parts of India. The Act provides that—

"The magistrate of the district, after inquiry, if necessary, shall assess the proportion in which the amount is to be paid by the inhabitants, according to his judgment of their respective means."

The collector of Salem is responsible to the Government of Madras for the manner in which he discharges the duties imposed upon him under the Act; and the Secretary of State sees no reason to interfere.

ENDOWED SCHOOLS (WALES)—THE BEAUMARIS GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

MR. MORGAN LLOYD asked the Vice President of the Council, If the Endowed Schools Commissioners have

abandoned their Scheme to regulate the Beaumaris Grammar School; and, if not, when they propose to make it public?

MR. MUNDELLA: The scheme has been submitted by the Charity Commissioners to the Education Department for consideration; but we thought it desirable that it should be suspended, with other Welsh cases, until the Bill for Intermediate Education in Wales should have been considered by the House.

FIJI—ADMINISTRATION OF ROTUMAH.

SIR WILLIAM M'ARTHUR asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, Whether the attention of Her Majesty's Government has been called to the fact that, in the Island of Rotumah, a Resident Commissioner is the sole representative of both the Civil and Judicial authority of the Crown; that he is invested with the functions of both prosecutor and judge; is able to pass any sentence short of death; and is supreme in both Civil and Criminal cases, there being no appeal from his decisions to the Supreme Court of Fiji; and, whether the person now holding the office possesses the age and experience necessary for the exercise of these extraordinary powers?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: Rotumah is a very small Island, under 10,000 acres in extent, forming part of the Colony of Fiji, but distant several hundred miles from it. As only an exceedingly slender Revenue can be raised there, it has not been found possible to maintain any judicial officer in addition to the Resident Commissioner. The facts, therefore, as stated in the Question, are substantially correct; but all sentences of imprisonment exceeding 12 months, and all fines above £50, must be reported to the Governor of Fiji, together with the notes of evidence, and are reviewed by him, with the assistance of the Chief Justice and the Attorney General. Mr. Gordon, who now fills Office of Commissioner, was Clerk to the Lands Office, and Clerk to the Executive Council in Fiji; and there is no reason to doubt that, though young, he possesses the requisite qualities for the post. There have been no complaints made from the Island.

Mr. Morgan Lloyd

EAST INDIA—CRIMINAL CODE (PROCEDURE) AMENDMENT (MR. ILBERT'S) BILL—REPORTS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE (for Mr. E. STANHOPE) asked the Under Secretary of State for India, When he proposes to make his promised statement giving, in a summary form, the views of the Local Governments in India upon the Criminal Jurisdiction Bill? The right hon. Gentleman further asked whether the hon. Gentleman contemplated bringing forward the Indian Financial Statement to-night; and, if so, at what hour?

MR. J. K. CROSS: The official replies of the Local Governments have not yet reached the India Office; but I believe the following may be taken to be a correct statement of the answers, so far as they have been received:—Bengal and Assam urge withdrawal of the Bill; Madras, Bombay, Punjab, North-West Provinces, Central Provinces are against the withdrawal; Coorg, Hyderabad, and Burmah have not yet sent in their Reports. I may add that we understand that various modifications of the Bill are suggested by the Local Governments.

MR. ONSLOW: Has any one of the Local Governments approved the Bill as it stands?

MR. J. K. CROSS: I have given the best answer I can to the Question.

MR. ONSLOW: Can the hon. Gentleman say from what officials the Reports came of which he has just read a summary?

MR. J. K. CROSS: I have said that the official Reports from the Local Governments have not yet been received at the India Office. The summary I gave is official as far as I can give it; but is not official as coming from the India Office.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE: And as to the Indian Financial Statement to-night?

MR. J. K. CROSS: Oh, I beg pardon. That is not on the Paper.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE: Yes; it is No. 14.

MR. J. K. CROSS: Well, it will not be taken to-night.

MR. ASHMEAD - BARTLETT: I would ask, Sir, whether the course adopted in regard to the Indian Financial Statement is not without prece-

dent? On Thursday the House understood from the right hon. Gentleman that it was to be taken on Monday. ["Order!"] I am asking a Question. On Saturday the Prime Minister, distinctly and without qualification, said it would be the second Order for to-day. That caused a great deal of inconvenience; but now, without any Notice whatever, it is put down as the 14th Order, which means that it will not come on at all to-night.

MR. GLADSTONE said, he was not aware that there was any precedent in the matter, and he was not aware of any precedent for the House sitting for 70 hours in the third week of August; but that was the state of extremity to which the House was driven by pressure of Business. He regretted very much, for the convenience of the House, that under such pressure the accident had occurred by which the Indian Financial Statement appeared on the Paper for to-day. The hon. Gentleman was quite right in saying that he (Mr. Gladstone) had stated the Indian Budget would be the second Order for to-day; but, at the same time, he said everything would be subject to the paramount consideration of Supply, and when they found it would be possible to close Committee of Supply on Sunday morning, and to discuss the remaining Votes on Report, it was felt that the discussion on Report would occupy some hours, and that they could not, in consequence, be sure of presenting the Indian Financial Statement at an hour which would be suitable and convenient. They had, therefore, come to the conclusion that it would be for the convenience of the House that the Indian Financial Statement should be postponed until Wednesday, the Appropriation Bill being the first Order.

MR. ONSLOW: I would put it to the right hon. Gentleman whether, considering the state of public affairs, it is not a farce to take the Indian Financial Statement this year at all; whether it would not be better for the Under Secretary of State for India to publish some statement in the newspapers, and let there be no Indian Financial Statement this year.

MR. GLADSTONE: I do not think we are so hard driven as that, though I admit we are hard driven.

POOR LAW (IRELAND) — THE MANOR-HAMILTON BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

MR. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether it is the fact that Dr. Nash, J.P., a pensioner of the Manorhamilton Union, acts as an ex-officio guardian on that Board; whether, under the twenty-second section of the twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth Victoria, chapter eighty-three, it is enacted that no paid officer engaged in the administration of the law for the relief of the poor, or under the Medical Charities Act, and no person receiving any fixed salary or emoluments from the poor rates in any union, shall be capable of serving as a guardian in such union; and, if so, whether the Local Government Board will continue to permit Dr. Nash to act as a guardian on a Board from which he draws a pension, and under which he was formerly an official?

MR. TREVELYAN: The facts are as stated. It is true, I have been told, that superannuation allowances are not classed as salary or emolument. There is no question that salary would disentitle him, and what are usually regarded as emoluments, such as fees and perquisites; but the Board is advised that the law does not interfere with the retention of such office in the case of superannuation.

MR. HEALY: Upon whose advice and authority is that law laid down; is it upon the advice of the Attorney General for Ireland?

MR. TREVELYAN: I gather that that is the usual rule as regards Civil Servants. The Attorney General for Ireland was not consulted.

MR. HEALY: I beg to give Notice that, on Report of the right hon. Gentleman's salary, I will raise this Question; and call attention to the way in which the pensioner of a Board in Ireland is allowed to sit on that Board and vote other people pensions.

MR. O'KELLY: Will the right hon. Gentleman state under what law this pensioner is allowed to sit?

MR. TREVELYAN: It is not under law, but under the interpretation of law.

HARBOURS OF REFUGE—DOVER HARBOUR.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE BALFOUR asked the Secretary of State for the

Home Department, If he will lay upon the Table of the House the Papers referred to (in C. 3,726) relating to Dover, excluding the Reports of the Committees and Commissions previously laid upon the Table of the House; if specific information can be given as to the number of acres of varying depths of water within the Harbour areas, and the length of the breakwater and arms forming the proposed Dover Harbour; and, Statement of the income to be expected, and the rate of interest which that income will provide, on the capital to be invested?

MR. HIBBERT (for Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT), in reply, said, that his right hon. and learned Friend was unable to lay on the Table the Papers referred to until they were out of the hands of the Admiralty. Application had been made for them, and he did not think there would be any difficulty in obtaining the assent of the Admiralty to their being laid on the Table. There was no statement at the Home Office as to the number of acres within the harbour areas; but he was able to inform his hon. and gallant Friend that the length of the breakwater and arms forming the proposed Dover Harbour would require 10,000 lineal feet of new work. As to the third part of the Question, he had to refer his hon. and gallant Friend to the Treasury, as there was no information in the Home Office on the subject.

POST OFFICE (IRELAND)—NEW POST OFFICE IN ROSCOMMON.

MR. O'KELLY asked the Postmaster General, Whether he will consider the desirability of establishing a Post Office in Clashaganny, near Tulsk, county Roscommon?

MR. FAWCETT, in reply, said, he was at present inquiring into this subject, and it would have his best attention.

LUNATIC ASYLUMS—THE FATAL FIRE AT SOUTHALL.

MR. FRESHFIELD asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, Whether his attention has been called to the fatal fire which took place a few days since in a private lunatic asylum at Southall; and, if he would consider whether it should be made one of the conditions of the grant of licences to

such establishments that all necessary means and appliances should be provided and maintained and precautions taken for the prevention of fires, and for the escape of the inmates in such establishments?

MR. HIBBERT (for Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT) said, in reply, his right hon. and learned Friend had drawn the attention of the Lunacy Commissioners to this unfortunate occurrence at Southall. He had no power himself to lay down any conditions as to the mode in which licences ought to be granted for these houses, the number of licences being determined by the Commissioners, and in some districts by the magistrates. The Commissioners said that their attention, when visiting these asylums, had been constantly directed to the necessity of precautions against fire and the means of escape, and they had frequently urged the adoption of additional means of protection against outbreaks of that kind. A great deal had of late been done in that direction. It had not hitherto been the practice to grant licences conditionally; but in examining premises which were proposed for a licence, the Commissioners stated that they never overlooked such alterations as were necessary for giving security against fire.

ARREARS OF RENT (IRELAND) ACT, 1882—THE COLLECTOR GENERAL OF RATES, DUBLIN.

MR. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether the Law Officers have yet decided, with regard to the prosecution of the Collector General for Dublin; and, when he expects to announce the decision of the Lord Lieutenant with reference to the Collector's retention in office?

MR. TREVELYAN: The case of the Collector General of Dublin has been considered by the Law Officers, who have come to the conclusion that a prosecution could not be maintained against him under the circumstances. Their opinion, which has been delayed by pressure of work, has only now reached the Government; but it will, with all the facts of the case, receive the early and careful attention of His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant. I am not able to state with precision when the result will be announced; but we will try and have it before the end of the Session.

General Sir George Balfour

IRISH AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS (ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND).

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If he has yet obtained the information which he promised to ask for in the beginning of the Session as to the causes of the decrease of the employment of migratory Irish agricultural labourers in the north of England and south of Scotland, and has ascertained whether there are permanent causes of decrease in the demand for a class of labour previously much appreciated; and, whether the Irish labourers are likely still to be welcomed as an aid during half the year?

MR. TREVELYAN: The English Local Government Board and the Scotch Board of Supervision were good enough to undertake the inquiries which I asked for in this matter. The greater part of the Reports, which are extremely numerous, only reached my Office on Saturday last, and I have not yet had an opportunity to look into them. I will do so during the Recess.

SELF-GOVERNING COLONIES—POWER OF RAISING MILITARY AND NAVAL FORCES.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, Whether it is understood that the Colonies having what is called responsible Government have the power to raise military and naval forces without reference to the Government in England; whether they can order armed sea-going vessels without such reference; and, whether the Colony of Queensland has actually done so?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: The Colonies having a responsible Government are expected to provide for their own internal defence. They have in some cases—as Canada and the Cape—large Military Forces, and in the case of the Australian Colonies armed ships. The Colonies can order armed sea-going ships without special reference to Her Majesty's Government in each case. The Colony of Queensland includes the Islands within 60 miles of the mainland; and, with the full approval of Her Majesty's Government, are providing efficient small vessels for the defence of the Colony.

MR. O'KELLY: Does Queensland include New Guinea?

MR. GLADSTONE signified a negative.

PATENTS FOR INVENTIONS BILL — ASSUMPTION OF THE ROYAL ARMS.

MR. ARTHUR ARNOLD asked Mr. Solicitor General, with reference to Clause 106 of the Patents for Inventions Bill, imposing a penalty not exceeding £20 upon the unauthorized assumption of the Royal Arms, Whether engravers and designers who produce, and tradesmen who, for loyalty and ornament, display the Royal Arms on trade labels, shop fronts, paper bags, and in other ways, but without any word or words implying that they make such assumption by authority, will be free from liability?

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (SIR FARRER HERSCHELL): I have no hesitation in saying that persons displaying the Royal Arms under the circumstances mentioned would not render themselves liable under the clause.

POOR LAW (IRELAND)—INSTRUCTION OF CATHOLIC CHILDREN IN WORKHOUSES.

MR. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, On what authority he stated that there was a Catholic monitress, or any Catholic official, to instruct the Workhouse children in Donegal; if he will give the name of the Catholic monitress, and say if the person in question is a pauper, aged eleven years; whether, if this child be the "Catholic monitress," it is the fact that, on an examination in second class last year by the National School Inspector, she failed to pass; whether she teaches catechism at the suggestion of Mr. M'Farlane, L.G.B. Inspector; and, if not, by whose instructions she does so; if there is any difficulty in his ascertaining whether the Rev. H. M'Fadden, P.P., after his resignation as chaplain, is now paying a catechist out of his own pocket to instruct pauper children in the parish church; and, whether the spiritual destitution, which prevails in the Donegal Workhouse amongst the Catholic inmates, is such as would justify him, as President of the Local Government Board, in over-riding the authority of the guardians in order to provide a remedy?

MR. TREVELYAN: The statement as to the employment of a monitress was made on the authority of the Clerk of the Union, and is confirmed by the Chairman of the Board of Guardians. It appears that for many years it has been the custom in the workhouse school, when the schoolmistress is a Protestant, as is now the case, that a senior pupil should act as monitress to hear the Roman Catholic children repeat their Catechism and teach it to the youngest. It is true that the girl who now acts in that capacity is not a senior pupil, being in her 12th year; but she was selected in preference to an older pupil in consequence of her exceptional proficiency in the Catechism, she having been complimented by the parish priest on her superior knowledge of the subject, and given a special prize. It has been the custom for the Roman Catholic chaplain himself to act as catechist, and that duty was partly the ground upon which an application was made for an increase to the chaplain's salary in 1868—a time when the number of Roman Catholic children in the workhouse was much greater than at present. For my own part, I regret, as the Local Government Board regrets, that the Guardians do not see fit to comply with the wishes of the parish priest, and appoint a catechist; but they are exercising a discretion given to them by the law, and my position as President of the Local Government Board gives me no right to override their decision. I do not think, however, that there is such spiritual destitution among the inmates as the hon. Member apprehends. I am informed that the parish priest, though no longer officially connected with the workhouse, is most attentive to those of his flock who are inmates, and that the sick and dying have all the consolations of their religion.

MR. O'KELLY said, the Government was engaged this Session in passing a Bill to compel Boards of Guardians to give pensions to their officers; and could they not compel the Guardians also to provide for the religious wants of the inmates?

MR. TREVELYAN: It is one thing to introduce a Bill, and another thing to exercise powers I do not possess.

MR. HEALY said, he had a telegram from the parish priest in question, saying that he gave the prize on the girl's

recovery from fever, and not as a mark of recognition for her teaching Catechism.

POST OFFICE—THE PARCEL POST— RURAL LETTER CARRIERS.

MR. HARRINGTON asked the Postmaster General, Whether it is the fact that no remuneration has been given to rural letter-carriers under the arrangements of the Parcel Post, though the salaries of town letter-carriers have been raised; whether, in the general instructions issued to postmasters, Rule 57 enacts that rural letter-carriers who have to walk fourteen miles or upwards are to be relieved from the walk on alternate Sundays, and a substitute paid to perform the duty; and, whether it happens that, in cases where a substitute cannot be procured, and the letter-carrier is compelled to perform the work, the remuneration allotted for a substitute is not given to him?

MR. FAWCETT: The wages of the town letter-carriers were not, as the hon. Member seems to suppose, revised in consequence of the Parcel Post, the change of scale having been carried out more than a year ago. At the same time, the system of giving good conduct stripes was extended to the whole country, and the rural letter-carriers participated in the advantage. I explained some time since, in reply to a Question addressed to me by the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy), that the wages of rural letter-carriers are adjusted according to the amount of work they have to do, and the wages prevailing in the locality. With regard to the relief afforded to rural letter-carriers by providing a substitute on alternate Sundays, I believe at the present time there is not a single instance where it is not found possible to provide a substitute in the case of foot messengers, and not more than half-a-dozen in the case of mounted messengers. Under these circumstances, I do not think it will be expedient to alter the rule to which the hon. Member refers.

MR. HARRINGTON inquired whether the duty of finding the substitute devolved upon the postmaster or the postman; or whether, if a substitute could not be found, the postman would be compelled to perform the duties?

MR. FAWCETT said, it devolved upon the postmaster, and he had orders

to report if there was not a substitute forthcoming. The authorities then wrote back telling him to make a further search, and to offer, if necessary, a somewhat higher allowance. The result had been as he had said—that in not a single instance, he believed, throughout England, Ireland, and Scotland, had a rural post messenger been without a substitute on alternate Sundays.

Mr. HARRINGTON said, he would give the right hon. Gentleman an instance.

Mr. FAWCETT said, if the hon. Gentleman would, he would be much obliged.

PERRANFORTH, CORNWALL—RESCUE OF A PERSON IN DANGER ON THE CLIFFS BY A COASTGUARDSMAN.

Mr. BIGGAR asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, Whether his attention has been called to the rescue of a man from death on the cliffs near Perranforth, Cornwall, some few weeks ago, by a coastguard named Regan; whether it is the fact that the latter risked his own life, he having permitted himself to be lowered down the cliff by a rope tied round his body; and, what notice he purposes taking of the matter?

Mr. HIBBERT (for Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT), in reply, said, no particulars had reached the Home Office; but he had applied to the Admiralty, and he found they had received information on the subject. He believed the facts stated in the Question were quite correct, except to the extent that the Coastguard was not on duty at the time. The Admiralty had referred the matter to the Royal Humane Society.

STATE OF IRELAND—ORANGE PROCESSIONS, PORTADOWN.

Mr. HARRINGTON asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether it is true that on the night of the 13th a party of Orangemen attacked the Post Office in Portadown and broke its windows; whether any of these parties have been brought to justice; whether they have also quite recently attacked and wrecked the windows of the Catholic Church and the houses of Catholic inhabitants; what effort have the local authorities made to prevent repetition of these outrages; and, whether it is true that though the Town

Commission is exclusively Protestant, and the six local magistrates are Protestants, the resident magistrate of the district, appointed by the Government, is also a Protestant?

Mr. TREVELYAN: On the night of the 13th of August an Orange drumming party was passing through the town. When they were passing through the main street, a stone was thrown from the crowd which broke a pane of glass in the Post Office. It was dark at the time, and the police, therefore, could not identify the person who threw the stone. There was no attack on the Post Office, except this. There is no foundation whatever for the statement that Orangemen recently attacked and wrecked the windows of the Catholic church and the houses of Catholic inhabitants. The Town Commissioners and local magistrates are all Protestants of various denominations. So also is Captain Whelam, the Resident Magistrate. There is not the slightest reason to suppose that this gentleman does not possess the confidence of all religious persuasions. Last year, when the Government proposed to remove him to the County Galway, the Roman Catholic party were, I am informed, the chief movers in petitioning that he might be allowed to remain at Portadown.

Mr. HARRINGTON: Who does the right hon. Gentleman mean by the Roman Catholic party?

Mr. TREVELYAN: I do not know who these are personally.

Mr. O'BRIEN asked, was it not a fact that the Orange party went openly drumming through the country, firing shots; and if this had happened in the South, would not somebody have been arrested long ago?

Mr. HEALY: Wexford.

Mr. O'BRIEN appealed to the Speaker whether his Question ought not to be answered?

Mr. TREVELYAN: I put it to you, Sir, that it is not the sort of Question to answer, and that I am not bound to answer?

Mr. SPEAKER: The right hon. Gentleman will exercise his own discretion in the matter.

INDIA—CULTIVATION OF ESPARTO GRASS.

Mr. R. N. FOWLER asked the Under Secretary of State for India, Whether

the Government at Home has recommended to the Indian Government the cultivation of esparto grass in India?

MR. J. K. CROSS: The Secretary of State has not made any recommendation on the subject of the cultivation of esparto grass in India, which has engaged the attention of the Government of India, who have been furnished with such information on the subject as is likely to be useful.

INDIA—HERR SILBIGER AND THE MAHARAJAH OF JEYPORE.

MR. ONSLOW asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether it is true that the Austro-Hungarian Government has addressed an elaborate remonstrance to Her Majesty's Government in regard to the case of Herr Silbiger, an Austrian subject, versus the Maharajah of Jeypore, showing that the alleged arbitration (on which Her Majesty's Government had relied in former communications on the subject with the Austro-Hungarian Government) had been a mere burlesque of justice; whether it is true that Her Majesty's Government have not attempted to meet the proofs offered by the Austro-Hungarian Government, but have simply declined to re-open the question; and, whether the Papers on the subject can be laid before Parliament?

MR. J. K. CROSS (who answered the Question) said: It is the case that in May last the Austrian Government, through their Representative in London, requested a further consideration of Herr Silbiger's claim, enclosing certain documents in support of their application. The matter was again fully considered by the Secretary of State in Council, with the result that there appeared no ground for re-opening here a question on which the Government of India had more than once expressed a very decided view. The further Papers submitted have, however, been forwarded to that Government. An intimation to the foregoing effect has, I believe, been made to the Austrian Ambassador, who, it is right I should mention, was informed in some detail, in March, 1881, of the grounds of the decision arrived at by the Indian Government in the matter.

Mr. R. N. Fowler

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD (SCOTLAND) BILL.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON asked the Lord Advocate, Whether, in view of the probability that the Local Government Board (Scotland) Bill may become an Act of Parliament by the end of next week, and the early appointment thereafter of the first President of the Board under the Act, when all the powers and duties relating to Scotland now vested in, or imposed upon, Her Majesty's three principal Secretaries of State, the Privy Council, and the Local Government Board for England, in connection with the important affairs regulated by the various Acts of Parliament specified in the Schedule of the Bill, will be wholly transferred from those Ministers and Departments to another Minister and to a Department yet to be constituted, he will inform the House what arrangements have been made, or will be made, for the proper conduct and regulation of such Scotch affairs (which will then no longer belong to the Home Office, to the Privy Council Office, or to the Local Government Board for England Office), until the new Department is complete and ready to transact business?

THE LORD ADVOCATE (MR. J. B. BALFOUR): By Clause 2 of the Bill it is proposed to enact that the Board shall be deemed to be established from and after the date of the first appointment of a President, and no apprehension is entertained that from such appointment business proposed to be assigned to the Board will not be duly transacted. Till the appointment is made, the business will be done by the Departments at present charged with it.

MERCHANT SHIPPING (FISHING BOATS) BILL.

SIR JOHN HAY asked the Lord Advocate, If his attention has been directed to the Merchant Shipping (Fishing Boats) Bill; and, whether, considering its inappropriate character for Scotland, he will consider the necessity for excluding Scotland from its provisions?

THE LORD ADVOCATE (MR. J. B. BALFOUR): We are satisfied that the provisions of this Bill are inappropriate to the circumstances and conditions

under which the fishing industry is carried on in Scotland, and accordingly the Bill will not be made applicable to Scotland. This determination is in accordance with the strongly-expressed desire of Scotch Members representing fishing constituencies, and with representations received from Scotch fishing communities.

SIR JOHN HAY, in thanking his right hon. and learned Friend for his answer, asked whether, as the Bill stood on the Paper, and no Notice had been given of the intended exclusion of Scotland, the Lord Advocate would take that precaution?

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR): Certainly.

INDIA—THE LATE MAHARAJAH OF TANJORE.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR asked the Under Secretary of State for India, Whether it is a fact that Serbojee Rajah, of the Palace, Tanjore, was adopted by the senior Ranees and the other Ranees of the late Maharajah of Tanjore; whether the obsequial rites of the late Maharajah were performed by Serbojee Rajah, with the sanction and in the presence of Mr. Forbes, the then Resident at Tanjore; whether, among the Hindoos, and especially the Mahrattas, the authority of the husband is necessary for legalizing an adoption by the widow; whether the High Court of Madras in May, 1865, confirming a judgment in the District Courts, admitted the status of Serbojee Rajah as the adopted son of the late Maharajah of Tanjore; whether the application by all the fifteen Ranees, dated 12th December 1855, the petitions and mahazernames from the merchants and inhabitants of Tanjore, and the memorials of Serbojee Rajah through his counsel, Mr. Kavanagh, proving the claims of Serbojee to the position and dignity of his adoptive father, the late Maharajah, have been summarily rejected by the Government; and, whether, at the present moment, Serbojee Rajah is living at Tanjore unprovided for, and totally depending upon the charity of friends?

MR. J. K. CROSS: Nearly eight years after the death of the Rajah of Tanjore and the lapse of that State to Government, the senior Ranees wished to adopt Serbojee Rajah as her heir; but Government refused to recognize

any adoption, so far as claims to succession to State property were concerned. A nephew performed the funeral ceremonies of the late Rajah in the presence of the Resident; but it is not known who this nephew was. Nothing is known at the India Office of the judgment of the High Court in May, 1865. The various Memorials presented soon after the lapse of the State to Government were fully considered and rejected, as was also Mr. Kavanagh's recent Memorial. Serbojee's name cannot be traced in the list of Tanjore pensioners, and nothing is known at the India Office as to his pecuniary means.

EAST INDIA—CRIMINAL CODE PROCEDURE AMENDMENT (MR. ILBERT'S) BILL—REPORT OF INDIAN JUDGES.

MR. HOPWOOD (for Mr. AGNEW) asked the Under Secretary of State for India, Whether the recent publication in the "Times" of the Minutes or Report by certain Judges of the Calcutta High Court on the Jurisdiction Bill was a premature and authorized publication; and, whether, seeing that the Report in question has been put before the public, he will also lay before the public the Minutes or Reports on the same subject that have been recorded by the Bombay and Madras High Courts, in order that comparison may be made with the Report of the Calcutta Judges?

MR. J. K. CROSS: Strictly speaking, it may, perhaps, be said that the publication of the Report referred to by my hon. Friend is irregular and premature; but it is really not a matter of much moment. The Reports of the High Courts of Madras and Bombay will be laid on the Table with the other Reports of the Local Governments.

PEACE PRESERVATION (IRELAND) ACT, 1881—GUN LICENCES.

MR. SYNAN asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether Richard Radcliffe, the caretaker of Mr. Sheehy, (Coroner), Shannongrove, county Limerick, has been refused a licence to have a gun for the protection of Shannongrove House and Farm, although he (Radcliffe) produced a license to carry arms in Kerry, where he was recently a caretaker of Mr. Browne; whether the Resident Magistrate was, at the time of such refusal,

aware that Mr. Sheehy's house was broken into at night in his absence; whether he could state how often the Resident Magistrate attended the District Sessions at Pallaskenry for the last six months; and, whether the said Resident Magistrate gave, at the same time, a licence to Patrick White, of Shannongrove, and upon what recommendation; and, whether said Patrick White is only a fisherman, and is suspected of poaching, and has been summoned for shooting a valuable dog, the property of said Mr. Sheehy, on said farm?

MR. TREVELYAN: I answered the greater part of this Question on Friday last. I have since learnt the particulars of the case of Patrick White. He was granted a gun licence more than two years ago on the recommendation of the police and a magistrate of the district in which he resides. He is a respectable man, and not a poacher. It is true that in May last he was charged with shooting a dog belonging to Mr. Sheehy; but the charge was dismissed.

MR. SYNAN begged leave to remind the right hon. Gentleman that the case was not dismissed. It was actually now before the magistrates.

MR. TREVELYAN: I am informed it is dismissed.

MR. SYNAN: The case is reported in the newspapers as being still before the magistrates.

THE MAGISTRACY (IRELAND)—CONVICTION OF MRS. FALLON.

MR. HEALY asked Mr. Attorney General for Ireland, On what authority it can be stated that the sentence passed upon Mrs. Fallon, by a magistrate who was playing lawn tennis with her prosecutor, was legal; whether it is the fact that the 14th and 15th Victoria, c. 93, section 8, sub-section 2, declares—

"It shall not be lawful for any justice to hear and determine any case of summary jurisdiction outside of petty sessions, except cases of drunkenness or vagrancy, or for fraud in the sale of goods, or disputes at fairs or markets;"

if he will say whether the charge against Mrs. Fallon was trespass; if not, what it is; and, whether he will point out to the magistrate the inconvenience that might arise from justice being dealt out in the manner in question?

Mr. Synan

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL for IRELAND (MR. PORTER) in reply, said, that the section to which the hon. Gentleman referred was limited to cases of summary jurisdiction; but there was no reference whatever to the matter of the offence. The accused was charged with taking forcible possession. The case was returned for trial. He had no control over the magistrates, and no right to point out to them how they should act.

MR. HEALY asked, when would Mrs. Fallon be tried, and where?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL for IRELAND (MR. PORTER) replied, that if the hon. Gentleman would give Notice he would inquire, for he did not know.

MR. HEALY said, he asked the Chief Secretary last week after plenty of Notice, but could get no information.

POOR LAW (IRELAND)—MR. MATTHEWS, CLERK TO THE BALLYMENNA BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

MR. BIGGAR asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether he is aware that Mr. Matthews, clerk to the Ballymena Poor Law Union, is also clerk to the Town Commissioners, clerk to the Gas Works, clerk to the Intermediate School, clerk to the Burial Board, and collector of county cess for a barony?

MR. TREVELYAN, in reply, said, that the Question only appeared on the Paper to-day, and on Saturday he appealed to hon. Members from Ireland to give longer Notice of Questions.

MR. BIGGAR: I shall repeat the Question to-morrow.

MADAGASCAR—ACTION OF THE FRENCH AT TAMATAVE.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE asked the First Lord of the Treasury, When he will be prepared to make a statement with respect to Madagascar; and, whether he can now give the House any particulars with respect to a proclamation said to have been issued by "the Superior Commandant of Tamatave," prohibiting access to Tamatave "to all foreign sailors, soldiers, and officers?"

MR. GLADSTONE: Sir, as I have intimated on a former occasion, I have no expectation of being in a position to make a statement with respect to Mada-

gascar. As I have already mentioned, the narrative is of rather a complex character, embracing a number of different transactions and communications which have taken place between the respective authorities, and it has taken some little time, though no time has been lost, to examine them; and some little time, no doubt, may be required for communication between the two Governments on the subject, with a view to the necessary explanations. Indeed, I am not sure whether the French Government is yet in possession of full information. Some information they have received; but I am not able to state that they are in possession of full information. With respect to the Proclamation said to have been issued, I am glad to have the opportunity of mentioning that, as the right hon. Gentleman's Question implies, the Proclamation was not, as many people supposed in this country, a Proclamation limited to the officers of a particular vessel, or to the Representatives of a particular nationality. It embraced, as the right hon. Gentleman's Question says, "all foreign sailors, soldiers, and officers." But that Proclamation—although those words are correctly given—may form the subject of communications between the two Governments, and therefore I do not propose to enter into details with respect to it. I perhaps may say, as great interest is felt respecting the case of Mr. Shaw, that some information has been received about that gentleman. The French Consul at Zanzibar had been at Tamatave, and we understand, through the French Government, that Mr. Shaw himself was not actually in prison; but he was on board a French vessel, of which, of course, he had the free range. The nature of the charge has been communicated to the Government, and it amounts to this—that Mr. Shaw is accused of holding intelligence with the enemy; and likewise of directly hostile action against the French soldiers. This information, and some more, has been given in reply to the questions which were put by Lord Granville to the French Ministry here, and the information has been given by the French Government with very great courtesy, and without raising any question at all as to the title of the English Government to put questions with regard to French jurisprudence or the exclusion of French

law. We are informed as to the nature of the charge against the prisoner—so to call him—although he is not strictly in prison—it is absolutely obligatory by the French law that communication should be made to the effect that under the French law he would be tried by a court martial. There is a power of appeal before a Court of Revision; and the French Government states that they have no doubt that there is no reason whatever for supposing that he will not have every facility for preparing his defence. This, of course, is only partial information; but it may, perhaps, tend to allay any anxiety that may be felt about Mr. Shaw. I may add that there have been very cordial communications between the French Admiral and the Governor of the Mauritius.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE: I suppose there is no doubt that Mr. Shaw is compulsorily detained on this French vessel?

MR. GLADSTONE: He is under a criminal charge, and therefore we may justly suppose that he is so detained.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE: I think the answer that has been given by the right hon. Gentleman is very far short of what the House has a right to expect, and I shall repeat the Question to-morrow.

MR. GLADSTONE: Then I beg to say that I shall not give any further answer. I cannot give any without a breach of public duty and without injury to the public interest. It would be distinctly injurious to the public interest, and, moreover, would be adverse to the perfectly amicable and friendly discussion of these matters between the two Governments, if I were to anticipate the communications that are to be made.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE: I beg to point out that I am not asking for any information as to communications that are passing between Her Majesty's Government and the French Government; but I wish to know what is the state of the facts as they are in the hands of Her Majesty's Government?

MR. GLADSTONE: I do not complain at all of that observation, nor of the Question that stands in the name of the hon. Member for Eye (Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett), and which is virtually involved in the Question of the right hon. Gentleman; but what I feel is this—and I

am sure from his experience of public affairs that he will see there is something in it—that for me to attempt to give a particular account of what he very properly terms “the facts” would involve, as I have said, going into the details of intricate Correspondence, and that account of such intricate Correspondence could not be given in a manner satisfactory to the House unless the Papers were laid upon the Table. It would be injurious and premature to lay the Papers on the Table at the present moment; and it is upon that account, and that account alone, that I feel there is no satisfactory method of dealing with the question but as I have done until the House is in possession of the whole facts of the case. I express my regret that it is not in my power to go further than I have done on the present occasion.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE: May I ask whether, supposing, after Parliament has risen, the case should reach a stage at which the facts could be disclosed, any steps will then be taken to make them public?

MR. W. E. FORSTER: Before that Question is answered I should like to ask, though I shall not press it if my right hon. Friend desires me not to do so, whether he has any objection to state where the trial by court martial of Mr. Shaw is likely to be?

MR. GLADSTONE: I think we have no information on that point. There is no reference to it. With regard to the Question of the right hon. Gentleman (Sir Stafford Northcote), my answer is, without Notice and hastily, that I am aware of no objection to such proceeding. Of course, the desire of the Government will be to make known to the world at once, in order to allay any anxiety, if any anxiety exists, the result of these proceedings.

MR. ONSLOW: I wish to ask, Sir, whether the Government intend to provide counsel for the defence of Mr. Shaw?

MR. GLADSTONE: I am not aware of any reason why that should be done, and I have no reason to think it will be asked, unless the hon. Gentleman thinks it the duty of the Government to have an army of counsel all over the world for the purpose of defending British subjects who may be put under accusation. There is nothing in this case, so

far as I know, to show reason why an exception should be made; and no application whatever has been received, nor, so far as I am aware, is there any wish for the intervention of the Government.

MR. ONSLOW: I may remind the right hon. Gentleman that he could obtain counsel from the Mauritius with the greatest ease.

SIR JOHN HAY: I merely wish to ask, has the French Navy power to try a prisoner of war—if that is what Mr. Shaw is—by court martial without communicating with the country whose subject he is? Or is the House to understand that he is confined on board ship as a spy?—because he must be, I suppose, in one position or the other.

MR. GLADSTONE: There is no charge, Sir, in the communications which we have received, of Mr. Shaw being a spy. With regard to the other Question of the right hon. and gallant Gentleman, it would be rash on my part to give a reply to it until I have communicated with others who are better qualified to give an opinion upon it. I can only say that nothing has occurred which has made it necessary for us to press such a point.

SIR JOHN HAY said, he would put a Question on the subject on Thursday.

MR. HEALY: Is there any complaint with regard to the restrictions imposed upon Mr. Shaw, or in respect to his treatment?

MR. GLADSTONE: With reference to his treatment we have received no complaint, and have heard of none to lead us to suppose that he is not well treated. Further than that I can give no information.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT asked, Whether the Despatches from Madagascar confirm previous intelligence on the following subjects:—That the late British Consul was ordered by Admiral Pierre to haul down his flag within twenty-four hours; that his secretary was arrested in his presence, and that the British flag was hauled down by the French; that all communication between H.M.S. “Dryad” and the shore was forbidden; the British her arrival; the her arrival; the her arrival; any

Mr. Gladstone

to land cargo on payment of the French Tariff; that Admiral Pierre made up the outgoing Mails and demanded and took the ingoing Mails; that he also demanded the Consular Despatches, and was only prevented from taking them by Commander Johnstone, of the "Dryad" sending them on board the "Taymouth Castle" and escorting her to sea through the French fleet; that Tamatave has been proclaimed a French town, and a French mayor appointed; that a large amount of British property was destroyed, and that 2,000 British subjects, rendered destitute by the bombardment, have had to be conveyed to the Mauritius; whether an English merchant and his three servants have been arrested, and are now in prison on board a French iron-clad; whether Admiral Pierre has been recalled by the French Government; and, who now represents Her Majesty at Madagascar?

MR. GLADSTONE: No, Sir; I am afraid I must regard the Question in the same light as that addressed to me by the right hon. Baronet (Sir Stafford Northcote). There are certain points that are incorrectly assumed by the hon. Gentleman; and I could not answer without involving myself, as I explained, in intricate considerations connected with the Papers, and placing myself in the inconvenient position of giving inadequate and partial information.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT asked the Prime Minister whether the Preamble of the Proclamation did not run to the effect that, "considering the attempts of certain officers of Her Majesty's ship *Dryad*" to impede the course of justice and obstruct the authorities, and so forth, they forbade the access to Tamatave of "all foreign sailors, soldiers, and officers?" He should also ask whether the House understood the right hon. Gentleman to say that the French Government had shown great courtesy in not raising any question as to the right of the British Government to inquire under what law the claim to imprison a British subject in Madagascar was made; and whether it was not only the right but the duty of any Government, British or otherwise, to make direct and positive inquiry into the imprisonment of their subjects?

MR. GLADSTONE: I am not prepared to allege that it is the duty of the Government, as a matter of course, or as

a general rule, or except under very peculiar circumstances, to make inquiry with reference to a subject who has come, or is supposed or alleged to have come, within the range of the law administered by foreign countries. I must repeat that the French Government acted with a good deal of courtesy in the matter; and I regret that the hon. Gentleman should consider it necessary to make that matter the subject of a Question. With regard to the Proclamation, I have already stated, in reply to the right hon. Gentleman opposite, that there were portions of this Proclamation which entered into the subject-matter of communications between the two Governments, and that is so.

MR. EDWARD CLARKE: Can the right hon. Gentleman say on what charge Mr. Shaw is detained?

MR. GLADSTONE: I have given the information which we have received; at least, I gave an account of the charge that is given. He is detained "on account of alleged intelligence with the enemy, and hostile action with respect to the French soldiers."

MR. W. E. FORSTER asked who now represented Her Majesty's Government in Madagascar?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: Before Consul Pakenham died he made certain arrangements with Commander Johnstone for the safe custody of the archives and the temporary performance of the duties of the Consulate. Whether these arrangements are of a strictly binding character may be doubtful; but for the moment Commander Johnstone is performing all the duties he can perform in the matter. I have already stated that Mr. Annesley has been appointed in succession to Consul Pakenham; and Mr. Pickersgill has been appointed Vice Consul.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE: May I ask whether Mr. Shaw is able to communicate with his friends?

MR. GLADSTONE: We have received no distinct information to that effect. All I have quoted has come, not from Mr. Shaw, but from the French authorities.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked whether there was any truth in the report which had reached him, to the effect that the French authorities inspected Consul Pakenham's papers after his death, and that they were in pos-

session of the French authorities before they were handed over to the Commander of the *Dryad*?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: That is a Question of which Notice had better be given.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF: I give Notice for to-morrow.

MR. PLUNKET: May I ask the Government whether they have taken any steps, or propose to take any steps, for the purpose of communicating with Mr. Shaw; and, whether they have any information as to the time at which the court martial will be held?

MR. GLADSTONE: We have no information as to the time when the court martial will be held. With regard to communications, I would rather take the opportunity of referring to the Papers before answering the Question.

MR. PLUNKET: I will ask the Question to-morrow.

MR. JOSEPH COWEN: Will the Government give an undertaking that Mr. Shaw shall have a fair trial?

MR. GLADSTONE: The hon. Member should ask himself this Question. I will suppose that we were within what we deemed our rights in dealing with the subject of a Foreign Power. I am not sure that it would be a good compliment to us if in the Chamber of that foreign country the Government should be required to set itself in motion to see that that gentleman had a fair trial, because it would be a distinct imputation on us that there was some ground for doubting that he would have a fair trial. If any gentleman in the position of Mr. Shaw were not to have a perfectly fair trial it would be a grave and serious cause of complaint on the part of the Government of which he was a subject.

MR. O'KELLY: Can the right hon. Gentleman say if there is any danger of Mr. Shaw being tried by a packed jury?

[No reply was given.]

THE SUEZ CANAL COMPANY—NEGOTIATIONS.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether any negotiations are in progress with M. de Lesseps, or with the Suez Canal Company, respecting the improvement of the transit by the Canal, or the formation of a second Canal; and, whether it is the intention of the Government to make any communication to Parliament

before concluding an arrangement with the Company for these purposes?

MR. GLADSTONE: In reply to the right hon. Gentleman, I have to say that there are no negotiations in progress with M. de Lesseps or with the Suez Canal Company; and, after what has occurred, we have no desire for their early resumption. [*A laugh.*] That is repeating what I have very explicitly stated before. We think there are intermediate measures that may be adopted with advantage. With respect to the pledge asked for by the right hon. Gentleman, I cannot give a pledge that there will be any communication before concluding any arrangement with the Company; because, considering that we have three Directors who will be liable to require and receive our instructions upon any matter relating to the management of the Company, which might, therefore, be understood to be an arrangement by Her Majesty's Government with the Company, the right hon. Gentleman will see that it might be so interpreted as to mean that the whole action of the Directors was to be paralyzed during an uncertain interval. I think he will also feel that it is very difficult, on the ground of general convenience, to give a pledge of that kind. I think, however, it may be taken for granted by Parliament, and Parliament will not be deceived in so doing, that we have anything but a disposition to unnecessarily enter upon a course of sole action in this matter, where we think we might be committing the interests of the country or the authority of Parliament. That consideration will be carefully borne in mind. I will refer to another subject which I have myself mentioned to the House. What we hope and desire—and we believe it will be the best course with reference to a satisfactory settlement of this question—is, that there will be communications between the authorities of the Company and the trading interests of this country, and, if necessary, of other countries. We believe a comparison of views between those directly interested in these respects would probably be extremely useful, and we should be

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Sir H. Drummond Wolff

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE: Is there anything proceeding in that way, or is it only a suggestion of the right hon. Gentleman?

MR. GLADSTONE: It is certainly beyond a suggestion of mine, or of the present Government. It has been mentioned by the authorities of the Company in their own conversation, and I understand very favourably. I do not know that anything has been arranged; but I understand that it is contemplated and desired.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS: I wish to remind the Prime Minister that the noble Marquess the Secretary of State for War gave an assurance a few days ago that he would consult with his Colleagues as to whether instructions might not be given to the British Directors that they should make no statement which would commit this country so far as the monopoly claimed by M. de Lesseps is concerned. I should like to know if any communication of the kind has been made?

MR. GLADSTONE: No, Sir. There has been no communication with the Directors; but the right hon. Gentleman may rest assured that they will be very cautious as to making any statement of the kind.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS: What the noble Marquess distinctly said was that the Government would consider whether some instructions should not be given to them.

MR. GLADSTONE: They have been fully warned in the matter, and the right hon. Gentleman may rest assured.

EGYPT—THE EGYPTIAN MINISTRY.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether a Ministerial Crisis is imminent in Egypt; and, whether the Khedive has requested Riaz Pasha to form a fresh Ministry?

MR. GLADSTONE: We have received no information to the effect stated in the Question of the hon. Member, and we have no reason whatever to suppose that it is true or probable.

TRADE AND COMMERCE—THE WESTERN BANK.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE: I beg to ask the President of the Board of Trade a Question of which I have given him private Notice, and which I have been asked to put by some of the

sufferers by the failure of the late Western Bank. They are anxious to know if he can give any information as to when the affairs of that bank are likely to be settled, as they say that all the debts belonging to them have long since been paid, and that the liquidators have many thousands of pounds in their hands belonging to the unfortunate shareholders, which they are anxious to get as quickly as possible.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN: The right hon. Gentleman is, no doubt, aware that the Board of Trade has no control whatever over these proceedings. I have endeavoured since I received the right hon. Gentleman's letter to obtain information from private sources, but have been unable to obtain any of importance. The matter is in the hands of the liquidators, and perhaps the best course would be to communicate directly with them.

PARLIAMENT — BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE: I wish to ask the Prime Minister, What is the course of Business for to-day, to-morrow, and Wednesday; and, whether it is intended still to proceed with the Court of Criminal Appeal Bill? I venture to hope that that will not be the case.

MR. GLADSTONE: The intention certainly is to take the Court of Criminal Appeal Bill to-night. The Bill having passed through the Grand Committee, we feel it our duty, so far as depends upon us, to take the judgment of the House upon it. But we shall endeavour to bring the matter to an issue with as much rapidity as possible. To-morrow we propose to begin with the Amendments of the Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill, and then to submit the Medical Act Amendment Bill to the judgment of the House. On Wednesday we shall take the Indian Financial Statement. I, of course, except the stages of the Appropriation Bill.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he would renew the protest he had made on a former occasion, that at this period of the year it was impossible for the House properly to consider so important a measure as the Court of Criminal Appeal Bill.

MR. BUCHANAN asked the right hon. Gentleman, whether the Government really intended to push through the

Medical Act Amendment Bill this Session?

MR. GLADSTONE: It will be for the House to say whether it should be passed through. We intend to ask the opinion of the House on the subject.

MR. BROADHURST appealed to the hon. Members who were opposing the second reading of the Factories and Workshops Acts Amendment Bill, whether they would withdraw that opposition in the interests of the working population who would be affected?

MR. BUCHANAN rose on a point of Order, and called the Speaker's attention to the fact that in the Papers issued this morning there appeared Notices of certain Amendments on the Medical Act Amendment Bill, which had not yet passed through the second reading. He asked whether it was in Order that such Notices should appear on the Paper?

MR. SPEAKER said, these Notices of Amendments had, no doubt, appeared quite inadvertently. They had now been withdrawn, and would not appear on the Paper until the Bill was read a second time.

MR. PLUNKET desired to know whether it was intended to proceed with the Union Officers' Superannuation (Ireland) Bill?

MR. GLADSTONE: Yes.

STATE OF IRELAND—RUMOURED PROCLAMATION OF A MEETING AT TIPPERARY.

MR. O'BRIEN asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether there was any ground for the apprehension entertained in Tipperary that the Government meant to proclaim a meeting to be held in that county next Sunday to celebrate the anniversary of the death of Charles Kickham?

MR. TREVELLYAN: I have heard nothing about any such intention, and I am in constant correspondence with the Castle in Dublin on the subject of meetings.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

SUPPLY.—REPORT.

Resolutions [18th August] reported.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the said Resolutions be now read a second time."

Mr. Buchanan

THE CHANNEL TUNNEL SCHEME.

OBSERVATIONS.

SIR JOHN HAY, in rising to call attention to certain passages in the Evidence given before the Joint Committee on the Channel Tunnel, which show the opinions of the highest authorities concerning the defencelessness of the Country, more especially as regards the insufficiency of the number of Iron-clad Ships and Guns, said, that great weight must be attached to the evidence given before the Committee by Lord Wolseley and Admiral Rice, the Commander-in-Chief of the Fleet at the Nore. Lord Wolseley was of opinion that an Army of 500,000 men, which was the number calculated upon to resist invasion, would require at least 1,600 guns, and 5,220 horses, and that it would take a year and a half before these could be supplied. To Admiral Rice the following Question was put by the hon. Gentleman the Member for Oxfordshire (Mr. E. W. Harcourt):—

"Supposing that our Fleet had been beaten, what power of restoring that Fleet should we have, and in what time, from our Colonial Possessions abroad?"

The Admiral's reply was—

"None, I should say." "Have we at the present moment, do you consider, a sufficient number of ships available for the defence of the Channel?"—"May I ask whether you mean under any conceivable circumstances?" "At the present moment?" "At the present moment, yes."—"To prevent the landing of 20,000 men?"

The answer was—

"That involves the question of whom we have to deal with and to meet. If we are to meet any two first-class European Powers at sea I do not think we have."

In reply to the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Montrose (Mr. Baxter). Admiral Rice said—

"I do not know that the mercantile ships would be of much value in preventing invasion. They would be of much use in assisting us in making one." "Would they not be available in case of difficulties with other countries?"—"As cruisers, yes. In former days the three-deckers commanded the sea; now the iron-clads do, and nothing can touch them or fight them except other iron-clads." "I gather from the tenour of your evidence that you do not think it is probable that a large force, such as Sir Lintorn Simmons said, can be landed upon our coasts as long as the British Navy is in the condition that it is now?"—"I do not mean to say that, because I do not think it is quite as efficient as it might be for such contingencies; it does very well for what it has to do; but if we

got into difficulties, I think we should find ourselves in a difficulty from not having ships enough—iron-clads.”

He had one or two further extracts to read. The following Questions were put to the noble and gallant Lord (Lord Wolseley), and the answers were instructive:—

“Question.—You would advocate some increase to our Land Forces and to our Navy?

Answer.—Certainly to our Navy: our Navy more than to our Land Forces. Question.—You are not one of those who think that our Navy is in an inefficient state; but that it is not numerous enough? Answer.—It is not numerous enough. I cannot express an opinion as regards the efficiency of the Navy; but I believe it is in a very efficient condition as far as it goes. . . . If you compare the condition of England now with the condition of England when the Duke of Wellington wrote that celebrated letter, you cannot compare the defensive conditions of England now with what they were then; France is much more formidable now than she was then, and comparing her Fleet now with what it was then, relatively to ours, its strength has vastly increased. Question.—What I am saying is this—that upon the whole, relatively to our past condition, the defensive forces of this country are larger than they were since the Peace of 1815, excepting at the times of actual war, or apprehension of war? Answer.—Not as you said, very much stronger; they are stronger than they were at the time that the Duke of Wellington wrote that letter; but relatively stronger considering the size of the French Army now, and of the great addition she had made to her Fleet.”

He thought that anyone who cared for the defence of the country, who knew its weakness, would forgive him for bringing the subject before the House. They already had the acknowledgment of the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. W. H. Smith) that the number of iron-clads were too few. The iron-clads being built were insufficient to compete with the 19 iron-clads completed by France; and when they heard that 8,000 more workmen were employed in the French Dockyards than we employed, it was time we turned attention to this subject.

SIR EDWARD J. REED said, he had no intention of occupying more than a minute or two; but he could not refrain from expressing general concurrence with the views which the right hon. and gallant Baronet had laid down. He thought the country was much indebted to him for bringing forward this question with his knowledge, experience, and fair-mindedness, if he might be allowed to say so. He must say he heard the statement of the hon. Member for

Hastings (Sir Thomas Brassey) as to the strength of the Navy with pain; it was the most *coulour de rose* statement that could be made, and imposed upon them the duty of looking very closely into the figures for the future. It appeared to him that this was a question which the House ought to take into its consideration, and devote a Select Committee to it; and next year, if he were able, he should move for a Select Committee to inquire into the strength and condition of the Navy, and other matters—namely, the expenditure upon the Effective and Non-Effective Services, and to try whether they could not take some more effective measures than were held out from the Government Benches. He considered it was of the utmost importance that if the Government did not see its way to make an improvement, the House should take the matter into its own hands.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE BALFOUR said, he thought it necessary again to call attention to a consideration which he had frequently presented—namely, that the Navy must continue inefficient so long as it depended upon another Department for its guns, and thereby place on the Secretary of State for War the duty and responsibility of providing and maintaining in readiness the armament and projectiles, as well as the ammunition of the Fleet. They required at least 3,000 new guns for the Navy, and if they were at war probably 4,000, and only a small portion of the armament was at present in readiness. The cost of the guns for the Navy ought to be taken on the Navy Estimates, and removed from the Estimates of the War Office. The Navy should be allowed to supply their own guns. It would require about £4,000,000 to make the Navy efficient; and that sum, if raised on loan, could be paid off in the way of Annuities in six or eight years. The Navy should also take charge of all their Reserve armament and stores, and make the military equipments on board ship be accounted for direct to the Admiralty, instead of, as at present, to the War Office.

SIR HENRY HOLLAND, in supporting the remarks of the right hon. and gallant Gentleman (Sir John Hay) and the hon. Gentleman (Sir Edward J. Reed) with reference to the unsatisfactory condition of the Navy, said, that he was also desirous of seeing the supply of guns to the Naval and Military Ser-

vices kept distinct. The Government ought seriously to reconsider that question, for although he knew there was a strong feeling entertained by many officials that cheapness was really secured, after all he ventured to doubt whether such was the case. As regarded the stores, he hoped that the Government would also take into consideration the subject of having those accounts audited, to some extent, by the Comptroller and Auditor General. With regard to the suggestion by the hon. Member for Cardiff (Sir Edward J. Reed), that there should be a Select Committee to inquire into the state of the Navy, he (Sir Henry Holland) confessed that he viewed that proposal with some amount of apprehension; because it appeared to him that by the publication of the Evidence before such a Committee, foreign nations would become as well-informed as ourselves as to the real state of the case and our difficulties. Matters not at all desirable to be revealed would thus become public property. If an inquiry had to be instituted, he ventured to suggest that it should be a Royal Commission, whose proceedings would be confidential.

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN took no exception to the speeches which had been made, although he thought the right hon. and gallant Gentleman (Sir John Hay) had not chosen the most suitable way of bringing the subject before the House. They had already on three occasions that Session pretty fully discussed the condition of the Navy, and he had really nothing to add to his former statements. The right hon. and gallant Admiral had founded his remarks on the evidence given before a Committee appointed to consider the question of the Channel Tunnel. That question had excited very strong opinions on the one side and the other. Lord Wolseley, who was one of the witnesses, had, from the first, taken a decided view and uttered very strong language against the Tunnel; and it was, therefore, natural, when he was giving his evidence, that he should accentuate as much as possible the defenceless condition of the country. So, also, with the right hon. and gallant Gentleman himself and other witnesses before the Committee. But there were a good many persons of equal eminence who held opinions the other way; and though the right hon. and gallant Gen-

Sir Henry Holland

tleman and Lord Wolseley had expressed strong opinions as to the Navy, that must not be taken as settling the question. He would not now go into the details of the matter, but would merely state that the witnesses to whom he referred thought the country had not such a Navy as would secure perfect immunity from invasion. That was not the view which those who were at present responsible for the condition of the Navy entertained; but, at the same time, he would say that such opinions would always receive due consideration. His hon. Friend (Sir Edward J. Reed) said that he would move for a Select Committee next Session to inquire into the condition of the Navy. He (Mr. Campbell-Bannerman) entertained objections to the appointment of such a Committee, some of which had been expressed by his hon. Friend the Member for Midhurst (Sir Henry Holland); but, without saying what would be the course which Government would adopt next Session, he did not think that the Department viewed with any hostility any measures which might be taken by the House to examine into the subject, and to see whether they had the fullest information as to the means of supplying the country with both ships and guns. The subject of the supply of guns was of great importance; but it was fully before them, and the advantages and disadvantages of the present system were well known. It was not for him nor for the Admiralty to settle whether the present system should be continued or modified; but the opinions expressed would have due weight with his Colleagues at the War Office. Nothing had been said of a definite character to call for a more specific reply.

ARMY—ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT— MR. LYNAL THOMAS.

OBSERVATIONS.

Mr. MACFARLANE brought forward the case of the inventor, Mr. Lynal Thomas, urging that, as he would have had a legal claim under the Patents for Inventions Bill now before Parliament, his case should be referred to some Member of the House—say the hon. Member for Pembroke (Sir Edward J. Reed)—to decide whether he had not an equitable claim on the Government. Mr. Thomas had gained the verdict of a jury, and to drive him to further litiga-

tion was to refuse him redress. At the trial the evidence of agents was suppressed, and strong remarks were made by the Judge on the unsatisfactory character of the official evidence against the claim. Let it be referred as an equitable but not as a legal claim, and Mr. Thomas would abide by the result.

MR. BRAND declined to enter into a discussion of the circumstances of the case. The claim had been before the War Office many years, and complaint having been made that it had not been investigated by a Secretary of State personally, the present Chancellor of the Exchequer, when Secretary of State for War, went into it fully with a bias in favour of Mr. Thomas, but came to the conclusion that he had no claim against the War Office. There was no reason why the case should be re-opened, and it would be an inconvenient precedent to re-open it, because what was practically a charge of fraud was made against the War Office, and others might allege fraud for the purpose of having their cases needlessly re-opened.

IRELAND—GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE IN NAVAL MATTERS.

OBSERVATIONS.

MR. O'KELLY said, he wished to call the attention of the House to the manner in which Ireland was treated in respect to shipbuilding. Last year, while thousands upon thousands of pounds were spent in shipbuilding, there was only the miserable sum of £812 spent in connection with the matter in Ireland. It could not be said that there were no facilities for the building of ships in Ireland, inasmuch as there were great shipbuilders in Belfast. Ireland contributed largely towards the maintenance of the Navy; and they were entitled, therefore, to a fair share of the expenditure consequent upon it. Some years ago a few orders for gunboats were given, and the fact reflected most strongly on the Government, as during their time no work of the kind had been given. He also thought that they were entitled to have a Naval Dockyard in Cork.

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN said, so far as private yards were concerned, he agreed, if there were any shipbuilders in Ireland who were accustomed to do the sort of work which the Admiralty required, that they should

have a fair chance with others when a ship was put out to contract; and he rather thought that had been done so far as possible. There was a Dockyard at Haulbowline, in Ireland, and if they were to treat this matter according to national wants and aspirations, then, as a Scotchman, he was bound to say that his country was still worse off; because, of all the most admirable situations for Government Establishments and Dockyards, he could not conceive anything better than the upper part of the Firth of Forth, and yet they had nothing at all. He was unable to enter into figures on the subject, as this was not a matter connected with the Vote now under consideration.

MR. BIGGAR said, he thought that the reply of the Secretary to the Admiralty was most unsatisfactory. He had no personal regard for the gentlemen in Belfast, and had no personal interest in anything concerning them. But there was a firm there—Messrs. Harland and Wolff—whose reputation as shipbuilders was exceedingly good, and who would be able to produce any ships the Government might require. They were the firm that constructed the White Star American liners, and they were competent to do some of the Government shipbuilding if they got it to do.

MR. SPEAKER said, that the Estimates under consideration had no bearing on the subject being discussed; and the discussion was, therefore, out of Order.

MR. O'KELLY, as a protest against the injustice of which he complained, challenged a Division upon the question of the reception of the Report.

Question put.

The House divided:—Ayes 99; Noes 12: Majority 87.—(Div. List, No. 306.)

First Resolution agreed to.

Second Resolution (£27,555, Salaries and Expenses of the Offices of the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland in Dublin and London, and Subordinate Departments) read a second time.

MR. HEALY said, he understood that this Vote included the salary of the Chief Secretary for Ireland; and, as that was the case, he wished to point out that the right hon. Gentleman, in his capacity as President of the Local Government

Board in Ireland, had put a very extraordinary construction upon an Act of Parliament. The Act of Parliament he referred to laid down that no paid officer of a Board of Guardians was entitled to take part in the administration of the funds of the Union; notwithstanding which, Dr. Naish was allowed to sit as a member of the Board of Guardians of the Manorhamilton Union, because he happened to be a Justice of the Peace and connected with the landlord party. How could it be expected that hon. Members would consent to appeals of the kind that had been made, when the Government allowed a medical officer, a pensioner of the Union, to sit upon the Board and vote away the rates out of which he was paid? The Chief Secretary boasted of his kindness and courtesy to Irish Members; and, no doubt, he was everything that a Representative of an English Government ought to be. Fine phrases and smooth words were all very well; but, coming to facts, they found that the Chief Secretary was always ready to twist and distort circumstances to the disadvantage of the popular party, and to the interest of landlordism. In short, the time had come when war ought to be declared against the manner in which the right hon. Gentleman had conducted the Irish administration; and he was sorry the Chief Secretary was not present to hear him say so. They had put up for two years with his conduct of Irish affairs in that House, and they had not attacked him in the way in which his Predecessor, the right hon. Member for Bradford (Mr. Forster), had been attacked by the Irish Members. [Mr. CALLAN: Because he deserved it.] They entertained some hope of a new *régime* when the present Chief Secretary came into Office; but they found him eager and willing to tread in the steps of his Predecessor. Having watched him for two years in that House, so far as his (Mr. Healy's) estimate of him was concerned, he believed he was as utterly ingrained with the worst traditions of Dublin Castle as the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Bradford. The right hon. Member for Bradford had a very strange state of things to deal with; he had 1,000 men in prison on various charges; but the present Chief Secretary was in a very different position. The country was perfectly peaceful, except when an Orangeman occasionally shot a policeman at an

eviction. They had the whole tone and temper of the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Bradford translated into a more courteous form of expression embodied in the conduct of the present Chief Secretary. There was no denying that the Chief Secretary possessed a good many arts which the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Bradford had not. The right hon. Gentleman the Member for Bradford assumed an unnecessarily uncouth and rugged aspect in answering Questions; but the present Chief Secretary was much wiser in his generation, and, so far as words were concerned, he had not attempted needlessly to exasperate the feelings of the Irish Representatives. Yet, as far as he could be, he was as great an exponent of tyranny and of landlord principle as the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Bradford. If the Chief Secretary had been in his place, he should have taken the liberty of extending his comments; but, in his absence, he would content himself by moving, as a protest, that the Vote be reduced by £4,000, the amount of the right hon. Gentleman's salary.

Amendment proposed, to leave out "£27,555," and insert "£23,555,"—(Mr. Healy),—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That '£27,555' stand part of the said Resolution."

Mr. O'KELLY supported the proposal of his hon. Friend, and said that the Chief Secretary and the Irish Executive conducted affairs in as offensive a manner to the Irish people as was possible. He did not think a gentleman like Dr. Naish would be allowed to hold in England the position he held in Ireland.

Mr. BIGGAR said, it seemed to him that the Government were not inclined to meet the allegations made. If Dr. Naish was able to sit on the Board of Guardians, although superannuated, he should be able to fulfil his previous duties. With reference to the comparison that had been drawn between the Chief Secretary and his Predecessor, it seemed to him that there was less excuse for the action of the present Chief Secretary, because, under the influence of the Land Act and better crops, the discontent of the people had in a great measure passed away. On Saturday the Chief Secretary was utterly unable to defend several of his actions in Ireland; and he really thought the time had come when

Mr. Healy

he should be driven with ignominy from Office, as his Predecessor was, and ruined as a Government official.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, that the absence of his right hon. Friend (Mr. Trevelyan) must be owing to some misconception on his own part, as he was in the House very recently. He was sure he might say this of his right hon. Friend—that the general feeling of Members, with few exceptions, was that there never had been an official more anxious to be courteous and polite under difficult circumstances, or who discharged his official duties with greater industry and ability. With regard to the case of Dr. Naish, although he would not absolutely commit himself in the matter, it appeared to him, after the best examination that he had been able to make, that the Guardians were perfectly right in their action, and the section which had been quoted did not apply to the case at all. He did not wish at present to give any strong expression of opinion upon the subject; but he would undertake to make further investigation into the matter. Under the circumstances, it seemed to him that there was no ground whatever for the reduction of the Vote.

MR. T. D. SULLIVAN supported the reduction of the Vote, on the ground that all Irish officials were paid too highly. They had been told that those gentlemen performed their duties from a feeling of patriotism. It was, however, sweetened in the one case by £20,000 a-year—[Mr. HEALY: With £400 a-year for coals.]—and in another by £4,500 a-year. These sums were drawn from the British taxpayer, who had to pay them whether he liked it or not; while if Irishmen, of their own free will, subscribed to maintain their Representatives, who did them good service, any amount of censure was poured out on those Representatives; but on the Treasury Bench were seated Gentlemen who were not ashamed to draw thousands without inquiring whether the British taxpayer was a consenting party.

Question put.

The House divided:—Ayes 97; Noes 12: Majority 85.—(Div. List, No. 307.)

Resolution agreed to.

Third Resolution agreed to.

VOL. CCLXXXIII. [THIRD SERIES.]

Fourth Resolution (£85,482, Salaries and Expenses of the Local Government Board in Ireland, including various Grants in Aid of Local Taxation) read a second time.

MR. HEALY drew attention to the conduct of the Guardians of Donegal Workhouse, who refused some days ago to appoint a Catholic schoolmaster or schoolmistress to superintend the education of the Catholic pauper children. In consequence of the bigotry and intolerance thus manifested by the majority of the Board, who consisted of *ex officio* members, the chaplain had resigned. The children were now sent unattended from the workhouse to the Catholic chapel in the town. That was in contravention of the Regulations laid down by the Local Government Board. He would make a suggestion to the right hon. Gentleman—namely, that instead of driving the people into these institutions, he should do as he did in the case of Carrick-on-Suir—dissolve the Board of Guardians. He ventured to say that if a Roman Catholic Board of Guardians had behaved in a similar manner, the right hon. Gentleman would soon have found a way out of the difficulty. The judgment and heart of the Chief Secretary were always enlisted on the landlord and anti-Catholic side. As a protest against the course which had been pursued, he should move to reduce the Vote by £500, the salary of Mr. Macfarlane, the Inspector upon whose instructions the Chief Secretary acted in these matters. The Irish Party were sometimes charged with too great vehemence in discussing these matters—[Mr. WHITWORTH: Hear, hear!]²—but they would continue to bring them before Parliament, in spite of the interruptions of the hon. Member for Drogheda, which was his only contribution to the debate, while he might remark that he had heard a corn crane give utterance to more melodious sounds.

Amendment proposed, to leave out “£85,482,” and insert “£84,982,”—(Mr. Healy,)²—instead thereof.

Question proposed, “That ‘£885,482’ stand part of the said Resolution.”

MR. HARRINGTON supported the proposal of his hon. Friend the Member for Monaghan. He thought it scandalous that a body like the Local Government

Board, which in no sense represented the wishes of the Irish people, should have the power of shutting out the people in any Union from the ministrations of their clergy, to which the people were entitled in every country under the British Government: It was disgraceful that an effort should have been made to uphold the bigotry of the *ex-officio* Guardians in the Donegal Union, who had deprived the Catholic inmates of the workhouse of the ministrations of their clergy.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, that if he understood aright the complaint in this case, it was that the Local Government Board had not superseded the Guardians because of the withdrawal of the chaplain, or because the Board would not appoint a catechist. It did not appear, however, that there had been any complaint to the Local Government Board. If so, it had not been referred to, either in the Question to-day or in the course of this debate.

MR. HEALY: It was so notorious I did not think it necessary.

MR. HARRINGTON: I put a Question to the Chief Secretary a fortnight ago on the subject.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER): A Question in this House is one matter, and a complaint made to the Local Government Board is another matter. Whether there has been a complaint to the Local Government Board or not I do not know.

MR. HEALY: Of course there was.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, that in either case the Local Government Board had no power to elect officers. If there was a valid election, no matter what the religion of the person might be, the Local Government Board could not interfere. He regretted that there should have been any difference between the chaplain and the Board of Guardians; but upon the merits of that difference he was not in a position to speak. He regretted the inconvenience consequent upon it; but that was a matter in reference to which the Local Government Board had no right to interfere.

MR. O'KELLY remarked, that if in Unions like Carrick-on-Suir the Local Government Board could supersede Guardians, because they passed political resolutions which were not grateful to the

Government, he thought when a Board of Guardians in Donegal did something infinitely worse—namely, insult the religious feelings of a large portion of the population of Ireland—the Government ought to feel called upon to interfere to protect the people, either by appointing paid Guardians or a sufficient number of *ex officio* Guardians.

MR. BIGGAR said, it could not be thought that a pauper child of 11 years could be competent to explain the doctrines of any religion. The utmost she could do would be to hear the children repeat their catechism by rote. He felt inclined to ask where was the hon. and rev. Member for Donegal (Mr. Kinnear) during this discussion, in which the religious rights of a portion of the constituency were concerned? He was conspicuous by his absence, as was usually the case whenever any good for Ireland was being considered, thereby giving a most subservient support to the Government. He believed that such was the disgust which the action of the Government was creating in Ireland, that, at the next Election, not a single Whig would be returned to Parliament from that country. There would be a few Tories, and the rest Parnellites, as they were called. That was something to look forward to, for the Whigs were hollow shams.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR said, the Local Government Board could have interfered in this matter by withholding their sanction to the appointment of this child as catechist. He desired to call attention to the dietary given in workhouses, a subject which two years ago he brought under the notice of the late Chief Secretary for Ireland, the right hon. Member for Bradford (Mr. W. E. Forster). Under the administration of the Local Government Board in Ireland, men, women, and children were being systematically starved to death. He had not been able to obtain a Return of the dietary from all the workhouses in Ireland; but he did obtain the scale of dietary in the Dingle Workhouse. He made an analysis of all the articles in that dietary, which he submitted to the right hon. Member for the University of Edinburgh (Sir Lyon Playfair), with a request that if he found them accurate he should hand them to the right hon. Member for Bradford. It showed, he believed, that the amount of food given

Mr. Harrington

to the inmates of the Dingle Workhouse was far from reaching the minimum of what was necessary to keep in health persons without any work whatever. In the matter of accommodation there was no kind of classification in the workhouses throughout the country. There was no proper system of occupation. He declared that the Inspectors disgracefully and systematically neglected their duties.

Question put.

The House divided:—Ayes 75; Noes 13: Majority 62.—(Div. List, No. 308.)

Resolution agreed to.

Fifth Resolution (£32,262, Salaries and Expenses of the Office of Public Works in Ireland) read a second time.

Notice taken, that 40 Members were not present; House counted, and 40 Members being found present,

MR. HEALY said, he did not intend to offer any opposition to this Vote; but he desired to call the attention of the Secretary to the Treasury to the extraordinary state of facts that existed in connection with the 31st section of the Land Act. Last year he obtained a Return which disclosed the extraordinary fact that while the Government spent £5,000 or £6,000 on account of the salaries of the persons appointed to carry out the 31st section of the Land Act, they had done nothing for their money, not having disbursed a single shilling to the farmers of Ireland. By a later Return he found that during the last year and a-half, while the salaries and expenses of these gentlemen had cost the country £13,500 per annum, they had only advanced to the farmers, for the purchase of their holdings, the sum of £36,698. The matter, shortly, amounted to this—that it cost 10s. to lend one sovereign to the farmers of Ireland. No doubt it would be said that a great many other applications were approved; but, unless Colonel M'Kerlie and those under him expedited themselves, the House would find next year another extraordinary disclosure of men receiving salaries while they performed no work. Again, he thought that the number of Inspectors was very large to have for the administration of £36,000. Indeed, judged by the manner in which it was stated in the

book, there were 17½ Inspectors, as each of them was paid £300 a-year, and 17 would not divide evenly into the sum total. He supposed, therefore, that there were 17 grown Inspectors and a small boy.

MR. COURTNEY: They did not serve the whole year; that is how it occurred.

MR. HEALY: Indeed. Well, there might have been a note to that effect. He trusted the Board of Works would give the same attention to pruning the salaries of its Inspectors as it did to rejecting applications for loans under the Land Act on trivial pretexts. The number of applications had been 3,610, and the amount applied for £368,000; but only 655 applications, and £36,000 in amount, had been granted. He hoped Colonel M'Kerlie's successor next year would be able to show better results.

MR. KENNY complained of the action of the Board of Works in relation to the Clare Castle Pier and Harbour. In 1878 the pier had been constructed at a great cost; but some time ago the work was so bad that the Pier split in two, and fell over to one side. In the same way a main drainage scheme was arranged for another portion of the County Clare; but the Drainage Board applied to the Board of Works, who had set themselves to obstruct its completion in every way. The result was that the rivers and lakes in the district had overflowed enormously for the past few years, working the most awful destruction in the crops. The Drainage Board was, of course, composed of landlords; and their object was to compel the tenants to bear the entire expense of the drainage scheme. But the Board of Works had, instead of bringing pressure to bear on these landlords, aided and abetted them in every way in their design. Owing to the incompetency and jobbing of the Irish Board of Works, even the little money they did spend was squandered uselessly in imperfect works, which gave no return for the outlay.

MR. MOLLOY complained of the damage which had been done to the land in the neighbourhood of Meelick and Lusmagh by the non-raising of the sluice-gates there on the occasion of floods. He hoped orders had been given to the officials to open the gates as soon as a flood commenced.

MR. COURTNEY said, the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) had spoken of the large expenditure incurred in carrying out the clause of the Land Act which enabled occupying tenants to obtain advances, wherewith to improve their holdings. The cost of carrying out the clause was necessarily large, and must continue so unless the Treasury were to abandon every safeguard. It must be remembered that in the case, for instance, of an advance of £50 the Treasury were to go to the expense of visiting the holding from time to time to see that the improvement was carried out, and they had to take other precautions to guard against loss. With regard to the Clare County drainage scheme he did not think the case had been fairly stated by the hon. Member for Ennis (Mr. Kenny). Under the different relations between landlord and tenant established by the Land Act, was it reasonable to suppose that landowners in the County Clare, who would not be able for 15 years at least—perhaps not at all—to derive any benefit from the operation of a drainage scheme, would be very zealous to take part in and pay half the cost of these schemes? With respect to the floods of the Shannon, he had made some inquiry into the matter, and had received Reports from responsible people. It was not enough to receive Reports from irresponsible people, and upon them to attempt to set aside the statements of officers responsible for these matters. It was true that the Report of a Committee, presided over by a noble Lord opposite, had given a very bad impression as to the operation of the Board of Works; but, on the other hand, he was bound to say that the more he became acquainted with their operations, the more he was struck with the intelligence, shrewdness, sagacity, and care which distinguished the performance of their functions.

MR. PARNELL said, that, as this discussion had arisen, he would take the opportunity of saying a few words. He took the opportunity, as it was, perhaps, the last one of the Session, for making a few remarks with regard to two questions—the loans to tenants for improvements under the Land Act and the question of drainage. He feared very much that under the decision in the case of *“Adams v. Dunseath”* the occupiers would not be entitled to the benefits of

arterial drainage, except so much as the interest on the amount contributed. He thought that the whole of the improvement, with the exception of that arising out of the arterial drainage, would go to the landlord. As regarded advances to tenants, he quite recognized the great difficulties to which the hon. Gentleman (Mr. Courtney) had alluded in regard to keeping a sufficient control over the works executed by the tenants without a very large expenditure for engineering supervision. It would always be difficult for a centralized Department in Dublin to administer this section of the Act without a large expense. As an instance of this, he would mention that he received the other day a letter from a solicitor in Ireland, in which it was stated that in an application which was made for a £100 loan, there had been stopped out of the first instalment of £30 or £32 the sum of £8 for a preliminary survey. Now, this survey would have to be followed by a similar inspection in the case of each further instalment as the works were completed, so that it followed that a charge of £15, or 20 per cent, would be levied on the tenant. It was necessary to take care that the works were properly executed, and that overcharges were not made; but this might be done effectively and more cheaply by the Poor Law Board borrowing the money in the first instance, and obtaining the assistance of the surveyors to the Grand Juries. This method would be cheaper, it would give less trouble to the central Department, and it would involve less risk to the State. He would ask the Government to consider these two questions—first, the working of the loan sections of the Land Act of 1881; and, secondly, the arterial drainage of Ireland and the re-organization of the Board of Works. Two Bills had been introduced on the latter question, which had been blocked, as the Secretary to the Treasury complained, by Irish Members; but did not the very fact of those Bills being opposed show that, in the opinion of the Irish Members, the Bills were inadequate, and there was not sufficient time for their discussion? And did not their abandonment by the Government show that the Government were of that opinion also? But he would suggest that between now and next Session the Government should consider the desirability of referring these ques-

tions, which were practical questions, and questions of a non-contentious character, to a Grand Committee consisting of the Irish Members, the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant, the Irish Law Officers, and the Secretary to the Treasury. He anticipated the result of such a reference would be the striking out of a scheme in reference to these important questions which would be satisfactory to Parliament and to Ireland.

Resolution agreed to.

Subsequent Resolutions to the Eleventh Resolution agreed to.

Eleventh Resolution (£278,000, Charge for the Pay, Allowances, &c. of a number of Army Reserve First Class, not exceeding 31,000, and of the Army Reserve Second Class) read a second time.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That this House doth agree with the Committee in the said Resolution."

SIR WALTER B. BARTTELOT said, he thought they might very well complain of the course Business had taken during the whole of last week; and a more scandalous proceeding—look at it as they might—could not possibly have taken place than that which hon. Members witnessed on Saturday and Sunday. A large amount of money they were asked to vote without any reasonable or fair discussion; and after Sunday came in, the whole of the Votes were taken absolutely without any discussion at all. Against that he wished to enter a strong protest. After all the time the Government had had given to them, and the new Rules that had come into operation, he ventured to say that, notwithstanding all those advantages which the Government had enjoyed, never in the memory of any man in that House had the Business been worse arranged. He could only regret—and regret deeply—that during the last three weeks of the Session they should have had what amounted to practically the whole work of the Session thrust upon them. He rose now to make a few observations on the Army Reserve Vote, and he was sorry not to see the noble Marquess the Secretary of State for War in his place, as he had complained that this question had been raised over and over again. The noble Marquess

said it had been raised three times; whereas they only had a discussion on the Army Estimates coming on, and another which was raised on going into Committee of Supply on Friday. He would go a step further, and say the noble Marquess had no reason to complain of the course taken; as in the finish of the speech he made on the 1st of June, on his (Sir Walter B. Barttelot's) Motion, he clearly placed before them a new scheme they had never had till now an opportunity of discussing; and as it had a good deal to do with the Army Reserve Vote he thought it only right and fair to make a few observations now in respect to it. The noble Marquess was then very severe on those who spoke on that (the Opposition) side of the House. He said—"You have nothing to say; you hark back on the old long Service; and you do not tell us anything." He forgot entirely the commencement of his (Sir Walter B. Barttelot's) speech, when he told him if he could wipe out the enormous roll of men who deserted in the first 12 months, and even the first 11 months, he would have done a good service. He (Sir Walter B. Barttelot) was very anxious that at least 25 per cent of the men should be old soldiers; and he believed that by the extension of the Service, which the noble Marquess proposed to them, the 25 per cent might be obtained; but then the noble Marquess got up and said that so soon as they filled the ranks, they would not allow any more men to extend that period of their service; and, in his opinion, a more unfortunate statement could not have gone forth to the country. What did that statement amount to? It was practically this—that when they had their ranks filled up they would not allow men who were just as willing and anxious to extend their service as the others, and to make the Army their profession, to do so. They, in fact, took out of them the best years of their lives, and then turned them adrift on the country discontented, and to abuse that Army which they were so anxious to see in an efficient state. Then the noble Marquess stated that there was a deficiency in the Infantry of 8,477 men, and that the total deficiency amounted to 11,000. Further, he told them that there was a large deficiency in India, where they most wanted old soldiers, and also on their

Stations abroad, and in the Colonies, where they were likewise much needed. And yet the noble Marquess knew that, at the present time, they were enlisting hundreds and thousands of men whom it would take years to fit for Service. Then the noble Marquess made another most remarkable statement. What did he say? That it was not foreseen that a very large number of men who had enlisted in 1870 and 1871 under the old system would obtain their discharges in 1882 and the following year, and that, had this been foreseen, probably the restriction would not have been imposed. But they all knew it—and those who had had anything to do with the Army in particular knew it, and what could the noble Marquess's Predecessors have been about if he did not know—that the long-service system would come to an end in 1882 and 1883, so that positively the War Office admitted that they did not know these men would leave the Army at that time, and consequently they had failed to take steps to fill up the ranks. That, surely, was a most extraordinary statement. In the speech which he (Sir Walter B. Barttelot) made on that occasion he did tell the noble Marquess that one of the reasons why they experienced so much difficulty in getting recruits was from the way in which they were treated when they first joined. He pointed out that if a little more consideration were shown to the men, and they had more food given them, it would, to some extent, enable them to cope with the difficulty. He ventured to say that if any hon. Member saw the quantity of food given to the men he would say at once the rations were not sufficient. And yet what was the answer they received? Why, that it would cost too much money. These men, in consequence of the short supply of food they had, and the hard work they had to go through, took stimulants to keep them up, and in that way they could account for much of the drunkenness that existed in the Army. The men took to drink under the circumstances he had described, and they knew only too well the consequences. Another thing to which he wished to refer was the statement of the noble Marquess that the 48 battalions at their lowest strength would each have 520 men. At the time when that statement was made he (Sir Walter B. Bart-

telot) was not in a position to answer the noble Marquess; but he had since taken some trouble in making inquiries respecting these 520 men, and he found that hardly one of the regiments had 520 men. He (Sir Walter B. Barttelot) asked that they should be made 600 strong, for that was the lowest number with which they could do garrison work. Again, he had already said that when the short-service system was introduced it was believed they would require, as a consequence of it, an increase of 10,000 men. That was recommended not only by His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, but also by Lord Wolseley. The question was, how was it to be done? Well, he would venture to say that if the noble Marquess could, by improved regulations, get a better class of men in the Army for short, medium, and long service, the waste in the Army would not be so great, and then they would save to the country a clear £500,000. He believed if the noble Marquess went into the question he would find that the very large Estimates they now had need not be exceeded. Look at two Votes, the one for Warlike Stores, and the other for Buildings, and some of these buildings had been very badly done; and he ventured to say the noble Marquess could save enough out of them and other Votes to provide for the 10,000 additional men, which would be of the greatest benefit to the Service. Again, he asked the other day for a Return of soldiers' balances; and on that subject he might say he had received an enormous quantity of applications, which, if he saw them, would simply astonish the noble Marquess. He did hope he would allow a Return of the balances to be printed, and placed before the country, for it was said that out of these they made £4,000 or £5,000 a-year. Certainly, there should be no desire at the War Office to keep back one farthing of what was due to soldiers' relatives, when the soldiers themselves had died and left balances owing to them. Another point was this—they asked the men to extend their services for 21 years, and to leave in their hands their deferred pay of £36. Would they, he asked, find any Englishman who would do that? The men said—and properly said—"We have earned the £36; why are we not to have it, and to do what we please with it?"

Sir Walter B. Barttelot

Certainly, this practice had prevented men from re-engaging; and he ventured to ask the noble Marquess, as far as he was able, to consider the question. With respect to the non-commissioned officers, he would suggest that when once a man obtained the stripes he should have the option of extending his length of service, and that, should he after entering into the second period of enlistment do anything to forfeit them, he should not be required to leave the Service, but should be allowed to remain in it as a private soldier for the remainder of the period, so as to give him an opportunity of recovering his position. He trusted the noble Marquess would consider the matters he had ventured to lay before him, with a view of improving the quality of the Army and the inducements to enter it.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE BALFOUR observed, that their Army in India was now 5,400 men below its Establishment, or about one-tenth short of its proper number. He knew the fatal consequences of allowing that Army to fall below its Establishment at the time of the Mutiny. On January 1st, 1857, immediately before the outbreak, their European Army in India was nearly 6,000 deficient; and he believed that had that 6,000 men been added to the enrolment, many of the great disasters in India would have been averted at that period, and a large portion of the £30,000,000 spent in quelling the Mutiny would have been saved. Some years ago, a large deficiency in the number of our European Forces in India again occurred; and he had called attention through the Press to the serious deficiency, and to the danger therefrom, and matters afterwards improved; but now, again, the Army in India had fallen below its Establishment; and every hon. Member who valued that great Empire would see that he was only doing his duty in calling attention to that grave fact. In the Horse Artillery, the Royal Artillery, and the Cavalry, as well as in the Infantry, the deficiency showed itself; and they ought to have an explanation as to the cause of its existence. Both Recruiting Commissions of 1859 and 1866 repeated that Indian service was so popular that recruits could always be obtained when the other arm of the Service failed to get men; and, there-

fore, if India was allowed to take care of itself, he believed it would be able to find a sufficient number of men to complete the Establishment. And, seeing the large sums contributed by India for the maintenance of the Force in India, it was most objectionable to find the War Office failing to provide the recruits and drafts of men to maintain the garrison in India up to its full strength. It was also most objectionable for the War Office to receive the money of India for providing a deficit, and then not provide specially for India the separate Establishment for training recruits. Nothing could be more hurtful to recruiting than the way in which their soldiers were now employed at home. They were worked to death in useless guard and sentinel duty; and when he recommended to the noble Marquess the employment of watchmen for the discharge of such duties as were not purely military, the noble Marquess replied that he could not do so as it would cost money. There was no greater advocate of economy than himself; but he thought it a false economy to make the Service distasteful to those employed in it by working the soldiers on watch and ward duties, so certain to cause dissatisfaction, and, above all, to cause discipline to be relaxed by the pressure from day and night duties. He earnestly urged upon the noble Marquess the necessity of paying attention to the work of the Army.

CAPTAIN AYLMER remarked, that the Army was now in a worse state than when he joined it; and he believed that if Members of the House who were not military officers had a daily statement of the regiments they would be astounded to see how few men every morning commanding officers had for duty's call. Earlier in the Session the noble Marquess said he was going back some way towards long service; but since then he had intimated that he contemplated after a time reverting to short service. For himself, he felt disappointment at that statement, because short service had been a great blow to the Army, although it was now a *fait accompli*. During the Recess the noble Marquess would have very seriously to consider the state of the recruiting of the Army and its efficiency, if they were to expect the Service to do in the future what it had done in the past. The mistake that had been committed was in trying to make a Re-

serve with a voluntary system. Such an attempt could not but fail. They might in that way make a nominal Reserve; but they spread discontent among those who might enter the ranks. He believed that the Reserve men had done more to injure recruiting than anything else. The noble Marquess ought to consider the class of men who were being received now. They were taking men of 3 feet 3 inches in height provided they promised to develop into good soldiers. He would not object to that if they had a very large force indeed; but that was not the case, and while they had short service it had to be remembered that it took three years to develop a good soldier. Moreover, the food given was insufficient for growing boys, and the work and night duty they had to do was unsuitable for them. It was useless enlisting these men for foreign service. It was well known that the Army was depleted at the time of the Egyptian War, every man who could pass the doctor for foreign service being required to make the regiments up to their proper strength. This question as to the best mode of restoring the Army to its condition in days of yore was one worthy for the noble Marquess to grapple with and consider.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL also expressed the disappointment which he felt at hearing the noble Marquess state it was not his intention to persevere with the experiment he had promised to make in the direction of reviving the system of long service, for unless that was done it would be impossible to maintain the strength of these forces in India and in the Colonies. He feared the noble Marquess had allowed someone else to overrule his own sound judgment.

DR. FARQUHARSON drew attention to the insufficiency of the rations supplied to the troops, and mentioned that the recruits at Oatcrham recently who had very hard work to do suffered so much in this respect that the men were compelled to spend from 3d. to 4d. a-day out of their pay for food. At present a soldier got practically nothing to eat between his dinner at half-past 12 and his breakfast next morning. When he was assistant-surgeon in the Guards he and his colleagues recommended, over and over again, the propriety of adding another quarter of a pound of meat daily to the rations. He was sure that to this

shortness of food was due, not only the intemperance of the Army, but the distressing tendency of the men of the Guards to consumption.

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, that what he stated the other night as to the temporary character of the changes, announced by him two months ago, appeared to have been misunderstood. The whole of those changes were of a temporary character; but some of them were also of a experimental character; and if they were found to work well there was no foregone conclusion on his part to adopt them merely as temporary measures. The Government had no intention, and he did not think the country was prepared, to give up the prospect of forming a sufficient Reserve to be called out in cases of great emergency. It must be evident that if inducements were offered to men to extend their service after they had completed seven or eight years with the Colours a heavy blow would be inflicted on the Reserve, and that was the part of the recent changes which the Government did not desire permanently to maintain. The part of the changes which he understood the hon. and gallant Baronet opposite (Sir Walter B. Barttelot) to approve was, the experimental adoption in the Guards of the system of enlisting men for 12 years—that was, three years with the Colours and nine with the Reserve, and at the same time giving a certain number of men who desired to extend their service the option of doing so. He was informed that the plan, as far as it had been tried, had proved a very successful one, and that a large number of recruits for the Guards had been found. If that experiment should continue to be successful, and it was found that a very large number of recruits came forward, and that a sufficient number of these men were willing to extend their service with the Colours, he thought it exceedingly probable that an attempt in that direction might be made with regard to the whole Army. But, of course, in the short time during which the experiment had been in operation, it was impossible to say whether or not it should be extended to the whole Army. In regard to what had been said about the short-service system, and the recommendation of Lord Wolseley that the Army should be increased by 10,000 men, he had to say that the Establishment had been very

considerably increased. It was increased by his Predecessor by about 3,000 men, and it was increased in the present year by more than 1,000 men. No doubt the Indian and Colonial reliefs could not be efficiently carried out with the present Establishment; but the present Establishments were founded on careful actuarial calculations, and it did not follow that, because at the present time it had been found impossible adequately to supply the existing want, the Establishments would be permanently inadequate. The battalions in India and at home had not yet reached their normal state. Further experience was required before they could arrive at the conclusion that the number of Establishments so fixed was insufficient for the purposes intended. The hon. and gallant Member had urged some increase in the rations, and had said that any cost entailed thereby might easily be met by a reduction in the Vote for Warlike Stores and Buildings. It was very easy to say that; but when they were on that Vote they found it very difficult to say where any reduction in it could be made; and, indeed, the provision already made for that service was, in the opinion of hon. Members opposite, insufficient. With regard to buildings, whenever a reduction was wanted, that was always the quarter where they were made; but he did not think it was to the public advantage to reduce the barracks where the soldiers were quartered or the fortifications of the country. With regard to the suggestion as to publishing Returns, he did not think that of any practical use, for the classes most interested in these matters were not likely to inquire into Parliamentary Returns. The subject of sentinel duty was under consideration, and he had asked the authorities to look carefully into the matter and see whether it could not be reduced.

Question put.

The House divided:—Ayes 100; Noes 11: Majority 89.—(Div. List, No. 309.)

Resolution agreed to.

Twelfth Resolution (£34,000, Miscellaneous Effective Services) read a second time.

SIR JOHN HAY called attention to the undefended condition of the Clyde. Except a few guns on Dumbarton Castle there was nothing to defend Glasgow.

He believed there had been a proposal to fortify the Lesser Cumbrae; and he should like to know whether it was intended to proceed with the necessary protection of the Estuary of the Clyde?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, he did not think any provision had been made for works in that quarter. The Committee presided over by Lord Morley had inquired into the defences of our commercial harbours generally. The defences of the Clyde, he believed, occupied the attention of the Committee, and their recommendations were under the consideration of the Inspector General of Fortifications. As soon as he had completed his investigations, it would be for him to state what Her Majesty's Government proposed to do.

Resolution agreed to.

Thirteenth Resolution (£241,800, Salaries and Miscellaneous Charges of the War Office) read a second time.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE BALFOUR asked for some explanation why the hospital ship, so fully equipped with beds, medical stores, and comforts of every description, as well as with medical officers, was not sent from Alexandria to Ismailia to receive the sick and wounded immediately on the troops disembarking, instead of being three days at least behind, whereby the medical arrangements for the troops on shore were all deranged? Also, what measures were in progress to induce men in India whose term of Service had expired to volunteer to remain on payment of a bounty, as formerly so successfully offered?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, it was not desirable that he should go into details on the medical question, on which Lord Wolseley and some of the authorities differed, as the question would come up next Session. Up to this time the War Office had not received any information as to the number of men in India who would avail themselves of the permission to extend their term of service; and until the information was received it was impossible to say what number of men would be required for India.

Resolution agreed to.

Fourteenth and Fifteenth Resolutions agreed to.

Sixteenth Resolution (£1,134,000, Retired Pay, Retired Full Pay, and Gratuities for Reduced and Retired Officers, including Payments awarded by the Army Purchase Commissioners) read a second time.

SIR WALTER B. BARTELOT said, that he had been waiting for a long time to call attention to the case of Purchase officers and the manner in which they had been dealt with by the War Office authorities. In the case he referred to—and he would confine himself to the Purchase Colonels—the officers had been treated very badly on their compulsory retirement. He recollected very well, when Mr. Cardwell was passing his scheme through the House of Commons, that he promised that no officer should be worse off, or in a worse position, after Purchase was abolished than during the time that it existed. The senior Member for Birmingham (Mr. Muntz) moved a Resolution to the effect that the regulation money should be paid back to every officer, and in a very full House the Motion was defeated by a very small majority. If the House had been wise and prudent, then justice would have been done to the officers, and full satisfaction given to every one of them. Twice since that time their case had been inquired into by Royal Commissions, who had made recommendations. Every time the question was raised, he had advocated justice being done to the officers by returning their regulation money. In 1878 the War Office dealt with the subject of the officers in a strange way; but that was a mere joke when contrasted with the Warrant of 1881 brought out by the present Chancellor of the Exchequer. In that Royal Warrant the cases of the subalterns, the captains, the majors, and the colonels were dealt with; but he would only deal with the case of the colonels, leaving it to his hon. and gallant Friend (Sir Henry Fletcher) to deal with the other officers affected by the scheme. He complained, first of all, that the Purchase Colonels under the old system on retiring did not get back their regulation money. Under the old system, when an officer became a colonel, he was allowed to remain, if he chose to do so, with his regiment until, by promotion, he became a General Officer. Then he got neither regulation nor over-

retire on half pay, he got his over-regulation money; if he sold out he got both regulation and over-regulation. But this plan, after the abolition of Purchase, was found to keep a number of officers from getting promotion, and after a time the colonels were taken away from their regiments; and in some instances, but not in all, they were given the command of regimental districts, and they were allowed to remain colonels until they became General Officers. In 1881, the Purchase officers who had purchased their majority, and were lieutenant-colonels of regiments, came under the five years' rule; they were placed on half-pay, and had their over-regulation money returned, but their regulation money was kept; and they were told they could retire upon a pension of £420, but they must refund their over-regulation price. This was a cruel hardship. Surely, when a man was placed on half-pay compulsorily, he ought to retain his over-regulation money which had been returned to him. He would now mention two cases to show how badly officers had been dealt with. The first was that of Major General Blackett, who, having been compulsorily retired with the rank of Major General, wrote to say that he considered that he was entitled to receive the regulation value of his commission. He was at the top of the colonels entitled to promotion; but he had been compulsorily retired, although a paid Aide-de-Camp to the Queen, and fit and willing to remain in the Service. He now claimed the £500 which he had sunk in his Profession; for after 40 years doing his duty for his Queen and country, he was worse off at the finish than the man who had never paid anything at all for his commission. Colonel Blackett's was a similar case, being arbitrarily retired by order in June, 1881. He also claimed £4,500 the price of his lieutenant-colony; but he had not received that, and was deprived of future employment. These were cases of exceptional hardship and injustice; and he (Sir W. Barttelot) considered that he had the right to demand that the cases

that the noble Marquess would see that justice was done in every case, as had been promised by Mr. Cardwell when the Purchase system was abolished.

SIR HENRY FLETCHER heartily endorsed everything which his hon. and gallant Friend had said with regard to the colonels. He desired to call attention to the case of the Purchase Captains of the Army, who had been unfairly dealt with, and who were now in a worse position than the Purchase Colonels since 1881. By the Warrant of that year the minimum pension to a retired captain was fixed at £259, and in no case to exceed £300. In some cases there had been a temporary rank of lieutenant-colonel granted, for which the officers were very thankful. In some cases there was a substantive rank of major, which enabled the widow to obtain a larger pension. What he complained of was that officers had compulsorily to retire, and were not allowed to retire at their own request. In some cases they had to retire rather than submit to the indignity of being placed under the junior officers of their own regiments. One case he would give—namely, that of Colonel Beasely, late of the 83rd Regiment, retired on £280 a-year, after a junior had been put over him causing him to resign. Also the case of Colonel Clarke, who had to retire under less than £300 a-year. All he asked was that the Secretary of State for War would take these cases into consideration, and with a desire to do them justice. Surely it was not a very large sum—only £929 a-year—that was required to do justice in their case. It was an amount which would be reduced every year, because officers could not expect to live for ever. He thought that it was only fair that their cases should be inquired into, and justice done to the hopes and expectations of men who had long and faithfully served their Queen and country at home and abroad.

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, he understood the contention to be that the pecuniary prospects of these officers had been damaged by the Royal Warrant; but that was denied by the War Office. They were entitled to retired full pay of £1 a-day, or, if they preferred to remain in the Service, they were entitled to half-pay, with the additional prospect of becoming General

Officers, and succeeding to honorary colonelcies. When the Warrant of 1881 compulsorily retired these officers at a certain age, in compensation for these pecuniary prospects they were given £420 a-year retired pay, instead of £365 a-year, to which they would have been otherwise entitled.

SIR WALTER B. BARTTELOT: They had sunk all their money.

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, they had sunk their money for the prospects he had just stated. They obtained £420 a-year at once, in lieu of the £365. Although a grievance undoubtedly existed in the case of some of the colonels thus retired, in many cases the allowance granted was more than an equivalent to the loss they sustained by the issue of the Warrant. The hon. and gallant Baronet the Member for West Sussex had said the officers were compelled, under certain circumstances, to refund their over-regulation money. They were only compelled to do that if they retired before they were compulsorily retired; if, in other words, they retired for their own convenience. It was impossible to make an equitable distinction between the claims of the 25 officers who would have been compulsorily retired in 1881, and the case of more than 100 other officers who voluntarily retired for exactly the same reason, although they had not reached the age at which they would have been compulsorily retired. It was asked that a Committee of the House, or else a Committee of officers of the Army, might be appointed to consider the claims of these officers. The claims in question had been already fully considered by the Department, and had been on more than one occasion discussed in the House of Commons. It appeared to him that no recommendation of a Committee could justify the Government in departing from the principle which was absolutely necessary for the protection of the Public Service. It would be impossible for the Government to accede to the proposal to appoint a Committee, because he believed it could be shown that, from a pecuniary point of view, these officers had been equitably, and even liberally dealt with.

Resolution agreed to.

Seventeenth and Eighteenth Resolutions *agreed to.*

Nineteenth Resolution (£32,900, Chelsea and Kilmainham Hospitals and the In-Pensioners thereof) read a second time.

SIR HENRY FLETCHER asked what course the noble Marquess the Secretary of State for War intended to pursue with regard to the Report of the Committee on the Chelsea Hospital, who had recourse to the strong measure of recommending the annulling of certain Army pensions and the abolition of the Secretary's office in view of the duties being carried on by the Lieutenant Governor? He trusted that the second reading of the Soldiers' Pensions and Yeomanry Pay Bill would not be taken to-night, because it was very necessary there should be ample opportunity for discussing the Bill.

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, the object of the Bill to which the hon. and gallant Gentleman had referred was to abolish the statutory powers which were now exercised by the Boards of the Chelsea and Kilmainham Hospitals, and to vest in the Secretary of State the power of interpreting, as he did in other cases, the meaning of Warrants. Great inconvenience had, on more than one occasion, been found to result from the exercise of the powers of the Board in this respect. There was no present intention of acting upon the recommendation that the awarding of pensions should be transferred from the Commissioners of Chelsea Hospital to the War Office; and, therefore, the matter must come up for further consideration by the Secretary of State. The remaining recommendations related to matters of detail, which would have to be carefully considered, and any changes to be made would be embodied in a measure which would come before the House. Care would be taken that full compensation should be given to the holders of appointments that might be abolished.

Resolution agreed to.

Twentieth and Twenty-first Resolutions *agreed to.*

Twenty-second Resolution (£48,000, Retired Allowances, &c. to Officers of the Militia, Yeomanry, and Volunteer Forces) read a second time.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF advocated the distribution of honorary dis-

tinctions among Volunteers distinguished for long service.

Resolution agreed to.

Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Resolutions *agreed to.*

Twenty-fifth Resolution (£10,400, Expense of Martial Law, &c.) read a second time.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That this House doth agree with the Committee in the said Resolution."

CAPTAIN MAXWELL-HERON drew attention to the *Clyde* Court Martial, held at Portsmouth, in December last. He stated that by the sentence of the Court an honourable and gallant officer had been dismissed from the Service, and socially in part, and financially altogether, ruined for life. He confessed that he stood there in a difficult and delicate position—difficult, because he knew how hard it was to move the House to take cognizance of such matters as courts martial, and because he felt conscious of his own inability to lay clearly and distinctly before the House the grievances of which he had to complain; and delicate, in consequence of the relationship which existed between himself and the person who suffered by the sentence of the court martial. He had no wish or intention to impugn the conduct of Lord Northbrook or the Admiralty in connection with the inquiry; but he thought that, as all men were mortal, so were they prone to error. All that he should impute to Lord Northbrook, on the present occasion, was that he had committed an error in judgment, although it was an error in judgment which had sentenced an unfortunate gentleman to a very severe punishment. The principal witnesses by whose evidence Commander Maxwell-Heron was condemned were four in number. They were Mr. Fitzgerald, gunner, who was second in command of the *Clyde*; Bourne, the boatswain's mate; Seabright, an able-bodied seaman; and Hadden, a ship's corporal. Fitzgerald was appointed to a very important post in the *Clyde* by the Admiralty, and, as second in command, he had great power. The Admiralty, in making the appointment, showed that they had great confidence in him, and, no doubt, his (Captain Maxwell-Heron's) brother had the same confi-

dence in him; but it was for the overweening trust and confidence in Mr. Fitzgerald that the Commander of the *Clyde* now occupied the unfortunate position in which he was placed. In some of the charges Fitzgerald's was the main evidence; indeed, in the principal charges against this honourable and gallant officer that was so; and he (Captain Maxwell-Heron) was prepared to assert, in the most emphatic manner, in that House that that evidence was prejudiced, interested, and, in one instance, perjured. Fitzgerald was himself afterwards tried by court martial and sentenced to be dismissed the Service, with disgrace. But, although he was admitted as evidence, and although his evidence, interested as it was, and prejudiced as it must have been—because, in order to shield himself, he sought to accuse his Commander—and though his evidence, in the main, was uncorroborated, it was accepted generally by the Court, and not subjected to rigid criticism and examination by the members of the Court as it ought to have been. Such, at least, was the opinion of an able and eminent counsel before whom the case had been laid, and who, after patiently wading through the evidence, came to the conclusion that Commander Heron ought to have an appeal to another tribunal. If it was the fact that it was mainly on the evidence of this man Fitzgerald that the most serious charges were proved, then he maintained that his brother, the Commander of the *Clyde*, had not had justice done to him. But, besides that, the Commander of the *Clyde* was summoned by the Admiralty to appear as a witness on the court martial upon that fellow; but, extraordinary to relate—and he did not know why—Commander Heron was not called, and had no opportunity of refuting the disparaging evidence of the gunner. The next witness in the case was Bourne, the boatswain's mate. After the preliminary Court of Inquiry, held at Aberdeen, Bourne was imprisoned by order of the Admiralty, and kept in close confinement for more than a fortnight, and then suddenly released; and, although he had denied before the preliminary Court that he had ever kept a rough expense book at all, yet, when released, he gave diametrically opposite evidence, and came forward to swear that not only had he kept a rough ex-

pense book, but that he had been ordered by the Commander to tear three pages out of it. Happily for Commander Heron, the court martial did not believe the evidence of Bourne, which, indeed, was contradicted by Fitzgerald. Bourne was really a self-confessed liar. He would now give a short narrative of the case, stating the facts as briefly as possible. On the 26th of September last year a letter was handed to the Commander of the *Clyde* through Fitzgerald from Hadden, the ship's corporal. The letter complained that certain stores had been taken out of the ship and made away with. The Commander of the *Clyde* called the man on the quarter-deck, and asked him what evidence he had in support of the charges he had made? The man said he would produce it, and it would be easy to produce witnesses. He was then remanded for 48 hours. As the *Clyde* laid alongside of the jetty it was easy for him to have gone into the town and brought up his witnesses. The Commander of the *Clyde* was away for two days on leave, and on his return he was told by Gunner Fitzgerald that he had placed Hadden in arrest, because instead of going to procure the witnesses necessary to substantiate his charges he had gone to the Commander's tradesmen, using his name, and had demanded the bills of the Commander. The Commander sent for Hadden, who said he should still be able to bring evidence. Endorsing the action of his second in command, Commander Heron remanded the case for 24 hours. At the end of that time the Commander again sent for the man, and asked him—"Have you any further evidence?" And his reply was that he would produce evidence when he had an impartial officer to hear it. In the end the Commander ordered Hadden to be disrated. In the meantime, Hadden wrote what was called an informal letter. It was a letter which ought to have been forwarded through the Commanding Officer; but it was sent direct to the Admiralty—or, rather, straight to the Duke of Edinburgh, who was in command of the Naval Reserves. A telegram was then received from Captain Douglas, ordering the Commander of the *Clyde* not to disrate Hadden. The Commander was naturally very anxious to take Hadden's position into consideration, and that he

should withdraw the charge; but he never suggested such a thing. Subsequently, on the 16th of October, Hadden was ready to withdraw the charge. He said he would go no further with it. But this was not deemed sufficient. The Commander said he must withdraw the charge altogether. The man then withdrew the charge, and Commander Heron intimated that he had done so; but he received a letter from the Admiralty stating that there would be a Court of Inquiry held on the subject. The Court was ordered and held, and one of the members of the Court was Captain Best, who had previously been on unfriendly terms with the Commander of the *Clyde*. He should have thought that any man in Captain Best's position—any man actuated by the feelings of a gentleman—would have asked to be relieved from sitting on such an inquiry. However, that course of action did not suggest itself to Captain Best. Commander Heron, who had been suffering from a severe cold, which almost resulted in congestion of the lungs, had to rise from a sick bed to attend the inquiry. Bourne, the boatswain's mate, was asked the question whether he had kept a rough expense-book, and he replied that he had not; Seabright, the painter, was asked whether he had ever taken paint to the Commander's house, and he said that he had not. The result of the inquiry was that the Commander of the *Clyde* was placed under arrest, as were also Fitzgerald, Seabright, and two other members of the ship's company. They were kept waiting for 28 weary days, and then it was found by the Admiralty that charges had been made which must be formally investigated. He then found that against him were formulated 14 charges, some of them serious, based upon the evidence taken at the inquiry at Aberdeen. The Commander, in the meantime, was deprived of his command, and was ordered to report himself at Portsmouth, in order to be tried by court martial. Although the Admiralty had taken 28 days to formulate the charges, they only gave this unfortunate officer six clear days to get up his reply. The time was altogether insufficient, and the Admiralty refused him a copy of the Minute of charges against him. How was it possible to get up rebutting evidence in six days? Yet that was all the time allowed.

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was not a single executive commissioned officer on the ship except the Commander himself. He stood alone; and there was evidently a conspiracy against him. If he (Captain Maxwell-Heron) believed his brother guilty of the heavier charges brought against him, he would not be standing there in that House to defend him; but it was because he did not believe him to be guilty that he had been induced to bring the case forward. Neither did he nor his (Commander Heron's) brother officers believe him to be guilty. His brother officers in the Navy testified to his high character. None of them refused to shake him by the hand and say how very sorry for him they were, and how much they sympathized with him. Commander Heron was well known; he was acquainted personally with many Members of that House, and he was known to be scrupulously careful in the discharge of his duty. Was it conceivable that he could have been guilty of such practices in order to oppress a ship's corporal and hide his own misdeeds? The second charge was a very serious one—namely, that he had constantly sent false Returns to the Admiralty. This was the charge made in the informal letter sent to the Admiral; although the practice was, no doubt, irregular, it was not uncommon. The charge was based upon documentary evidence signed by the ship's corporal, which, however, was held to be sufficient to substantiate it. Part of the documentary evidence against the Commander consisted of an account signed not by Messrs. Taylor, who purported to sign it, but by the ship's corporal in their name, without appending to the name the word "signed." The third charge was also a serious one. It was for allowing the sale of ship's stores, a high-sounding name for old ropes and yarns, which from time immemorial had been sold out of ships to be replaced by blacklead, paint, &c. He knew that it was against such of the Admiralty Regulations as he had it from the lips of admirals, captains, and lieutenants that the rule was more honoured in the breach than the observance. To sub-

gave any orders for the sales. Yet it was on the gunner's evidence that the charge had been found proved. There was a curious point about this charge. Fitzgerald, who asserted that leave had been given himself, denied sales that he was proved to have made in the absence of the Commander in the month of June. If the Commander had given leave for any sale, why should the gunner have denied that any took place? Surely such a point ought to have been submitted to the First Lord and to the Judge Advocate General; but he (Captain Maxwell-Heron) had himself asked if the case had been submitted, and he was told that there was no reason for doing so. The seventh charge related to the tearing out of some leaves from a book of expenses. A book was produced with three pages torn out; and if it had not been for the shrewdness of Mr. Bullen, who acted as the prisoner's friend, it would not have been discovered that these three pages did not correspond with the lined pages in the book produced. Another book was therefore produced, from which three pages had also been torn, and probably other books might have been found by the witness in the same condition. Was it possible to conceive that a man, though he might be a knave, would give an order to any man to tear three pages out of a book when he might have destroyed the book altogether? Then there was a charge that the Commander appropriated the ship's paint. Well, the house he occupied in Aberdeen cost £100 a-year, completely furnished; and yet the witness Seabright, who was employed to do the painting, said that he used 3 cwt. of paint in decorating it. It was impossible at the moment to get evidence to rebut that statement, because the venue had been changed from Aberdeen to Portsmouth. But since then the foreman of a very large firm in London had been sent down, with orders to measure the amount of paint that was used in the house. He had that man's affidavit, in which he stated that the whole of the paint used in the work done at the house, at the highest possible computation, was 110 lbs. The architect and builder of the house also stated the amount of paint used as being from 75 to 78 lbs.; and if an average were struck between those two estimates the amount would be about 95 lbs. But

there was no order given by the Commander of the *Clyde*—nor did it appear on the evidence—that the ship's paint should be used; and, further, there was evidence that he said that what was wrongly used was to be replaced. Further, it was stated by Seabright that one day, when the Commander of the *Clyde* saw him coming from the ship with a plank, he asked him where he was going with that plank, and when the man replied, "To your house," the Commander of the *Clyde* said that everything he took out of the ship must be replaced, and that an account must be kept. That showed that there was no intention to defraud the Government of a single 6d. So far from desiring to take anything from the ship's stores, the Commander of the *Clyde* had, out of his own pocket, spent about £9 in painting on board the vessel, and he had not thought for a moment that the paint used by Seabright would be used for his house without being replaced. Then there was a charge against the Commander of having used some of the ship's coal in his own house. The only foundation for that charge was, that when he went there the house had not been used for some time, and he asked Fitzgerald to let him have a little coal to air the room in which he intended to sleep. But he never gave orders that Fitzgerald should get the coal from the ship's store; and, if he did, it was certainly intended that it should be replaced. It appeared that Fitzgerald sent three sacks of coal, although it was not proved in evidence that the coal was ever received into the house, because a witness stated that, finding nobody in the house, he threw the coal over the wall. It was a curious fact that the Commander of the *Clyde* was accused of having used coal that was sent from the ship to the house on the 3rd of February, whereas the chief witness said it was sent in November, or, at all events, before Christmas. That was the man who was supposed to have taken the coal. The Commander of the *Clyde* never knew until the day of the inquiry that even so much as three sacks of coal had been sent to the house; but he thought it was only a small quantity to air the room. The next charge had reference to a carpet, of the value of a few shillings. The explanation of that matter was, that it

was reported to Commander Heron that the carpet had fallen overboard and been lost. He believed the story of the men who afterwards gave evidence against him, and signed a certificate presented by them, which he had since learned to be false. It had never, however, been proved, nor did it appear in evidence, that the carpet was not lost, although something was said about its having been seen in Fitzgerald's room after it was reported to have been lost. Then, again, there was a charge of taking a table and chair belonging to the ship. It was quite true that the Commander of the *Clyde* had a chair and table taken to his house, to have them repaired at his own expense, and to utilize them; but he had never dreamt of stealing them, and it was all along his intention to return them. To find the Commander of the *Clyde* guilty of an offence in that instance was a most extraordinary proceeding, because when he (Captain Maxwell-Heron) was in camp it was a common practice among the officers to take their barrack furniture into their tents. He had done so frequently, but he always returned it; and he should have been much surprised when he did so if a charge of this kind had been brought against him. He had, therefore, been much surprised at the decision of the court martial. As to the alleged sale of dance tickets to the public, the Commander of the *Clyde* never gave any such sanction. All he did was to allow each seaman to take three or four tickets to dispose of on his own responsibility—which was done in the Service every day at Chatham and Plymouth; and the object of the sale of the tickets was to form a charitable fund. Yet the Commander was convicted, on the evidence of Fitzgerald alone, of having authorized the sale of these tickets to the public. He had no time to go into the case more fully; but he contended that, under all the circumstances of the case, the finding of the court martial might have been referred to the revision of the Judge Advocate General. In other courts martial there had been a revision of the sentence; but there had not been the slightest suggestion, on the part of the Admiralty, that they would be willing to commute the sentence upon the Commander of the *Clyde*. Only recently, in the case of two young

tried by a court martial and sentenced to be dismissed the Service, there had been a commutation of the punishment. Therefore, under all the circumstances of the case, and taking into consideration the long services of the Commander of the *Clyde*, he hoped he might appeal to the clemency of the Government and of the Admiralty. It had been hinted to him that by bringing the case forward now the gates of mercy at the Admiralty would be for ever shut; but he appealed to the Prime Minister, who, he knew, had a kind heart and good and generous impulses, and also to Lord Northbrook, to reconsider the case. He asked for nothing more; and he only asked for that on the ground that the decision had been founded on the evidence of perjured witnesses, one of whom had since been tried by court martial and dismissed the Service with disgrace. He appealed to the mercy of the Admiralty, and also to the mercy of that House. He did not wish to take a Division on the question. Indeed, it would be foolishness for him to do so. ["No!"] No doubt there were many Gentlemen present who were ready to support him; but, still, he thought it would be unwise to press the matter to a Division. In conclusion, he would, therefore, appeal to the mercy of the House and of the Government, in the full hope that justice might be done.

Sir JOHN HAY said, that, after the touching appeal which had been made by the hon. and gallant Gentleman on behalf of his brother, he felt sure the House would extend its indulgence to him, in consequence of the appeal which had been made to him in reference to the subject under discussion. He recognized the fact that the House was not a Court of Appeal from a court martial or a Court of Law; but when those in authority had not taken the course which the House expected, in obedience to Act of Parliament, with regard to matters tried by court martial, then he thought it quite right that the case should be brought forward as it had been by his hon. and gallant brother, and that an opportunity should

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the late Commander of the *Clyde*, served with him for five years. As the House would readily admit, any officer who had served under him (Sir John Hay) with credit and distinction, deserved at his hands some recognition of his merits when, unfortunately, under the circumstances which had just been detailed, he was, for the moment, under a cloud. He could only say this of the gallant officer—now no longer an officer, he was sorry to say—that he was a loss to Her Majesty's Service, and that he had served not only "with diligence, attention, and sobriety, and was always obedient to command," but also having all the creditable distinctions attached to the certificate of a naval officer. He should also like to say this. He was, as many another man had been, as a lad, poor; that was to say, he had not as large an allowance as many other men. But he was most scrupulous in money affairs; he was never in debt; and, having endorsed his bills for him, he (Sir John Hay) knew that he always kept within his allowance. It was only fair to say this of a man who was now suffering from the suggestion—if these allegations were true—of being dishonest. He knew it was not a good thing to quote Latin; but *nemo repente fuit turpissimus*. A man did not become dishonest all of a sudden. Mr. Heron was an officer for 32 years; and although he had not distinguished himself greatly, because he had no opportunities for distinction, he did his duty like a man, and with credit to the Service. He was always fond of active service; but for family reasons which did him honour, in order to make a home for his mother and sister, he took a Coastguard command. As soon as he could get away from that Coastguard command, he was employed in Her Majesty's ship *Seagull*, and sent to the Coast of Africa. He was there two years doing excellent service; and in 1878 he was withdrawn from the Coast of Africa, and sent to the Mediterranean. From thence he was sent to the Red Sea, and he served there with great advantage to the public. He (Sir John Hay) had seen a letter from a man whom they all respected, and who was familiarly known as "Chinese Gordon," who was associated with Mr. Heron at Massowah. The letter was of recent date, and it fully recognized the good service done by the

Commander of the *Clyde* in the Red Sea. The Coast of the Red Sea was but a short road to a diseased liver. The gallant officer's health broke down, and he returned to this country invalided. He knew that it was intended at the time to promote him, to place him on the Retired List of Captains, and to give him an assured income for the rest of his life. But he was anxious to serve; he did not wish to eat the bread of idleness; he made interest to be retained as a Commander on active service, rather than be retired as a captain, and the result was his appointment to this wretched *Clyde*. There he found a complete change. Instead of having two officers under him, he suddenly found himself in charge of this hull, lying in dock, without being on board, obliged to live in a hired house, on which, by the way, he was supposed to have used the Queen's paint to the amount of £3 12s. 6d. Who could believe it of a man like that? The gallant officer lived in this house, and he had as his second in command on board the *Clyde* a man of the name of Fitzgerald. This man was not a commissioned officer, but a gunner in the Navy, whom Mr. Heron was desired to trust. There were many good, excellent, and trustworthy gunners in the Navy; but this man was neither good, excellent, nor trustworthy, although he was supposed to be so. The Admiralty gave him a high character, and the Commander of the *Clyde* thought so highly of him that, whenever he went on leave, he left Fitzgerald in charge of the ship and of the stores, supposing him to be thoroughly trustworthy. Among the duties of the gunner was that of keeping the canteen, and attending to the dances on board the *Clyde*, which had been alluded to. They were dances evidently approved of by the Admiralty, because gas was led into the ship for that purpose. Commander Heron did not lay down the gas, but found it there; and it was to induce the men to come up for training, and to make the Service popular, that the dances were given under the management of the gunner, with the sanction of the Admiralty. As he had said, the gunner kept the canteen; and although he knew it was his duty to put out the ship's lights at 11, he himself confessed that he had kept them going after 11, because he had not sold all the

beer. With this the Commander had nothing whatever to do; he was not expected to be there to watch the proceedings of the gunner. The dances went on when he was supposed to be away, and he was in no way in charge of them. The House would, therefore, see that this gallant officer was placed in an entirely novel position. He had served with distinction on the Coast of Africa and in the Red Sea, and he had done his duty like a man. All of a sudden he was put in a novel position. He (Sir John Hay) would not say that some of these charges did not show negligence on the part of Commander Heron, and there might have been some slackness and some neglect in his conduct; but, still, negligence might be dealt with leniently, and he confessed that the severity of the sentence appalled him. If this gallant officer was to blame, it must be remembered that his health had broken down, and he had better have consented to be placed on the Retired List. But, still, he was anxious to serve, and he accepted the command. The cold climate of Aberdeen, after the heat of the Red Sea and the Coast of Africa, told upon his health, and laid him up frequently. Indeed, his health and constitution had been so impaired that he was not able to give that zealous attention to his duties which he (Sir John Hay) had no doubt he desired to do. He was not going into the question of the charges or of the Court of Inquiry; but he would pass to the court martial, and he asked the attention of his hon. Friend the Secretary to the Admiralty to the remarks he had to make on that subject. He took no exception to the officers who composed the Court; there was not one of them to whom he would not be ready to submit his life and honour; but it must be remembered that five was the smallest number that could constitute a court martial. That Court ought to have been formed of seven officers, because Captain Codrington of the *Excellent* and Captain Gordon of the *Vernon* were in harbour. They were both given fictitious leave by the Admiralty; but they must have done their duty notwithstanding, because, as the old law said, if they were "within sound of gun or sight of the flag," they were bound to come to court martial, even if on leave. If Captain Heron had challenged the constitution of the Court they would have

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been bound to attend; but as the point was not brought before him he did not do so, and the court martial was composed of five officers only. He had been told that the decision of the Court was arrived at by the bare majority of three to two; but, as the House would be aware, there was no means of testing that statement, because when a court martial was closed it was impossible to know how the votes were given, and the decision must, therefore, be supposed to have been unanimous. He considered the Admiralty were to blame for making a small Court, when they could have made a large one, to try a matter of such importance. Well, this Court was formed; the House knew what was the sentence; the officer's sword was broken, and the sentence was communicated to the Admiralty. He had himself been a Lord of the Admiralty, and knew something of the procedure there in former days. He was so much trusted by his hon. Friends below him in 1874, that, although on the Retired List, he had been selected as one who should be recommended to Her Majesty to be First Sea Lord of the Admiralty, and he had, therefore, such experience as would probably lead the House to suppose that he did not speak in this case without knowledge. His hon. Friend opposite would, therefore, take his statement for what it was worth. In those days, as soon as the Report of the proceedings of a court martial arrived at the Admiralty they were examined by the Secretary to the Department—he was speaking of the Permanent Secretary to the Admiralty, who, in those days, was Mr. Romaine, and who, at the time of the Crimean War, was Judge Advocate General. He was a person on whose opinion reliance could be placed; but in addition to the scrutiny which the proceedings underwent at his hands, they were submitted to each Sea Lord in succession, beginning with the Junior Lord, each of whom made minutes on the proceedings; and if any doubt as to the proceedings of the court martial was suggested, the question was submitted to the Counsel of the Admiralty, then Mr.

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the hon. and learned Member for Nottingham (Mr Arnold Morley), put Questions on this subject, the Secretary to the Admiralty told them that the Admiralty authorities refused to submit the proceedings to the Counsel of the Admiralty. He was told that the person who was doing duty in the absence of the Counsel of the Admiralty had expressed surprise that the matter had not been submitted to him. At the present moment the Admiralty had not Mr. Romaine as Permanent Secretary, but Mr. Swainson, who, although an excellent public servant, was no lawyer, and had no experience of the law. That being so, he could not, and he did not, believe that his hon. Friend could regard an opinion of his, from a legal point of view, as of any value. As a matter of fact, no legal mind had been brought to bear on the question at all; and although Members of that House had repeatedly urged that the papers should be referred to the proper Officers, whom the House paid for their services, the Admiralty had not so referred them. Well, the Admiralty thought they were the best judges of the matter; but he hoped the House would forgive him if he read the opinion of an eminent Queen's Counsel, to whom the papers had been submitted. This gentleman, Mr. Kekewich, was perfectly impartial, and knew nothing of the case beyond that which was disclosed in the papers laid before him. He said—

"I think that the character and position of the witnesses are matters of the first importance in such a case as this, and that the Court did not pay sufficient attention to them. Even if there were no disposition on the part of the other witnesses to make the most of what they had to say against the accused (which cannot, I think, be lightly assumed), there were two, and those the most important of all, whose evidence ought to have been received with suspicion, and to have been submitted to the strictest criticism. The witness Hadden had a distinct grievance against Commodore Heron. Not only had his charges against others been rejected, but he himself had been made the subject of punishment which must have been bitterly felt. He really occupied the position of prosecutor in a case in which he was personally interested, and his evidence ought to have been treated on this footing. I find no trace of this having been done. The evidence of the witness Fitzgerald deserved to be treated still more strictly. He obviously was the person against whom Hadden's charges were originally made. He was the officer on whom Commander Heron had relied. He was directly implicated in many of the charges made against Commander Heron in such a manner that it was his interest to shield

himself by attacking his superior officer, and he gave his evidence under the influence of a caution (with which no fault can be found) not to criminate himself. It is too much to say that such a witness ought not to be believed, for that would amount to saying that he ought not to be called; but, in my opinion, he ought to have been examined most carefully. Leading questions ought to have been avoided, his evidence ought to have been severely tested in every possible way, and no credence ought to have been given to him except where corroborated by the clear evidence of other witnesses or the undoubted facts of the case. My conclusion, from a careful perusal of the notes of evidence, is that this was not done, and that the verdict of the Court must, as regards many of the charges, be the result of treating Fitzgerald as a witness worthy of independent credit. For these reasons I think that Commander Heron may fairly say that justice has not been done to him, and that the charges and evidence against him ought to be submitted to another tribunal."

He thought it right to read the opinion of Mr. Kekewich to the House, and there were many Gentlemen of the long-robe present who would know what weight ought to be attached to those words. For his own part, he was thoroughly satisfied Mr. Kekewich was a person completely impartial in this matter, and who ought to be relied upon. Here was a man without a flaw in his career, who had served his Queen and country faithfully for 32 years, turned into the streets—for what? For one offence—for £3 12s. 6d. which he was supposed to have stolen. Was it possible to believe that this gallant officer had been guilty of such an act? Why, the thing was incredible. As a matter of fact, this officer was away on leave; he went to Paris on his marriage tour, and during his absence this man Fitzgerald was in charge of the ship. Many of the things complained of were done in his absence. Amongst the various charges against Commander Heron it was said that he had used the ship's paint for painting a conservatory. There was a bill produced for a small glass house which he had built to welcome his bride, and which cost £30. Now, was it to be supposed that after paying £30 for putting up a greenhouse he would not have paid £3 to have it painted? Although the contrary had been assumed, it was difficult to believe that he could have been capable of such incredible folly or such incredible wickedness. The court martial having sat, the officer was dismissed the Service, and his prospects were ruined. The next day to that on

which the court martial decided, what happened? A court martial sat upon the witness Fitzgerald, and others whose names were mentioned, and Fitzgerald was proved to have been himself far more guilty of the things with which he had charged his Commander, and he was sent to penal servitude, or otherwise severely punished. Would any Gentleman in that House say that the evidence of that man was not tainted? Of course, it was the business of Fitzgerald and the others to defend themselves as best they could, and they defended themselves by perjuries. Notwithstanding that, there was to be no fresh trial and no revision of the action of the Admiralty. The fact was, the Admiralty wanted a scapegoat. This plan of putting Commanders on board ships without any intermediate officer had been proposed and rejected in his time, because it was seen that anyone with the rank of Commander could not properly maintain the dignity of his position without there being someone between himself and the men. The *Clyde* was not the only ship in which bad results had followed the adoption of this system. This officer had been made a scapegoat; the Admiralty was determined to punish someone, and Commander Heron had accordingly been turned out of the Service—in doing which he believed a gross injustice had been done, a gallant heart had been broken, and the country had lost a good officer. In conclusion, he would allude, without mentioning names, to a circumstance which his hon. and gallant Friend had mentioned in connection with another court martial. Two officers came down at night to a place where the captain's gig was lying; they used language too bad to be repeated; they gave a false address, but were found out, and they were broken, very properly, because a worse example could not have been set to the men. But they had friends in high places, and they were now serving in the Navy. Commander Heron had no such friends, and he was turned out of the Service. He would detain the House no longer than to express an earnest hope that a fresh inquiry might be held in the case of Commander Heron.

COLONEL ALEXANDER said, he desired to say a few words in support of the appeal just made by his right hon. and gallant Friend (Sir John Hay).

Sir John Hay

The first thing that struck him on reading the proceedings of the court martial was the very difficult position in which the Commander of the *Clyde* was placed by having no commissioned officers with him with whom he could consult. He was, consequently, in the power of the man Fitzgerald, who was practically first lieutenant of the ship. This case could not have occurred in the Army, because an officer in an analogous position to that of the Commander of the *Clyde* would certainly have had an acting adjutant to advise with; and, therefore, he said it was the duty of the Admiralty to put an end to the system of placing superior officers at the mercy of men of inferior rank. He repeated that Commander Heron was placed completely in the power of this dishonest scoundrel, Fitzgerald. All the correspondence passed through the hands of this man, and amongst it was a letter containing an accusation that the ship's stores had been made away with—a very improper practice, because after reading the charges it gave him not only an opportunity of devising an excuse for himself, but of concocting charges against his officer. Again, there seemed to be a system of making charges direct to the Duke of Edinburgh, without going through the hands of the commanding officer. That was a thing that ought not to be supported for one moment; and he maintained that, in justice to the officers of the Navy, it ought to be at once put an end to. With reference to the Court of Inquiry, he said that the conduct of Commander Best, who was a personal enemy of Commander Heron, in sitting as a member of the Court, was most ungraceful, and he would say also that the proceedings were not worth repence in consequence. Commander Best had the strongest feeling against the Commander of the *Clyde*, and was not on speaking terms with him. The fact that 14 charges were formed against that unfortunate officer was in itself sufficient to show the weakness of the case; because, if it were a strong case, one charge deliberately would have been conclusive.

these charges. If they had obtained such a conviction, no one would have said the sentence was too heavy; but they knew they had very little chance of making good these charges, consequently they added the charge relating to the old carpet. The Commander of the ship was supposed to go into Gunner Fitzgerald's cabin to look after this carpet; and if that charge failed, the prosecution had another relating to the stuffing of an old arm-chair. These charges entirely broke down, Commander Heron being honourably acquitted. The prosecution ought then to have said—"Having failed to prove these serious charges, we will at once withdraw all the minor charges, especially as we find that the whole of the evidence was tainted from beginning to end." He did not maintain that tainted evidence was worthless; but it was necessary that it should be corroborated. It was not corroborated; and, under the circumstances, he would appeal to his hon. Friend (Mr. Campbell-Bannerman) not to stick to the red-tape and stereotyped answer—"We must do this, and we cannot do that; we cannot upset the decision of the court martial." He would ask his hon. Friend to say to Lord Northbrook that he believed a *prima facie* case had been made out for a new inquiry, and he hoped he would give an officer who had served with honour and distinction an opportunity of proving that he had not discredited an honourable and a noble Profession.

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN said, he desired to approach the subject with as little heat as possible after the somewhat excited speeches which had just been made; and he would ask the House to remember that it could not constitute itself a Court of Review to look into the evidence which had been brought before a formal court martial, when the witnesses came forward of themselves, and when their mode of giving evidence, as well as the matter of their evidence, was within the cognizance of the Court. Of course, it was open to any Member of the House to bring the subject of a sentence such as this under debate; and he must at once admit that he could not only perfectly understand, but could, to a large extent, sympathize with, the motives which had induced the hon. and gallant

Member (Captain Maxwell-Heron) to bring this matter before the House, and he would add that the manner in which he had done so, and the tone of his speech, left nothing that could be desired. He (Mr. Campbell Bannerman) trusted he should not say a word in his observations calculated to hurt the feelings of either the hon. and gallant Member or his unfortunate brother who had fallen into these difficulties. He must distinctly state, at the outset, that he was not prepared to go into the merits of the case as disclosed in the evidence taken before the court martial—he was not going into the question whether this charge or that charge was proved, but would begin by saying that this House had not the material before it on which to form a judgment. The hon. and gallant Member had made a statement in defence of Commander Heron; and he (Mr. Campbell-Bannerman) had been astonished, when the hon. and gallant Member declared that it was not his intention to divide the House, to hear loud cries from more parts of the House than one calling for a Division. Those who had joined in those exclamations had declared by that act that they were prepared to pronounce an opinion on this subject. ["No, no!"] Yes; that was his view—prepared to pronounce an opinion having only heard one side of the case. Hon. Members would not hear the other side from him, because it was not in his power, nor was it his duty, to form the House into a Court of Review on the case. What he could do, however, and what he had much pleasure in doing, was to explain to the House the conduct of the Admiralty in the matter, and the way in which the proceedings connected with the case had been conducted. To begin with, a good deal had been said as to the position in which Commander Heron found himself on board the *Clyde*, having no lieutenant or other officer, but only a gunner, as his subordinate. No doubt, that was the position of Commander Heron; but it was a position common enough in the Navy. The hon. and gallant Gentleman near him had commanded a gunboat, and must be aware—

SIR JOHN HAY: As a Commander?

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN: He did not say that. He said officers of the Navy had often found themselves in that position.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF: Yes, as lieutenants.

MR. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN, continuing, said, that there were other ships like the *Clyde* in which the officers occupied the same position as Commander Heron had occupied. What happened first was this. The ship's corporal, Hadden, whose duty it was to see that no stores improperly left the ship, reported by letter to Commander Heron that certain irregularities were going on—that Government stores were being improperly sold from the ship. One of the principal charges against Commander Heron was that this man was treated harshly and in an oppressive manner, and that he (Commander Heron) had failed to make inquiries into the charges made on being directed to do so by the Admiralty. It was complained that Hadden had committed a great error by addressing a letter on the matter, not to his superior officer, but to the Admiral Superintending the Reserves. There was certainly no Article in the Queen's Regulations which laid down that a seaman should do this; but there was an Article which laid down that an officer should do so; and he would ask the House whether they thought that a facility should be allowed to an officer and denied to a seaman? There was an Article in the Queen's Regulations—Article 634—which distinctly said that if an officer preferred a complaint, and his complaint was not attended to by the officer immediately in command over him, he was then to send the complaint to the officer next higher in command; and if the complaint was again neglected, he was ultimately to represent the case to the Secretary to the Admiralty. They were told it was a wrong thing for Hadden to take that course, he being only a seaman. So far from thinking that a seaman ought not to have the same privileges as an officer, the Admiralty were precisely of an opposite opinion; and it was their intention, and had been for some time, to amend the Regulations in that sense, and he believed the House would entirely agree with the propriety of that course. So much for Hadden.

CAPTAIN AYLMER: Was the complaint previously sent to Commander Heron?

MR. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN: Certainly.

CAPTAIN AYLMER: The same complaint?

MR. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN said, it was not identically the same, but a very similar one; it was substantially the same. If he were dealing with the whole case, he would deal with this point fully; but he was anxious not to go into details more than was necessary. If he must, however, give the history of Hadden's interference, it was simply this. Hadden, who, in his capacity of ship's corporal, was one of the ship's police, reported by letter to Commander Heron that Government stores were being improperly sold from the ship. Commander Heron told him he had given permission to Mr. Fitzgerald, the gunner, to sell some old yarns not sufficiently good for swabs, and appointed the following Friday—29th September—to hear Hadden and his witnesses. Hadden then went on shore, and obtained from two tradesmen in Aberdeen documentary evidence of certain Government rope and glass having been purchased by them from the *Clyde*. On the 27th September, Hadden was put under arrest by Mr. Fitzgerald. On the 19th September, he was brought before Commander Heron, who informed him that he had been put under arrest by his orders. On requesting that his civilian witnesses might be sent for, Commander Heron refused, and also refused Hadden's request that his case might be referred to the district captain. On the 30th of September, Hadden was sent for by Commander Heron, who told him that he had not proved his case, and that he should be disgraced to a seaman, and have his badge taken away. Commander Heron, at the same time, directed him to be still kept as a prisoner. On this, Hadden wrote to His Royal Highness the Admiral Superintending of Naval Reserves. Hadden was kept as a close prisoner from the 27th of September to the 3rd of October, and as a prisoner at large up to the 18th of October, when the Court of Inquiry assembled. On receipt of Hadden's letter, the Admiral Superintending of Naval Reserves called on Commander—

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to produce any evidence to prove his statements. Commander Heron had, therefore, sentenced him to be disgraced and to lose his badges—

“As he had not brought forward the least proof in support of his accusation.”

Commander Heron further reported that Hadden had

“Humbly apologized and retracted, acknowledging himself to be entirely in the wrong.”

It seemed an extraordinary thing that this subordinate officer should bring forward these serious charges against a superior officer, and then meekly withdraw them—so extraordinary, that the captain of the Coastguard district ship was ordered by the Admiralty to inquire into the whole thing, with the result that he found most favourably for Hadden, and commended his conduct. He found that not only were Hadden's statements entirely true, but that a great deal more than he had reported had been going on. He (Mr. Campbell-Bannerman) appealed to the House whether Hadden's conduct had not been proper—whether it was not far from being a disorderly proceeding; whether this case did not show how useful it was that a man should have the power of complaining to a higher officer if his immediately superior officer took no notice of his complaint? The next charge which the hon. and gallant Member made was with reference to the Court of Inquiry. The hon. and gallant Member said that Captain Best was a personal enemy of Commander Heron. Of that the Board of Admiralty had no knowledge, and Captain Best, who was serving in the Coastguard at Aberdeen, was the most likely person to join with Captain Cator from Queensferry, the prosecuting officer, in making the inquiry. The Admiralty had no knowledge of any personal enmity such as was described; and the House, therefore, took the fact solely on the authority of the hon. and gallant Member, and on that evidence was ready to cheer the statement and condemn Captain Best for sitting on the Court of Inquiry. They had not yet heard Captain Best's reply—let them wait until they did before condemning that officer. Then the hon. and gallant Member complained that he (Mr. Campbell-Bannerman) had refused to communicate the proceedings of the Court of Inquiry to his brother.

But that was never done—he believed he might say absolutely never. A Court of Inquiry conducted a confidential investigation for the purpose of advising the Admiralty as to the case, and whether it was possible or desirable to bring an accused person before a court martial, and its proceedings could not with propriety be made public. Commander Heron was himself present during the whole of the proceedings in the Court of Inquiry—though, no doubt, it was alleged he was ill. Still, he was present all the time, and in the circumstantial letter he obtained a full account of all the circumstances which it was proposed to prove against him. Then the hon. and gallant Member said that little time was given to his brother for the preparation of his defence before the court martial was appointed. Well, it did not appear to him (Mr. Campbell-Bannerman) to be a short time; but, at any rate, Commander Heron made no protest. He had the advantage of the advice of the eminent counsel already alluded to; but neither by himself nor by the advice of his counsel did he enter a protest. If he had said to the court martial that he had not had time to prepare his defence, no doubt the Court would have granted him time; but no such complaint was raised at all until it was raised in that House. Before the court martial, as he (Mr. Campbell-Bannerman) had said, Commander Heron was assisted by a counsel well qualified to perform the duty. Several times this gentleman changed the course of the inquiry by objecting, for instance, to a certain line of examination; the objection was listened to, and that line of examination was immediately departed from. The Court showed throughout the proceedings the greatest deference to the counsel acting on behalf of Commander Heron. Then the hon. and gallant Member said the Court was a small one.

CAPTAIN MAXWELL-HERON: As small as possible.

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN said, the Court was composed of five members. He did not know that there was any great advantage in having a large Court—for his own part, he would rather have a Court of good quality, such as was appointed, than a Court of great number. The prisoner could, under Regulation, have been tried—

being below the rank of captain—by a Court composed of one captain, as President, two commanders, and two lieutenants; but, as a matter of fact, he was tried by one Flag officer, Rear Admiral Dowell, and four post captains—namely Captains Rowley, Colomb, Markham, and Fellowes. He (Mr. Campbell-Bannerman) would undertake to say that, so far from its being a court martial to be complained of on the score of weakness, it was about as strong a Court as could have been nominated. His right hon. and gallant Friend opposite (Sir John Hay) had said there were two captains at Portsmouth who ought to have been present.

SIR JOHN HAY: Who ought, by law, to have been present.

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN said, the right hon. and gallant Member knew perfectly well that it was a common thing in cases like this, where the court martial was fully constituted for all purposes, to give nominal leave to officers whom it was desirable, on account of the other duties they had to perform, to exempt from service on the Court.

SIR JOHN HAY: I must repudiate all knowledge of such a thing.

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN: The right hon. and gallant Gentleman, in his observations on this subject, said he attributed no blame to the Admiralty; but the Admiralty would be very much to blame if, as the right hon. and gallant Gentleman suggests, they had acted against the law in keeping two captains from serving on the court martial.

SIR JOHN HAY: I say distinctly that it was against the law not to put these captains on the Court.

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN: It is not against the law to grant a captain leave of absence, and captains to whom leave of absence has been granted are, of course, exempted from serving on a court martial.

SIR JOHN HAY: If the hon. Member will turn to the Naval Discipline Act, he will find that officers up to nine in number are bound to be on the Court if they are within hearing of the gunfire of the Flag-ship.

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN: But I say that is not the practice when you have a Court composed of five officers of such high standing as those I

have enumerated. Having such a strong Court, it was not necessary to take away from their responsible duties the captains commanding the *Essex* and the *Vernon*.

AN HON. MEMBER: The Court was packed.

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN: The Admiralty found that they had at hand an Admiral and four captains. These two other post captains might, surely, be left to the discharge of their duties, instead of being taken away to take part in a court martial which was likely to last some days. That was the principle upon which the Court was appointed. There was no doubt that the necessity of the attendance of some officers on court martials had been dispensed with hitherto by giving nominal leave of absence; but that was the intention of the Government—and this was one of the points on which legislation during the present Session had been proposed—to enable this to be done in a more direct way. It was obviously a reasonable and proper arrangement to make. Then as to the evidence given before the court martial. They were told that a great part of the evidence given before the court martial was evidence of a tainted character; and he believed that the contention that was set up—not that night, certainly, but he had heard it set up—was that tainted evidence, such as that of Gunner Fitzgerald, ought to have been rejected. That contention had not been urged that night. Of course, the evidence of Fitzgerald was tainted, and was evidence which it was necessary to take with great caution, and which should not be acted upon unless corroborated. But the Court had acted in that spirit, and in every instance where Commander Heron was found guilty there was independent evidence besides that of Fitzgerald; and he had no doubt the Court had acted as anyone would, knowing all the circumstances, giving to the accused the advantage of the doubt which attached to the evidence of a man in Fitzgerald's position. Well, having gone

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Mr. Campbell-Bannerman

lant officers could have had any desire to press hardly upon Commander Heron. It was inconceivable, knowing Commander Heron's previous character, which had been alluded to by that gentleman's right hon. and gallant Relative on the other side of the House (Sir John Hay), and knowing that his conviction would not redound to the credit of Her Majesty's Service, and seeing that they had every inducement to take a lenient view of the case, that the court martial would have been unduly severe on Commander Heron. Nay, he was not sure that it would not be right to say that the court martial did take a lenient view of the case, when they sentenced him to be dismissed from the Service, but did not dismiss him with disgrace. If he had been found guilty of fraud, if he had been found guilty of applying to his own use the proceeds of these stores, the right sentence would have been dismissal with disgrace, for, as an officer in Her Majesty's Service, he would have deserved it under such circumstances. Gunner Fitzgerald was sentenced to be dismissed with disgrace, because the graver charge was proved in his case. ["Hear, hear!"] Yes; there was a distinction drawn in his case, because it was proved he had had a personal interest in the irregularities which occurred. That was proved beyond doubt; but there was a doubt so far as Commander Heron was concerned.

SIR JOHN HAY: He was acquitted of these two charges.

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN: Who?

SIR JOHN HAY: Commander Heron.

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN: Of the charges of fraud?

SIR JOHN HAY: Yes.

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN: Quite so. There was a doubt in the matter, and the Court gave Commander Heron the benefit of the doubt. How, otherwise, was it that they did not dismiss him with disgrace as well as Fitzgerald?

SIR JOHN HAY: He was acquitted of these charges.

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN: There were 14 charges, and the following were amongst the most serious of the number, all of which the court martial found proved:—Neglecting to inquire into the fraudulent sales reported to him

by the ship's corporal, Hadden; oppressive treatment and punishment of Hadden; making false reports when called on for explanations—

CAPTAIN MAXWELL-HERON: The warrant was never signed.

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN continuing, said, that Commander Heron was also found guilty of authorizing the sale of Government stores, and not accounting for the proceeds; using large quantities of Government stores for the painting and fitting of his private residence and greenhouse—and this was the sort of charge which he (Mr. Campbell-Bannerman) maintained had a fraudulent flavour about it, to say the least.

SIR JOHN HAY: On whose evidence was this proved?

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN said, the following charges were also proved:—Paying extravagant prices for "firewood," so called, but really plank for the carpenter's use; neglect in signing false reports of condemnation of boats and furniture, which it was his duty to verify; knowingly signing a false report of condemnation of certain furniture, which was afterwards repaired by an upholsterer in Aberdeen, and taken to Commander Heron's private house; permitting dances on board the *Clyde*, to which admission was given to the public on payment. All these charges were found proved, and although they were not charges of direct fraud, they amounted to much more than "extreme negligence" and impropriety of conduct in the discharge of duties. If the Court had been satisfied that there was a fraudulent intent in the matter, Commander Heron would have been dismissed with disgrace.

SIR JOHN HAY: Read the charges on which he was acquitted.

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN: No; I am not going to read them.

MR. SPEAKER: I must call the attention of the right hon. and gallant Gentleman (Sir John Hay) to the fact that it is impossible for a Member in possession of the House to discharge his duty to the House if interrupted in this way.

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN said, that all these charges to which he had referred were found proved, and, to his mind, they amounted to much more than negligence. Then, the right

hon. and gallant Gentleman opposite (Sir John Hay) had introduced another matter altogether; but before he dealt with that he would refer to the question as to what the Admiralty were to do after the court martial had given its sentence. The practice at the Admiralty had been, so far as he could learn, for many years back, that the proceedings of no court martial were submitted to the Admiralty Counsel unless a legal doubt or difficulty existed in the matter. It was never submitted with regard to the evidence on the merits of the case. The right hon. and gallant Gentleman said that when he was at the Admiralty this was done in a certain way, which he described. Well, the right hon. and gallant Gentleman was at the Admiralty a great many years ago, and he (Mr. Campbell-Bannerman) could not find his impression corroborated by those now at the Admiralty, and who were then in Office. But it was easily conceivable that the right hon. and gallant Gentleman, who seemed to have an acute recollection of these matters, should remember some cases which had been revised by, or submitted to, the Counsel to the Admiralty. The House must know that the Admiralty Counsel was not like the Judge Advocate General, to whom all general and district courts martial in the Army were referred. The Admiralty Counsel received a small retaining fee, and was paid for the work which was given him to do.

SIR JOHN HAY: How much is he paid?

MR. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN said, he thought the sum was £100 a-year. It was practically a nominal payment, special payment being made for the work performed. He was not like the Judge Advocate General, to whom each court martial was submitted as a matter of course, and who then submitted it to the Queen. There was no such Officer as the Judge Advocate General at the Admiralty, and never had been; and so far from refusing to submit this case to the Counsel of the Admiralty, so far from departing from the general practice, it would have been quite contrary to the ordinary practice if it had been submitted, unless there had been some point of law to submit. Where was the point of law in this case? All the questions which had been put before the House that night had been

questions as to the nature of the case and as to the value of the evidence, and these were matters which a court martial was perfectly capable of trying. He might add that the sentence pronounced was, of course, submitted to his Colleagues at the Admiralty—to Sir Cooper Key, Lord John Hay, Sir Frederick Richards, and Lord Northbrook—who made themselves acquainted with the evidence, and they unanimously concurred in the sentence. He would ask the House whether they thought the five officers of distinction and position whose names, he ventured to say, would carry as great weight in the Navy as any other five names that could be chosen, who composed the court martial—namely, Admiral Dowell, and Captains Fellowes, Rowley, Markham, and Colomb—they, in the first place, and his naval Colleagues in the second place—would have come to the melancholy conclusion at which they had arrived unless they had felt themselves obliged to do so?

COLONEL ALEXANDER: They were not unanimous.

MR. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN said, he knew the House was asked, on the *ex parte* statement of his hon. and gallant Friend, and on the advice of the two hon. and gallant Members opposite, to express an opinion contrary to that formed by the capable and experienced officers who had been named.

COLONEL ALEXANDER: The Court was not unanimous.

MR. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN: How does the hon. and gallant Member know that? The right hon. and gallant Gentleman (Sir John Hay) said he had been told it was not.

SIR JOHN HAY: I said it was matter of rumour.

MR. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN: He said he was told. Who told him? Were they to go on mere rumour in matters of this kind? Every man who sat on a naval court martial knew that he was bound under oath not to disclose how the verdict was brought about. How did the right hon. and gallant Gentleman say he knew that the Court

he knew it. These things always get about.

MR. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN: He used it as an argument—he said there were only three to two in favour of the verdict; that he had been told so.

SIR JOHN HAY: I really must correct the hon. Gentleman. I made use of the expression—"It might have been three to two."

MR. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN: I beg the right hon. and gallant Gentleman's pardon. What he said was—"I am told there were three to two."

Several hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN: Quite so; the right hon. and gallant Gentleman said he was told that. He called on the House to observe that every officer in a court martial was bound not to disclose how the verdict was arrived at; therefore, he would call on them to put away from their minds any consideration of that kind. He, himself, did not know how the verdict was arrived at—no one ought to know; and he maintained it was a matter which the right hon. and gallant Gentleman should not have mentioned to the House if it was a mere rumour. If he knew it to be true, he ought not to have known it; if he did not know it to be true, he ought not to have stated it. Although a mere rumour, the right hon. and gallant Gentleman had used it to prejudice the opinion of the House in a certain direction. The right hon. and gallant Gentleman had further alluded to another court martial which had recently taken place, a court martial held on two young sub-lieutenants. That case, he believed, was this. At night, when a captain was going on board his ship, those two young officers were in another boat at the landing-place; some chaff had taken place between their waterman and the crew, and when the captain appeared he was not recognized, and some most disrespectful words were applied to him. Afterwards, also, those young officers behaved very badly, one of them exclaiming that he thanked God that he was not in the Navy, and then representing themselves as belonging to a ship to which they did not belong. That was the foolish and most culpable and blameworthy lark that was indulged in, and it was most improper and prejudicial to discipline. They were

tried by court martial, and were sentenced to be dismissed the Service, and why? Because, under the law as it now stood, if any officer was proved to have been guilty of conduct unbecoming an officer he must be dismissed the Service, and the Court could give no intermediate or milder sentence—it must either acquit or dismiss from the Service. But in some cases, under such circumstances, the Admiralty used its discretion to mitigate the sentence; and, accordingly, they did mitigate the sentence upon these young officers. One of them, who had been in trouble before, lost a year and a-half's seniority, and the other lost one year's seniority; and he ventured to think that was the proper course. It was a severe and an adequate sentence; but what did the right hon. and gallant Gentleman (Sir John Hay) say? He hinted—though he did not say so in so many words—that the sentence on one of the officers was mitigated because his brother was an Equerry to the Prince of Wales. Would the right hon. and gallant Gentleman, having made that insinuation, get up and say that he believed that Lord Northbrook and his Colleagues mitigated the sentence upon this young officer because his brother was an Equerry to the Prince of Wales? The right hon. and gallant Gentleman had represented that because Commander Heron had no friends he was hardly treated, and that those who had powerful friends were let off. He hoped he had shown that there was no foundation for such an unworthy insinuation. As to Commander Heron—for whom he could only express the sincerest sympathy and regret at his unfortunate position—when the right hon. and gallant Gentleman spoke of his having no friends, was it not an advantage to have a brother and a cousin in the House of Commons? If he had not had a brother and a cousin in the House of Commons, his case would probably not have been brought before the House. He thought the House ought to be all the more careful not to constitute themselves a Court of Appeal, and not to interfere in such a case as this, because it might be said that there was no chance for others who were not lucky enough to have a brother so devoted as the hon. and gallant Member who had brought this matter forward, and a near

relative so ready as the right hon. and gallant Admiral to take it up. He had now said what he thought it right to say without going into the merits of the case, because it would be most distasteful and undesirable to do so; and he trusted he had shown that the Admiralty had displayed no disposition to treat this unfortunate officer with injustice.

Mr. THOROLD ROGERS said, he had considered it his duty, for certain reasons which he would not trouble the House with, to examine into the facts of this case, and he had consulted a well-known Member of that House as to the facts relating to this particular court martial. Into those facts which bore on the legal aspects of the case he would not pretend to enter; but he thought he was right in saying that the gallant officer whose conduct was impugned had just about the time when this matter was brought before the court martial entered into the solemn engagement of matrimony, and at that time he committed himself to certain orders which were objectionable and, no doubt, unwise with regard to the furnishing of his house; and he was told, on the best authority, that the individual who was ultimately found to have been irregular in his balances as to stores, painted the stairs of this officer's house with green, the floor with white, the top floor with red, and other parts of the house with blue. This officer might have been loose in dealing with what was national property to the extent of £10 or £12; but that was not a thing that could have been expected to result in depriving one who had served in Her Majesty's Navy for 30 years with the greatest possible zeal and diligence of his position in the Navy, and his dismissal from the Service. No sensible person would divide the House, or ask the House to determine whether Commander Heron was a culprit in this matter or not; but he thought it was very undesirable that there should have been anything like this severe judgment upon what seemed to have been but a paltry affair. What really happened was, that every Government desired to find a victim. If they could find anybody going wrong, and their view could be maintained by a court martial, of course both sides desired to effect that result. On the whole, he could not help thinking that looking at the facts of the case, an

fortunate time had been taken by the Government in this matter; and if a Division was taken, he hoped they would consider the very great services Commander Heron had rendered in the past, and would come to the conclusion that anything more paltry or more unreal than the grounds upon which this sentence had been passed could not be conceived, and that the sentence would be revised by the Admiralty.

Mr. BULWER said, he understood that the sole object of this discussion was to obtain some further inquiry into this matter; and he agreed with the observation of the Secretary to the Admiralty, that this House ought not to be made a Court of Appeal from any court martial in the Army or the Navy, or any Court sitting in Westminster Hall. That, however, was not what was asked. The House was not asked to sit as a Court of Appeal upon this question, and on that ground the Secretary to the Admiralty had declined to go into the facts of the case, or to discuss its merits. He, himself, had always been amazed at the fact that in a civilized country like this such a system of procedure could prevail as that existing in the Army and Navy in court martials. He remembered being particularly struck by one which would be fresh in the memory of several hon. Members, in which the Home Secretary was a distinguished Counsel—namely, the Crawley Court Martial at Aldershot. If any tribunal could render it difficult to arrive at the truth it would be a court martial as now conducted. Imagine anyone engaged in cross-examining a witness having to write down his questions on a piece of paper to be handed to the Judge for him to put them to the witness. Anything more ridiculous than such a system as that for eliciting the truth it was impossible to conceive; and he made this remark because it was extremely probable that, in a case where there was evidence, as the Secretary to the Admiralty had admitted in this case, which was not worthy of ~~or-fit~~, such evidence had not been properly sifted by such a process. All that the House was asked to do was to ex-

Mr. Campbell-Bannerman

this gallant officer, and upon the most serious of them he had been acquitted. The tribunal had decided upon comparatively trivial charges, and upon them his prospects of a long and prosperous career were ruined. Considering the whole matter, he did think that sufficient grounds had been shown to justify the House in recommending the Government to give this case further inquiry. It was true that the right hon. and gallant Gentleman (Sir John Hay) had said he had reason to believe that the judgment of the court martial was not unanimous, although he could not know that as a fact; if that was so, that rendered the decision of this court martial less satisfactory than it would otherwise have been. He did not impugn the decision of that tribunal; but he should certainly support the hon. and gallant Gentleman opposite if he went to a Division.

CAPTAIN AYLMER said, he thought the House must have heard some of the remarks of the Secretary to the Admiralty with considerable surprise, and must have regretted that he had not come to a decision which would have been more agreeable to the sense of the House. He had spoken of three changes which would have to be made on account of this court martial.

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN said, that was not so. He had stated that the changes were in contemplation before the court martial took place.

CAPTAIN AYLMER said, he did not think any court martial had ever given a decision more cruelly unjust in its severity than this. It was purely upon trivial charges; and Commander Heron, whom he did not know, would never have been tried upon them by the Horse Guards or the Admiralty. He was entirely acquitted of the more serious of the charges; and when the hon. Member spoke of the leniency of the Court, he quite forgot that Commander Heron was entirely acquitted of fraudulent or dishonourable charges. With regard to the ship's corporal having forwarded his letter direct to the Duke of Edinburgh, the Secretary to the Admiralty was wrong in saying that the corporal demanded that the Commander should forward the letter to the Duke of Edinburgh, and said that if the Commander did not do so he should forward it himself. The corporal did not do that, but

forwarded it to the Admiral—the Duke of Edinburgh—against every regulation known in such a case. As the hon. Gentleman had said, the sense of the House had been fully shown by the cheer which was given when his right hon. and gallant Friend (Sir John Hay) spoke of a revision of the sentence by the Admiralty. The House itself was utterly unfit to arrive at a judicial decision upon the case, and if the matter were taken to a Division he should walk out of the House, because he felt that it would be improper to give a decision in a case of this kind upon an *ex parte* statement. The sentiments of the House had, however, been fully expressed by its cheers, and it was quite evident that there was a general feeling that the case ought to be revised. They were entitled to ask for a revision and reconsideration. His right hon. and gallant Friend (Sir John Hay) had been taken to task by the Secretary to the Admiralty because he had mentioned the case of two other officers in which, only the other day, the sentence of a court martial had been revised. That case was only brought forward by his right hon. and gallant Friend to show that the Admiralty did possess the power of revising the sentence of a court martial, and that in a case of necessity they were not backward in exercising it. But in the case of the two young officers in question, the loss to the Service would not have been very great, seeing that they had only just entered the Navy; whereas, in the case of Commander Heron, they had an officer who had served with credit and distinction for 32 years, whose loss was a real loss to the Service, and whose prospects had been ruined for life. He was told that the decision of the Court itself was only arrived at by three against two. He knew that officers sitting upon a court martial took an oath not to divulge the secrets of the Court; but, nevertheless, the fact of the want of unanimity had leaked out. Then, if the decision was wrong, and the Court had not been unanimous in finding it, why hesitate about granting a revision? How did the Secretary to the Admiralty know that the whole of the members of the Court were of one mind?

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN said, he had never stated that they were. He had distinctly said that he knew nothing about it.

CAPTAIN AYLMER said, he had understood the hon. Gentleman to say that the whole of the five officers who composed the Court were unanimous; whereas two of them dissented from the finding of the other three. Three were for the conviction and sentence and two against, and that fact afforded another strong reason why the decision of the Court should be revised by the Admiralty, and why the House, at that late period of the Session, should not be called upon to consider and pronounce a judgment upon the case. The evidence was most peculiar and most pointed. The man upon whose evidence Commander Heron was found guilty was tainted, and the witness himself was subsequently found guilty by a court martial and dismissed the Service with disgrace. That fact alone ought to have aroused the suspicion of the Admiralty; and although the Secretary to the Admiralty told the House that the five officers who sat upon the court martial did get evidence to corroborate the testimony of Gunner Fitzgerald, anyone who had read that evidence through would see that the man was not properly corroborated in any one of the charges except by men equally tainted with himself, and men who were also under arrest. He thought that what the hon. Member asked for was only a reasonable thing. At the same time, he hoped the hon. Gentleman would not go to a Division, and that the debate would be allowed to cease. He trusted yet to have an assurance from some Member of the Government that the Admiralty would reconsider the case, and extend to an old, an honourable, and a gallant officer the same clemency which had been extended to the two young officers whose case had been mentioned.

Mr. WILLIS (who rose amid loud calls for a Division) said, he would not detain the House for more than a few minutes; but he thought that there was an act of justice which the Admiralty ought to do in the case. It was their duty to lay all the facts of the case before the Counsel of the Admiralty. The question raised in the case was entirely one of law, as far as he was able to understand it—namely—and he was speaking in the hearing of the Law Officers of the Crown—whether there had been such evidence as justified the Court coming to a conclusion adverse to Com-

mander Heron? The evidence of Fitzgerald was practically the evidence of an accomplice, and it was laid down as a rule of law, invariably acted upon by Her Majesty's Judges, never to leave a case to a jury on the uncorroborated evidence of an accomplice. The question to which the Law Officers of the Government and the Counsel of the Admiralty ought to address themselves was whether, on a careful examination of the evidence, there was such corroboration as justified the Court in arriving at the conclusion that the charges preferred against Commander Heron were proved? He (Mr. Willis) had listened carefully to the statements which had been made in regard to the facts of the case, and also to the arguments of the hon. Gentleman who represented the Admiralty, and all he could say was that there were the grounds for being dissatisfied with the conclusions to which the Court had arrived. If anyone on the Treasury Bench would assure the House that the facts of the case would be laid before the Counsel of the Admiralty, in order to see whether the evidence was such as to justify the five naval officers who composed the court martial in coming to the conclusion that Commander Heron was guilty of the charge made against him, he (Mr. Willis), and he believed the House, would be satisfied with that assurance. But unless that course was taken there would be great dissatisfaction, because, as far as his opinion went, the evidence submitted to the five naval officers was anything but conclusive. If, however, on considering the whole of the facts, the Counsel of the Admiralty should be of opinion that the evidence was such as to justify the court martial in reasonably coming to the conclusion that Commander Heron was guilty, he (Mr. Willis) should then be content with the decision; but unless such an opinion was expressed by the Counsel of the Admiralty, he should continue to entertain the feeling that there were grave reasons for doubting the fairness and justice of the conviction and sentence. He was sorry to have been compelled to intrude upon the

warmth which had been manifested that evening in endeavouring to protect the character of a man who had rendered long and good service to the country than in displaying the indifference which had been exhibited by the Admiralty in the course of the debate.

Mr. DALY said, he had listened attentively, and with much interest, to the history of this case, and he thought there was a good deal in the point which had been raised by the right hon. and gallant Gentleman (Sir John Hay), that the court martial which sat for the purpose of trying Commander Heron was not properly constituted. The right hon. and gallant Gentleman, who was naturally possessed of considerable experience in connection with naval matters, laid it down as a *dictum* that any naval officer capable of sitting upon a court martial who was within sound of the gun which summoned the Court, or within sight of the flag, was bound to serve. If that were so, there were two naval officers who ought to have served upon the Court, but who, nevertheless, did not serve, and, consequently, the Court was not properly constituted. The hon. Gentleman the Secretary to the Admiralty said that if Commander Heron had not been fortunate enough to have a brother in the House of Commons willing and able to take up his case the present debate would never have been introduced. That had nothing to do with the matter, which was simply one of justice to an old and gallant officer. He (Mr. Daly) was neither a brother, nor a sister, nor a cousin, nor an aunt of Commander Heron; but he knew that he had listened to the whole of the narrative of the hon. and gallant Member opposite (Captain Maxwell-Heron) with the greatest possible interest; and he felt, from the facts which had been placed before him, that the question was essentially one which should go through the formula pointed out by the right hon. and gallant Member for Wigtown (Sir John Hay)—namely, that, taking into consideration the nature of the evidence and the gravity of the charges with which this gallant officer of 32 years' service had been found guilty, it was essentially a case which ought to be laid before the Counsel of the Admiralty. He had heard with great regret one of the reasons adduced by the Secretary to the Admiralty as a reason why that

course should not be observed—namely, that the Counsel of the Admiralty had only a very small annual retainer—some £120 a-year, he believed. He was satisfied that in so grave a case as this, neither the House nor the country would grudge whatever amount of fees Counsel might require for going carefully through the whole of the evidence; because, although, no doubt, the issue to the Admiralty was a very small one, to this gallant officer, who had served his country creditably, faithfully, and with distinction for 32 years, who had received four medals and clasps, it simply meant a blasted reputation and ruin for life. It was the duty of the Government, therefore, to lose no opportunity of reconsidering the evidence by which Commander Heron had been convicted, and of ascertaining whether the court martial by which he was tried was justified in finding him guilty of the charges brought against him.

Mr. HENEAGE said, he was anxious that the debate should not be unnecessary prolonged; but he did appeal to the Prime Minister to respond to the wish which had been almost unanimously expressed on both sides of the House, by intimating that the evidence would be laid before the Legal Authorities of the Board of Admiralty for reconsideration. He made this appeal to his right hon. Friend on two grounds—first, that this unfortunate officer, Commander Heron, was not permitted to live on board of the *Clyde*, but was compelled to reside on shore, and was therefore bound to place a considerable amount of confidence in the second officer, Gunner Fitzgerald; and, secondly, that when these charges were preferred by the ship's corporal, there was every inducement on the part of Gunner Fitzgerald to endeavour to screen himself by throwing the blame upon Commander Heron. He sincerely hoped that the Government would give a promise that the matter should be referred to the Counsel of the Admiralty, and that the House might then proceed to the consideration of some other Business.

Mr. GLADSTONE: I am bound to admit that I labour under the disadvantage of not having heard the whole of the debate, and the few remarks which I have to make are founded upon that part of it which I have heard. There is, however, one ground which

has been taken by more than one hon. Member, and that is that the charges were only trivial. Now, I think we must endeavour to look at all the matters involved in the case in as dry and as strict a light as possible. The principal ground for asking the Government to order a reconsideration, or, at any rate, one of the principal grounds, is that the charges on which this officer has been convicted were charges that were not of a serious character. That appears to me to be altogether an error. I certainly cannot agree that the charges are not serious. I think, on the contrary, that if I were to read a few of the charges I could show that that is not the ground on which we should be asked to interfere with the finding of the court martial, and I did not understand my hon. and learned Friend the Member for Colchester (Mr. Willis) to put the case on that ground. It will hardly, I think, be disputed that such charges as these are not most grave and serious:—Making false reports; improperly authorizing the sale of the ship's stores, and not accounting for the proceeds; using a large quantity of Government stores for painting and fitting up a private residence and garden-house; condemning certain furniture which was afterwards repaired by an upholsterer at Aberdeen and taken to a private house; and knowingly signing false reports. No one can say that charges of that kind are not very serious charges indeed. But this is, no doubt, a peculiar case, and I hope the House will approach the consideration of it with an adequate impression of the extreme gravity of the subject-matter. The rights of an individual are most sacred. The feelings of the House are naturally and laudably enlisted with a great amount of sensitiveness and a great deal of jealousy on behalf of those rights. It is intolerable to have to remind anyone that justice should be done; and most of all is it intolerable in a case where the individual concerned is one who for many years has served his country. On the other hand, it would be impossible, even for the sake of the discipline of the Services of the country, to pass over grave charges of this nature if clearly proved. The matter is, therefore, one of the gravest consequence, and the House should weigh well in all cases of this kind the grounds upon which a judicial

decision has been arrived at, and should avoid dealing conclusively with it until the whole subject has been satisfactorily considered. I was sorry to hear the procedure of a court martial spoken of, with a view of influencing the decision of the House in a case of this kind, as if it was throughout very defective. It may be so; I do not pretend to be a judge; but the defectiveness of that mode of procedure, surely, is a matter which ought to form the subject of a Motion for amending it, and not a matter for discussion on an occasion like this. I have such a deep conviction of the nice sense of honour, and the peculiar sensitiveness felt by the members of Courts of this description, that I think we should forbear from extending the disadvantages under which courts martial are held by declaring that they are defective in their constitution, differing, as they naturally do, from the circumstances under which the ordinary tribunals of the land are held. I come now to the main point before the House. Serious charges against the Commander of the *Clyde* were found by a court martial to be proved; but a consideration has been urged which appears to me to have great weight, and after the manner in which it has been pressed upon the House, it is not possible for us to pass it by without giving to it that attention which it deserves. That point is that the charges were sustained mainly by the evidence of a tainted witness, whose character was such that it was necessary subsequently to try the witness himself, with the result of securing his conviction and dismissal from the Service. It is asserted that the Admiralty acted upon the conviction obtained upon the evidence of this tainted character without requiring such corroboration as would have been necessary in an ordinary trial where the chief evidence was that of an informer of the worst character. It is said that in a parallel case in an ordinary trial the Court would have required a certain amount of corroboration of the evidence of the principal witness. It is impossible for the House to judge upon what evidence the Court came to its conclusion; but, no doubt, the Court thought there was sufficient corroboration, and accepted the evidence of the principal witness, although he may have been a man of tainted character, as good evidence. At the same time, the question

is so difficult to decide, and the points of law involved so extremely nice, that it is doubtful whether professional assistance ought not to be called in. Under these circumstances, we think—and I believe my noble Friend (the Earl of Northbrook) will join us in doing what we think right—that some further satisfaction should be given. It is evident that a question of this kind ought not to be touched or decided except by the highest and best authorities. The learned counsel to the Admiralty is, I understand, not at his post, and will not be there for a considerable number of weeks; but my hon. and learned Friends the Attorney General and Solicitor General have had the advantage of hearing this debate, and we shall engage, on the part of the Admiralty, that their assistance shall be called in for the purpose of aiding the judgment of the First Lord, because, after all, it is with the Admiralty that the responsibility must lie. I trust, therefore, the House will be disposed to think that in making this proposal we have gone as far as it is possible for us to go in the direction indicated by hon. Members.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he had listened to the words which had fallen from the Prime Minister with great satisfaction. The Attorney General and the Solicitor General had had an opportunity of hearing the debate from beginning to end; and his opinion was that, in the absence of the learned counsel to the Admiralty, no better plan could be devised than that of leaving the question in the hands of the Law Officers of the Crown. But, although he considered the suggestion of the Prime Minister satisfactory in the present instance, he would ask whether he was to understand that the House of Commons was not a Court of Appeal in such cases?

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR said, with the permission of the House, he would add a few words to what had been said in the course of the debate. He might say of the statement of the Prime Minister that it was listened to with a sense of very great relief by everyone in the House; and he could assure the hon. and gallant Gentleman who brought the case forward that, so far as he could gather from his hon. Friends, had the question gone to a Division he would have had their united support. Although

the case was one in which his feelings were deeply aroused, the hon. and gallant Gentleman had given an example of moderation which others would do well to imitate; and he would add that the demeanour of the House in listening to his remarks, and the way in which they were received, contrasted very favourably with the manner in which grievances on other occasions were listened to and discussed. One of the points most strongly urged by the hon. and gallant Gentleman, and by those who followed him, was the great danger of trusting to the tainted evidence of informers; and he (Mr. T. P. O'Connor) hoped that the remarks which had been made on that subject in all parts of the House would sink deeply into the minds of hon. Members. The hon. and gallant Gentleman behind him (Colonel Alexander) had made some most proper observations upon this case; he had insisted that the House of Commons had a perfect right to revise and discuss such cases. He was very glad to see a Member of the Conservative Party so anxious to preserve to the House its character as a Court of Revision, which it could not be denied was one of its privileges; and, finally, he would refer to the statement of the Prime Minister that the House was properly jealous of injury to individuals. But there had been other cases of injuries to individuals brought before the House which, equally with the present, demanded reconsideration; and he trusted the right hon. Gentleman would show himself correspondingly sensitive with regard to them.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, his hon. and learned Friend the Member for Cambridgeshire (Mr. Bulwer) had made some strictures on courts martial in general, and had referred to his (Sir William Harcourt's) experience of those tribunals. He did think it right to remain silent after the depreciatory and condemnatory remarks which his hon. and learned Friend had made, because it so happened that he had appeared before both military and naval courts martial in very important cases; and, although it was perfectly true that the procedure differed very considerably from that with which hon. Gentlemen were familiar in ordinary Courts of Law, he felt it would be a great evil if the impression went abroad that the tribunals in question did not administer

real and substantial justice. His experience was that there were no tribunals more careful in the administration of justice than courts martial, or more willing and able to administer it.

MR. BULWER said, he hoped the House would not do him the injustice to suppose he had intended to reflect upon the officers who constituted these tribunals, who, he was sure, were actuated by a sincere intention to administer justice, and did administer it. His observations applied to procedure, which he said was not satisfactory; because witnesses whose evidence was tainted, as in the present instance, were not adequately cross-examined.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, as he represented the borough in which the court martial was held, and in which it caused a great deal of excitement, he must make an appeal to the Prime Minister. While he was delighted with the result of the discussion of that evening, and the fact that Commander Heron would have a chance of getting his case revised, he asked that when the revision took place the Law Officers of the Crown would also look into the case of Fitzgerald, whose friends had appealed to him alleging that he had not been properly tried, and that his dismissal in a degrading manner from the Service was unfair. He expressed no opinion upon that; but he could not but think that Fitzgerald was as much entitled to consideration as Commander Heron, because he was tried by the same court martial. Therefore, he trusted that the case might be sifted by the Law Officers of the Crown, and the same justice accorded to him as to Commander Heron.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

Remaining Resolution *agreed to*.

COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEAL BILL.

(*Mr. Attorney General, Secretary Sir William Harcourt, Mr. Solicitor General.*)

[BILL 244.] CONSIDERATION.

Order for Consideration, as amended, read.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (SIR HENRY JAMES) said, there was some doubt as to whether the Half-past Twelve o'clock Rule, which prohibited the consideration of contested Bills after that hour, applied to the Reports of Standing Committees. He would not,

on that occasion, raise the question whether they could proceed with the Bill then or not; but would assume, for the purpose of not placing the House in a wrong position with reference to this Order, that the Half-past Twelve Rule did apply, and ask that it be taken to-morrow.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Bill be considered To-morrow."—(*Mr. Attorney General.*)

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he had an appeal to make to the hon. and learned Attorney General not to proceed with the Bill that Session. He was quite aware that the Bill had been before a Standing Committee; that the Committee gave great attention to it; argued it very fully, and came to certain conclusions with regard to it. When the Bill had passed the Standing Committee it was reported to the House, but not for several weeks afterwards, because the Committee had been for some time considering the Criminal Code (Indictable Offences Procedure) Bill. The scope of the Bill had been very materially altered in Committee; but it was not until the 6th of August that the Attorney General was induced to restore it to its original form. He said that on this ground Members interested in the Bill had just cause of complaint if it was to be pressed forward that Session. He sympathized very much with the hon. and learned Gentleman, who had taken such pains with the Bill, and who, he was quite sure, would have brought it on shortly after it came from the Standing Committee, had it not been for the pressure of Government Business. He was bound to say that the hon. and learned Gentleman had done everything he could to bring the Bill forward. The delay which had occurred was through no fault of the Attorney General; but he would ask the House whether they thought it practicable, at that period of the Session, with the Prorogation of Parliament to take place on Saturday next, that a Bill of such great importance could be passed? Was the Bill to remain in the form in which it was originally brought forward, or was it to be passed in the extended form in which it left the Standing Committee? That, in itself, was one of the great questions which could only be decided by a full debate in the House. The Bill would

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have to be discussed in "another place" after it had left them; but it was absolutely impossible that it could be discussed properly in that House. They could not obtain the opinion of the Law Lords upon it, because they were absent, nor the opinion of the Lord Chief Justice, who was in America; and, under those circumstances, the Bill, if it were passed, would only be scrambled through the House. It was in no hostile spirit that he once more asked the Government not to proceed with the Bill; but, perhaps, the best course would be to let it stand over, and to ask the Government at Question time to-morrow whether they did not think it impossible that the Bill could be properly discussed that Session, either in that House or in the House of Lords; and whether the Government were not prepared to abandon it for the present Session?

MR. DODDS said, he hoped the Attorney General would not listen to the appeal of the right hon. Gentleman opposite to drop the Bill, which had taken up so much time. It was not for them to consider how it would be dealt with in "another place;" and, so far as that House was concerned, he thought there was ample time for its consideration. Notwithstanding the absence of the Judges, he was of opinion that they should deal with the Bill, and send it to the House of Lords in the usual way.

MR. BERESFORD HOPE said, he regarded the argument of the hon. Member for Stockton as a most conclusive reason why they should not proceed with the Bill. The hon. Member said it had taken up a great deal of time. No doubt it had; it required a great deal of time to deal with a question so difficult and thorny. Notwithstanding the time so spent, hon. Members were not all satisfied with the Bill; and, exhausted as they were, they considered it unreasonable to proceed with it at the fag end of the Session. If there were more time before them, he would say let the Bill go forward; but it would be an absolute mockery to do so in existing circumstances. He thought the Judicial system of the country, the Appellate system of the country, and the honour of the country, were too important to play such tricks with; and, therefore, he hoped the measure would not be proceeded with.

MR. EDWARD CLARKE reminded the Government that by requiring the

House to pass the Bill in the form proposed by the Attorney General they would strike the heaviest possible blow at the system of Grand Committees. It had been propounded by the Prime Minister that that system was one by which the House devolved on a Committee the consideration of matters with which a small Committee could deal; and now the Attorney General proposed, by restoring this Bill to its original form, to undo the work of the Standing Committee. He repeated that to do so would be to strike a great blow at the system of Standing Committees.

Question put, and agreed to.

Consideration, as amended, deferred till To-morrow.

MERCHANT SHIPPING (FISHING BOATS) BILL [*Lords*].

(*Mr. Chamberlain.*)

[BILL 288.] SECOND READING.

Order for Second Reading read.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a second time."—(*Mr. Chamberlain.*)

MR. WARTON said, he had given Notice of opposition to this Bill some time ago; because, having read over the evidence on which it was founded, he was of opinion that it did not properly meet the requirements of the case in two respects. First, he thought the masters of ships ought to retain the power of arresting at once seamen who deserted; and, secondly, he considered that certificates ought to be granted to persons engaged in fishing who could show that they were thoroughly acquainted with the navigation at the fishing stations. On consideration, he thought it right to withdraw his opposition to the Bill.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN thanked the hon. and learned Member for Bridport for removing his Notice of opposition to the Bill. He could assure the hon. and learned Member that the Bill was founded entirely upon the recommendation of the Committee, and would point out that Clause 40 did provide that a certificate should be granted to experienced skippers and second hands who had a knowledge of the sea. Although the Bill did not provide for the old power of arrest, it provided facilities which would, to a large extent, meet the case of the difficulties between owners and their hands,

to which the hon. and learned Gentleman had alluded.

Motion agreed to.

Bill read a second time, and committed for To-morrow.

PROVIDENT NOMINATIONS AND SMALL INTESTACIES BILL.—[BILL 264.]
(Mr. Stuart-Wortley, Mr. Burt, Mr. Albert Grey, Mr. Northcote.)

CONSIDERATION OF LORDS AMENDMENTS.

Lords Amendments considered and agreed to, as far as Clause (A).

Clause (A), the next Amendment, read a second time.

MR. STUART-WORTLEY said, the fact that this clause had been inserted was a matter of mystery to the public, inasmuch as it had not been reported in a single newspaper. It was really not safe, in his opinion, to embark in this new clause at the very end of the Session; and he begged to move that the House disagree with the Lords in the Amendment.

Motion agreed to.

Lords Amendment disagreed to.

Subsequent Amendments agreed to.

Committee appointed, "to draw up Reasons to be assigned to The Lords for disagreeing to Clause (A):"—MR. STUART-WORTLEY, MR. WHITLEY, LORD RICHARD GROSVENOR, SIR FARRER HERSHELL, and MR. EDWARD CLARKE:—To withdraw immediately; Three to be the quorum.

WAYS AND MEANS.

CONSOLIDATED FUND (APPROPRIATION) BILL.

Resolution [August 18] reported, and agreed to.

Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to apply a sum out of the Consolidated Fund to the service of the year ending on the thirty-first day of March, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four, and to appropriate the Supplies granted in this Session of Parliament.

And, That Sir ARTHUR OTWAY, MR. CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, and MR. COURTNEY do prepare and bring it in.

Bill presented, and read the first time.

CONTEMPTS OF COURT [STAMP DUTY].

Considered in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

Resolved, That it is expedient to authorise the imposition of a Stamp Duty upon any vesting or other order, having the effect of a conveyance, release, or assurance of any real or personal estate, or whereby any interest, claim, or

demand, in or to any property, shall be released, which may be made under any Act of the present Session for amending the Law as to Contempts of Court.

Resolution to be reported To-morrow.

House adjourned at a quarter before Three o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS,

Tuesday, 21st August, 1883.

MINUTES.]—PUBLIC BILLS—*First Reading*—Epidemic and other Diseases Prevention * (213); Municipal Corporations (Borough Constables) * (214); Revenue and Friendly Societies * (216).

Second Reading—Corrupt Practices (Suspension of Elections) * (198); Parliamentary Registration (Ireland) (204), *negatived*; Local Government Board (Scotland) (207), *negatived*; Medals * (208); Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland) (205); Public Works Loans * (209).

Committee—Labourers (Ireland) (183). *Committee—Report*—Isle of Wight Highways * (191); Education (Scotland) * (199); Expiring Laws Continuance * (197).

Report—Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) * (189); National Debt * (196).

Third Reading—Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 2) * (87); Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 9) * (125); Patents for Inventions * (201); Cholera Hospitals (Ireland) * (193), and *passed*.

PARLIAMENTARY REGISTRATION
(IRELAND) BILL.—(No. 204.)

(The Lord President.)

SECOND READING.

Order of the Day for the Second Reading read.

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL), in moving that the Bill be now read a second time, said, the Bill was intended for the amendment of the Law of Registration of Voters in Ireland, and its history was this. It had been long felt that the condition of the Registration Law in Ireland, very different as it was from that which now prevailed in England, urgently demanded consideration and amendment; and Bills for that purpose, and, to a very large extent, identical with this Bill, had been before the other House of Parliament several times during several Sessions. He believed

Mr. Chamberlain

this Bill had been accepted in that House with a very large amount of agreement indeed by the Irish Members; and he was informed there was scarcely a Division upon it at any stage of its course. But by those accidents which sometimes occurred in "another place," and which had become more frequent of late years, those Bills had not, with one exception, made their way into their Lordships' House, and that exception occurred in the year 1881, when one Bill was fortunate enough to make its way into the House. That Bill, he found, was thrown out, not on its merits, but in consequence of the fact that the second reading was moved on the 1st of September; and it had now been brought in again and carried through the other House on the responsibility of the Government. It had been adopted by the Government, although it was originally introduced by a Member of the Legal Profession amongst the Irish Representatives. Although he was sorry to see the Notice of opposition given by the noble Earl opposite (the Earl of Kilmorey), he trusted that, upon the merits of the Bill, their Lordships would find little difficulty in accepting it. It appeared, upon its merits, to be very much called for as an amendment of the present system in Ireland—a system which was open to great complaint, and which, he thought, ought not to be allowed to continue any longer in its present condition. The Bill was for the prevention of frivolous and vexatious objections, as, under the present system, there was the greatest possible opportunity given for such objections; with the result that many persons were practically deprived of the franchise. In Ireland there were three lists of voters in existence every year; there was the register of voters itself, there was, of course, the list of the claimants, and there was also a list peculiar to Ireland, called the supplemental list. That list was not made up of the names of the parties who desired to claim a vote, but was framed by public authority by the Clerk of each Union, who included in it the name of every person within the Union who he had reason to believe was entitled to vote, and yet was not on the existing register. He drew up the list on his own responsibility, and he returned it, with his sworn declaration, to the Clerk of the Peace.

As the law now stood in Ireland, any name, either on the register of voters itself or on that temporary and provisional list, might be objected to by anyone. Whenever, in fact, anybody sent in a notice to say he objected to such and such a name that name was struck off, unless the person so objected to attended and proved his qualification. That was a state of things which gave rise to the great abuse to which he had alluded—namely, to the result that a number of perfectly qualified persons who had not been able to attend and make good their qualifications were struck off the list of voters for that year, and had to begin the process over again the next year. That was a state of things which, happily, did not prevail in this country. The Bill would require that that supplemental list of voters should be treated as *prima facie* evidence of the qualification of any person; and it said that any objection made to any name must be an objection founded upon some reason which must be stated, and that, unless some *prima facie* reason was given to the Registration Court by the objector, the person objected to should not be required to attend to prove his qualification. That seemed to him to be a perfectly proper and reasonable amendment of the law. This was not the case of parties making private claims to the franchise, but the case of a list drawn up by public authority and under a sworn declaration; and it was well known that in nine cases out of ten the persons thus put on the supplemental list were, in fact, qualified. The Bill, then, proposed to give that public authority the weight which properly attached to it, and treated it as *prima facie* evidence of qualification, not liable to be set aside by the mere groundless objection of anyone who might find it to his interest to object. In order to make that list more authoritative, the Bill also provided that greater precautions should be taken in framing it than were now required; and in future the list would be submitted by the Clerk of the Union to that officer who had the greatest knowledge of every voter in his district—namely, the Collector of the Poor Rates, who would be required to check the list. The other effect of the Bill was to remove an anomaly in the system of registration in the City of Dublin. The Irish borough

franchise was a rate-paying franchise of £4 valuation, the rate of all tenements valued under that sum being paid by the landlord. In Dublin there was a Private Act for the purpose of convenience of collection, which made the landlord liable to pay the rate in all cases where the valuation was under £8. The result of this accident was that the City of Dublin was subjected to a franchise higher than the other cities and boroughs of Ireland, and this anomaly it was desired to correct. Those were the most important provisions of the Bill, and on its merits he could see no reasons for the Motion for its rejection placed on the Paper by the noble Earl opposite (the Earl of Kilmorey). There might be Party reasons for its rejection, and there might be political reasons. It might be said that by making any addition to the number of voters they would be adding strength to the forces of disaffection. If that was the view of the noble Earl he should venture to utterly differ from him. He was certain that if any result of the kind were to be feared, they would run far greater risk of adding force to disaffection by the rejection of a reasonable measure of this kind than by passing it upon its merits, although it would add somewhat to the number of voters in Ireland. As to the purely registration part of the Bill, he might inform the House that those who suffered most by the existing Registration Acts, and who were liable to all the gross abuses to which he had referred, were among what he might call the quietest and most unobtrusive men in the Irish constituencies; the very men to whom they should desire to secure the suffrage. He himself was aware of persons of the highest respectability and position—men, for instance, like Dr. Lyons, M.P.—being kept off the register in Dublin because of the frivolous objections made to their right to vote. He, therefore, confidently asked the House to pass that most reasonable reform; and he should greatly regret if they gave any new ground of complaint in Ireland when an attempt was being made to remove a real grievance on the lines of what was the law in this country.

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^a."
—(*The Lord President.*)

THE EARL OF KILMOREY, in moving that the Bill be read a second time that

Lord Carlingford

day three months, claimed the consideration of the House for any faults of inexperience or ignorance on his part. He felt that the task of difficulty and delicacy which he had undertaken had been rendered much easier by the way in which the Lord President had anticipated some of the objections which he should urge against the Bill. He would not occupy the valuable time of their Lordships in discussing the minute details of the measure, because he ventured to hope that in a short time they would have relegated it to the shelves of their Lordships' House, there to remain until an earlier period of next year than that in which they were called upon to consider it this. He wished the House to treat this Bill—although it was not of so great importance in his opinion as in the opinion of Her Majesty's Ministers—rather as a measure of some importance, and for that reason he wished them to reject it; for if it was a measure of any importance, that was not the day nor the hour in which it should be brought into their Lordships' House. He desired to add his protest against the growing practice of sending measures of importance to that House from "another place" at the end of July or beginning of August; and he would ask their Lordships whether they were going to permit their honourable House to become a mere office of registration? There were many cogent reasons, in his opinion, why they should not accept the Bill. His first objection he had already alluded to—the date of its introduction to their Lordships' House. The second objection was one which the Lord President probably did not expect him to touch upon. His second and strongest reason for exhorting the House to reject the measure was, unless he was grievously misinformed, because its origin was found in one of the most polluted sources. Their Lordships must be quite aware that was one of three Bills which were drafted and introduced in another place at an early part of the Session by persons of no less historical notoriety—notoriety most acceptable to themselves, if to no one else—than the late and present Lord Mayors of Dublin, and those Members who had been most conspicuous during the whole of this Session, and particularly in the last few days, by their unseemly attacks upon Her Majesty's Ministers. For what purpose had the Members of the so-called Irish

National Party introduced these three Bills? Common sense would tell their Lordships that it was simply for their own advantage. Therefore, he could not understand how the Lord President could assume that by the passing of the Bill any advantage could accrue to any of Her Majesty's subjects in Ireland, except to those who had openly rebelled against Her control, set Her laws at defiance, and treated all Constitutional Government with contempt. Who were to get the advantage of the facilities of this Bill? The Irish National Party, so-called—the advocates of disorder and rioting both in and out of Parliament. It was to them, and them only, that any advantage could accrue by the passing of this measure; and, therefore, he asked their Lordships to consider the Bill, not merely as a Government measure, but merely as a measure promoted by persons who were acknowledged, and who did not blush to be acknowledged, as rebels to the Crown, whose measures had been accepted by Her Majesty's Ministers and fathered by them in order to attain some extraordinary end which they could not conceive; and he asked their Lordships for that reason to object to the measure, because it came to their Lordships from a source which, it could not be concealed, was tainted with treason. With all due respect to the Lord President, and the noble Earl the Secretary of State for India, from the manner in which they deluded the House into passing the Irish Land Act, he must decline to accept their view of this Bill. They were all aware of how vastly the working of that Act differed from that which they were led to believe would result from it when the measure was introduced. He ventured, therefore, to doubt the opinion of the Lord President on this Bill. He trusted that their Lordships would not give the Bill a chance of showing how bad its results would be; and if there was even the smallest doubt as to whether it would act for the pacification of Ireland, he asked them to give the objectors to it the benefit of that doubt, and thus to swell the numbers of those who followed him into the Lobby to vote against it. If the Bill were sent back, and should be again submitted in another Session at a time when it could be properly considered, their Lordships might then discuss it. Let him impress upon their Lordships his other reason for objecting. As he

said before, the Bill came from a tainted source. It was one and the same as the Bill drafted by the Party of disorder; and he did not conceive that it would be consistent with the dignity of their Lordships' House to assist in passing a measure which would insure still more power and influence to the Members of that rebellious movement. The Bill was promoted by a Party who had heaped insult upon the head of a most respected Judge; and was it possible that a Bill promoted by such a Party was likely to promote peace throughout Ireland? The Lord President had been good enough to give their Lordships what he called "the history of the Bill." Unless he was wrongly informed, the Bill was brought forward early in the Session, but had been laid aside, and nobody heard anything more about it, when suddenly one or two important measures were dropped—the Police Superannuation Bill and the Sunday Closing Bill for Ireland—and this Bill was taken up by the Government and pressed forward with such indecent haste that it drew forth the most emphatic protest from the loyal Irish Members. He, therefore, trusted that their Lordships would consider the Bill unworthy of their attention, because it came to them as a tainted measure; because their Lordships' House had been hitherto free from the taints which unfortunately had stained the Lower House, and because that House had not yet been sullied by the presence of rebels. He trusted in conclusion, that they would not lend assistance to a measure practically promoted by rebels to the Crown, of whom it had been justly said by an eminent Member of their Lordships' House that they were "steeped in treason to the very lips." The noble Earl concluded by moving that the Bill be read a second time that day three months.

Amendment *moved*, to leave out ("now") and add at the end of the Motion ("this day three months.")—*(The Earl of Kilmorey.)*

VISCOUNT MIDLETON said, he must protest against their Lordships dealing with the Bill at that period of the Session. He need scarcely remind their Lordships that on the occasion of the re-distribution of seats in England and Scotland, Ireland was not included; and the consequence was that the Irish re-

representative system remained in the old unreformed state, and anomalies existed there far greater than those which prevailed in any other portion of Her Majesty's Dominions. He thought, therefore, it was most unwise and impolitic to tinker with the representation of the people of Ireland until the time came for bringing forward some general measure to deal with it effectually as a whole. It looked, however, as if the Government now desired to give a sop to those to whom they had given many sops of the same kind. Moreover, their Lordships had a right to complain that a measure like the present had been sprung like a mine upon them in the closing days of the Session; and they had a right also to complain that some Members of that House who were in the Cabinet permitted their Lordships' House to be treated in that manner. A question of this kind ought not to have been brought forward in the closing nights of the Session. This was only one instance among several others in which their Lordships were called upon to dispose of important Bills in a few hours. He thought a stand ought to be made somewhere. It was almost an insult to their Lordships that they should thus be asked to go into Bills, many of which had taken weeks and months of consideration in the other House, and which had been largely changed in going through the other House, and had only assumed their present form in the last few days. He entirely declined to accept at the hands of those who had introduced the Bills in that House, however honest they might be, an exposition of the objects which those measures were intended to effect. Their Lordships were aware that the noble Lord the President of the Council, in introducing the Irish Land Act of last Session, took a wrong view of the scope and results of that measure; that was admitted on all hands.

LORD CARLINGFORD (Lord President of the Council): No!

VISCOUNT MIDLETON: He said most emphatically that that Act did not realize the anticipations which had been expressed about it; and, therefore, he declined to accept from Her Majesty's Government an explanation of the scope of the present Bill. Under the circumstances, without giving any as to the principles of the measure, hoped their Lordships would refuse

Viscount Middleton

read it a second time at that period of the Session, so that it might be re-introduced by Her Majesty's Government next Session, and at such a time as to insure its being considered with that deliberation which ought to be accorded to every measure.

LORD DENMAN said, it was an insult to their Lordships to be told that they must consider and pass all these Bills without amendment, and adjourn in a week. He suggested that the House should take the question of adjournment into its own hands, and adjourn till the 24th of October, to which date both Houses adjourned last year, whilst their Lordships' House was prevented from transacting any Business. He (Lord Denman) did not consider it safe for the foreign policy of the country to be controlled by Her Majesty's Ministers without an responsibility to Parliament; but it might be adjourned to the same date this year, when it might proceed to consider these measures in a proper manner. Some years ago an Irish Registration Bill was thrown out by this House; and the noble and gallant Lord (Lord Strathnairn), who had been Commander of the Forces in Ireland, was most anxious to have the polling places nearer together, that it might not be necessary to have large forces of military near each polling place; but, as no time was given for any Amendment, the Bill was thrown out.

EARL GRANVILLE: My Lords, I only propose to say one word. Since my noble Friend the Lord President gave a clear statement of the principle and objects of the Bill, I have listened attentively to all that has passed, and have not been able to gather one single objection, either to the principle or the details of the measure. The noble Earl (the Earl of Kilmoray) objected to the Bill because it came from a source even worse than Her Majesty's Government, and my noble Friend (Viscount Midleton) objected to it because he had no confidence in Her Majesty's Government and also because it was too late in the Session to consider it; but not a single word had been said against the Bill itself, either in principle or in detail. With respect to the latter objection,

could have done two or three months earlier in the Session.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY: My Lords, I think the objections to the principle of this Bill are very strong if we do not take objection to the actual details of the measure. Is this the time that such a Bill should pass? Is this the time, when so many of our Constitutional guarantees are to a great extent withdrawn, and when the Government of Ireland, for reasons which we recognize as of unfortunate necessity, are placed under a very severe system of exceptional law—is this the time to bring in what certainly may, to a considerable extent, be described as a new Reform Bill? Is it the time to increase the number of voters, and make other considerable changes, the full extent of which we do not know? I do not know whether this is a Bill which, if we had greater time to examine it, we might not pass—I dare say we might—but it is a Bill which, taking into account the existing state of Ireland, I decline to vote for, unless I have full opportunity of examining its provisions. I should like first to ascertain from those who live on the spot what the real effect of the Bill will be. Before voting for this measure, I should like to consult men learned in the law with regard to it. I should like to have time to ascertain, by the machinery of a Select Committee, the facts upon which the necessity of the Bill is founded. All these things we ought to know; but it is impossible to obtain the desired information at this period of the Session. All we have is the guarantee of Her Majesty's Government to go upon, and the fact that the Bill has passed the House of Commons. How has it passed the House of Commons? Has that House considered the Bill carefully? I should like to give a short history of the passage of the Bill through that House. This Bill, which some people think will produce important effects, was read a second time on the 4th of August, on a Saturday afternoon—not a time very favourable for its full consideration by the House of Commons. It was committed last Tuesday, and the Report and third reading were taken together—a very unusual course—and on Saturday morning at so late an hour that there was no report of the proceedings in the morning newspapers. Therefore, I am safe in saying that this Bill

does not come to us guaranteed by the mature and careful consideration of the House of Commons; and I do not think we ought to be called upon to pass a Bill of this important nature when introduced into this House at such a time.

LORD FITZGERALD said, he should support the Bill. The first ground of objection taken, of which he felt the full force, was the late period of the Session. At the same time, if they rejected the Bill for that reason they should reject all the other Bills upon the same ground, and the Session ought at once to be closed. Would it be safe to reject the Bill on that ground? Was not the argument rather in favour of the extension of the Session than of the rejection of the Bill? He denied that there was any analogy between the case of that Bill and the Bankruptcy Bill. The latter was a large and complicated measure, consisting of 178 clauses, introduced for the first time this Session in the House of Commons, after an exhaustive discussion by a Grand Committee. A Bill of such magnitude ought not to be sent to their Lordships at so late a period. But there was nothing new in the Bill before their Lordships; it had been introduced many Sessions ago, and their Lordships were perfectly familiar with its provisions. The second objection was that the Bill came from a polluted source. That was certainly not the case, for he recollected that it was first introduced by Mr. Charles Melville, a Q.C. of the highest respectability, and reached the Committee stage in the other House. Mr. Melville brought the Bill forward simply because it was a measure of justice. The third objection which was urged also to some extent by the noble Marquess was that it was a tinkering with the franchise in Ireland—in fact, a small Reform Bill, introduced at a critical period in the history of that country. The Bill, however, did not deserve that name. It was not a Franchise Bill; it gave a vote to nobody who was not now entitled to a vote. It was simply a Bill of procedure, and putting that procedure exactly on the same basis on which it rested in England, and it would be a great Act of injustice to reject it. He was on the Bench for 20 years, and in consequence of a resolution made by all the Irish Judges he had during that period never voted. But

if he had desired to do so, he would have been obliged to attend personally before the registration officer in order that his name might appear on the register. It was unjust to disfranchise a man simply because he was unable to make that personal attendance. The qualification for a vote in Ireland was residential, as in this country, where the rateable value was £4. But even where the rateable value was £8, if the landlord paid the rates, the tenant was disfranchised. In England, by Goschen's Act, the tenant had a vote, whether he paid the rates personally or by his landlord. The Bill provided that the Irish tenant should be treated exactly as the English tenant; and it would be a singular act of injustice to refuse to place him in that position of equality.

THE EARL OF KILMOREY said, he did not intend to apply the word polluted to any Queen's Counsellor or loyal Irish subject. He applied it to the Irish National Party, who had made themselves so conspicuous by their acts of disloyalty during the last few years.

On Question, "That ('now') stand part of the Motion?" Their Lordships divided:—Contents 32; Not-Contents 52: Majority 20.

CONTENTS.

Selborne, E. (<i>L. Chancellor.</i>)	Fitzgerald, L.
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Westminster, D.	Kenmare, L. (<i>E. Kenmare.</i>)
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Derby, E.	Lyttelton, L.
Granville, E.	Methuen, L.
Kimberley, E.	Monson, L. [<i>Teller.</i>]
Morley, E.	Ramsay, L. (<i>E. Dalhousie.</i>)
Northbrook, E.	Reay, L.
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NOT-CONTENTS.

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Kilmorey, E. [<i>Teller.</i>]	Hopetoun, L. (<i>E. Hopetoun.</i>) [<i>Teller.</i>]
Lucan, E.	Lyveden, L.
Milltown, E.	O'Neill, L.
Redesdale, E.	Rayleigh, L.
Romney, E.	Rowton, L.
Sandwich, E.	Salterford, L. (<i>E. Courtown.</i>)
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Bateman, L.	Wemyss, L. (<i>E. Wemyss.</i>)
Brodrick, L. (<i>V. Middleton.</i>)	Westbury, L.
Colchester, L.	Wynford, L.
Colville of Culross, L.	

Resolved in the negative; Bill to be read 2^a this day three months.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD (SCOTLAND) BILL.—(No. 207.) (*The Earl of Dalhousie.*)

SECOND READING.

Order of the Day for the Second Reading read.

THE EARL OF DALHOUSIE, in moving that the Bill be now read the second time, said, there had been for some time past considerable dissatisfaction in Scotland with the manner in which Scotch Business was conducted, the complaint being that Scotch affairs had not received the attention which they merited. This feeling had gained strength very considerably during recent years. The late Government had been aware of its existence, and, in 1878, had introduced a Bill intended to deal with it. That Bill proposed to constitute an Under Secretary of State for the conduct of Scotch Business. That Bill was not favourably received, and was afterwards withdrawn. He believed the coldness with which it was received in Scotland was due to the idea that it would in some way diminish the dignity of the Office of Lord Advocate. The fact that the late Government had introduced such a Bill showed that they admitted the necessity for some legislation of that kind; and but for the Amendment which he saw on the Paper, he should have

hoped that, having introduced a Bill of their own, they would have refrained from opposing the second reading of this measure. This Bill certainly went further than the Bill of the late Government, inasmuch as the President of the Local Government Board that it was proposed to constitute, would be a considerably more important personage than an Under Secretary of State; and it was just because this Bill went further than the Bill of the late Government that it had been received with general consent and approval in Scotland. He did not say it went as far as the people of Scotland would like, because, as their Lordships were aware, the complaint of the Scotch people was that they had not any direct representation in the Cabinet. The Members of the Cabinet were naturally anxious to push forward those Bills which affected the Departments of which they had charge; and as there was no Cabinet Minister directly connected with Scotland excepting the Home Secretary, it was felt that Scotch affairs were not sufficiently regarded, and that Scotch Bills were generally left out in the cold. The desire was that Scotch affairs should be placed in the charge of the Lord Privy Seal, or in some way or other placed under the charge of a Cabinet Minister. That desire Her Majesty's Government had found it impossible to comply with. This Bill proposed to create a Local Government Board, the President of which should be a person altogether above the rank of an Under Secretary of State, intending to meet, as far as possible, the wishes of the Scotch people. The Scotch people were a practical people, and although this Bill might not be all they would like, they were prepared to accept it so far as it went. They regarded it as an acknowledgment that what they had claimed from the Government had not been altogether unreasonable; and they hoped that the passing of this measure would lead to considerable improvement in the management of their affairs. The majority of Scotch Members in the House of Commons had given their support and approval to the Bill; and Petitions in favour of it had been forwarded from the Royal Burghs of Scotland, he thought from all the Chambers of Commerce, as well as from a very important Body, the Faculty of Advocates, who had opposed the Bill of the late Govern-

ment. All those important Bodies recognized the fact that this Bill, if it was not sufficient to meet all the demands which they thought Scotland had a right to make, at least was a measure that was worth having, and was, moreover, a step in the right direction. They expected from it that Scotland would have additional representation in Her Majesty's Government, and that, consequently, more attention might be expected to be given to Scotch Business; and they also approved of the Bill because it brought under one head all the local boards and local authorities which existed in Edinburgh. It would be the duty of the President of the proposed Local Government Board to supervise those authorities; and this arrangement it was expected would be of great convenience to the Scotch Members, inasmuch as they would always have one central responsible authority to whom they could go on matters affecting Scotch Business. Their Lordships would remember that, for a short time, the Business of Scotland had been entrusted to his noble Friend (the Earl of Rosebery); and it was generally acknowledged in Scotland that never in late years had the Business of Scotland been so satisfactorily attended to as it was under the charge of his noble Friend. Those who were acquainted with the people of Scotland would understand that they would not rest satisfied whilst the Officer of State in charge of their affairs held the subordinate position of an Under Secretary. It was that feeling that had wrecked the Bill of the late Government, and he thought their Lordships would see that such a Bill as this was necessary. It would place Scotch affairs under the charge of an independent Minister or a separate Department, instead of leaving it to a subordinate Department. That some such Bill was necessary was not open to doubt. The question that their Lordships had to decide was, whether the measure now before the House was or was not deserving of a fair trial. The scope of the Bill was in one respect thoroughly simple. It constituted a Local Government Board, the Lord President of which would relieve the Home Secretary of Government administration in Scotland. He would have certain *ex officio* Colleagues; but he believed the real responsibility would fall upon the President of

the Board. It was proposed that the entire functions of the Secretary of State should be transferred from the Home Office to the President of the new Board. The functions of the Lord Advocate would not be touched in any way by this Bill. They would be precisely the same after this Bill passed as they were at this moment. The President of the Board, he apprehended, would be a Scotchman—though the Bill did not say so—or, at least, someone who was well acquainted with Scotch Business. Unlike the Lord Advocate, he would not necessarily be a lawyer, and the Government would have the great advantage of having a larger field to select the President from. The only restriction that was placed upon the selection of the President of the Local Government Board was that he must be either a Member of their Lordships' House or a person capable of election to the House of Commons. His duties were laid down very distinctly in Clause 3 of the Bill. That clause transferred all the powers and duties vested in the Secretary of State or the Privy Council or the Local Government Board in England, so far as such powers were applicable to Scotland, to the President of the Board, and the 6th clause reserved all the functions of the Lord Advocate. It had been thought advisable, in view of the objections made in the House of Commons to the effect that the new Office would diminish the dignity and authority of the Lord Advocate, that such a clause should be inserted, so that there might be no doubt about the matter. This was a Bill of decentralization, and he should have hoped that on that account it would meet with the approval of the noble Marquess opposite (the Marquess of Salisbury). He remembered that in the autumn of last year the noble Marquess delivered a speech in Scotland, in which he dwelt with great force and eloquence upon the evils of centralization. This was a measure of decentralization, transferring Scotch Business from the Home Office and giving it to a new Department, so as to meet the just and legitimate desire of the Scotch people for a separate and independent Minister, not under the Home Secretary, to administer Scotch local affairs. This desire was simply prompted by a practical and sensible consideration on the part of people of Scotland that their inter-

had hitherto suffered from the want of a separate and independent Minister. On this ground, and especially on the ground that the Bill had been favourably received by the great majority of the Scotch Members of Parliament, and also by the great majority of public representative Bodies in Scotland, he asked their Lordships to read the Bill a second time.

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^d."
—(*The Earl of Dalhousie.*)

LORD BALFOUR, in moving that the Bill be read a second time that day three months, said, it must not be supposed that he was prepared to contend that the existing state of matters in regard to the conduct of Scotch Business was in all respects satisfactory. No doubt, a great deal could be said as to the neglect of Scotch Business in Parliament; but a great deal could be said about the neglect of general Business in Parliament, and as to Parliament not having got through as much Business and legislation in the interests of the country as it ought to have done. He did not think that in the matter of legislation, at any rate during the last few years, Scotland had been in a worse position than any other part of the Empire. But, even if it had been so, he did not think the mere appointment of a Government functionary would help in getting Bills through either House of Parliament. He did not wish to be understood as assuming that no improvement could be introduced into the Administrative Departments in Scotland. He believed there were some wise reforms that might be made; but he thought they should be made with the full knowledge and consent of Parliament, and not, as seemed now to be proposed, by a Local Government Board, or, as it appeared to him, by a comparatively irresponsible Officer. He did not deny that a certain amount of enthusiasm had been evoked in Scotland in favour of this measure; but he believed that to a large extent, the enthusiasm that had been exhibited for it had been a pure enthusiasm, and that in all cases in which it was not fictitious it

The Earl of Dalhousie

in the Government had had a very large share indeed in the amount of popularity that had been evinced on behalf of the Bill in Scotland. He thought anyone who knew the circumstances of Scotland would know that he was not going beyond the actual facts of the case in making that statement. He would base his opposition to the Bill mainly upon two grounds; but before he stated them he would like to note one point which, in his opinion, and in the opinion of others, was relied upon as one of the arguments in favour of the Bill. The Bill proposed to confer a salary of £2,000 a-year upon somebody; and, as their Lordships might be aware from the discussions which had taken place in the other House, that salary was to be got by taking the salary of the Lord Privy Seal. The Lord Privy Seal was very often an Englishman, and he assumed that the President of the Local Government Board for Scotland would more often be a Scotsman than an Englishman. It would, therefore, be gratifying to feel that the sum of £2,000 a-year was destined for a Scotsman rather than an Englishman. That was a point that might be urged by some in favour of the Bill; but he thought he would be able to show that this advantage which would ensue from the passing of the Bill would not outweigh all its disadvantages. One of his grounds of opposition to the Bill had been already adverted to in the House—namely, the late period of the Session at which the proposal came before their Lordships; and the other was that the Bill upon its merits was not one that their Lordships could accept. With reference to the first objection, he would point out that if they passed the second reading of the Bill to-day it would be almost impossible for their Lordships to put in any Amendments on the Bill without having to suspend the Standing Order of the House, or run the risk of losing the Bill through the efflux of time. It was ostentatiously announced that the Session was to close with the last day of this week; and, even if the Bill were read a second time to-day, and reported on Thursday, their Lordships could easily see that there would not be time for a proper consideration of the Amendments which their Lordships might put on the Paper. He ventured to think that the fact that their Lord-

ships rejected the Bill on the ground that it was too late in the Session to consider it would be perfectly satisfactory. He thought their Lordships had shown a great deal of forbearance this year in the way in which they had dealt with Government legislation. Their Lordships had passed many Bills of great importance on the recommendation of the Government, because they had passed the other House. At the same time, he thought their Lordships had some reason to complain of the way in which they had been treated with regard to Bills which passed that House. Several Bills had been introduced into and passed their Lordships House, such as the Contempts of Court Bill, the Pawnbrokers Bill, the Stolen Goods Bill, and the Criminal Code (Indictable Offences Procedure) Bill. Whatever might be the merits of these Bills, he thought, as they had passed this House, it would be at least courteous to their Lordships that some of them should have had a judgment expressed upon them by the other House, be the judgment favourable or unfavourable. It seemed to him to be reducing the House entirely to the position of a debating society if they were asked to pass a large number of Bills towards the end of the Session, and the Bills which this House had passed earlier in the Session were not even submitted to the serious judgment of the other House. He should be surprised if any one of the Bills he had mentioned became law this Session. But he would turn to the Bill now before their Lordships. What was this Bill? He ventured to say it was either a complete sham, or it was the commencement of a wholly new line of policy in regard to the government of Scotland. Either it was a great deal more than it pretended to be, or it was very much less; and there was this peculiarity about it—that there had never been two similar accounts given of it by any of those who had spoken in its favour. Sometimes it seemed to be the intention of its advocates to minimize it. They sometimes called it a Bill for the purpose of appointing an official to look after Scotch legislation in Parliament. That seemed to be the description given of it by the Member of the Government in introducing it in the other House. That was the view that seemed to be taken of it by the Lord

President of the Council; but, on the other hand, the noble Earl who had just moved the second reading gave it a wider significance. He said it was going to be the commencement of a new Department, which was to have the sole management of the Scotch Business, and supervise the whole of the Administrative Departments which were now in existence in Edinburgh. He (Lord Balfour) did not know which of these accounts was true; but he thought their Lordships would see at once that both of them could not be true. If, on the one hand, the President of this Local Government Board was merely to supervise Scotch legislation in Parliament, what was the use of putting under the new Board all these 53 different Acts of Parliament which were set forth in the Schedule? If, on the other hand, it was to establish a wholly independent Scottish Office, surely that was a matter on which the deliberate judgment of Parliament and of their Lordships' House was required—a judgment which it was quite impossible for them to give at the time at their disposal. The Bill was only printed this morning. Yesterday they were told by the noble and learned Earl on the Woolsack that they might follow the proceedings of the other House through the medium of the newspapers. He put aside whether that was a course consistent with the dignity of their Lordships; and he would say that, so far as endeavouring to understand the Bill was concerned, that was a course which he had tried to follow, but could not. He found that the Amendments proposed on the Bill in the other House extended to over five pages. The discussions on the Bill were on several occasions carried on very early in the morning, and they were not very fully reported; and he was wholly unable to find out what alterations had been made in the Bill until he got it in his hands this morning. He thought the account given of the Bill by the noble Earl (the Earl of Dalhousie) to-night was really the true one; it did give power for the complete re-organization of the Government of Scotland; and if he was right in that conjecture, then the name of the Bill was wholly misleading. It was more than a Bill to appoint a Local Government Board for Scotland. It was a Bill practically to constitute a new Home Office for Scotland, and to some

Lord Balfour

extent a new Privy Council besides. In an article in a daily Edinburgh newspaper there occurred this passage:—

"It would bring all the existing Scotch Boards into common dependence on a supreme Department."

So that this was to be a supreme Department over all the Boards of Scotland. As to whether it was necessary to have a supreme Department in Scotland, there might be a great deal to be said both on one side and on the other. He thought such a Department should be constituted on the authority and responsibility of Parliament, and not on the authority of the Treasury and the Local Government Board, and its President appointed under the Bill. If the Bill passed, and if the Local Government Board was appointed, the President of the new Board and the Treasury would have full power to appoint any officer they chose, and apportion any salaries they liked; and they would have the power, without the further concurrence of Parliament, of organizing the new supreme Department of Scotland." He thought that was a position in which Parliament should not allow itself to be placed. He forbore to express any opinion as to whether it was desirable to appoint such a Department for Scotland not just now; but if it was to be done, it should be done on a complete scheme laid before Parliament, and on the responsibility of Parliament. He thought, on the merits of the case, it was not desirable to appoint such a Department for Scotland. He thought they should not lightly depart from what had hitherto been the policy of Parliament—namely, to unite the Government of England and Scotland as far as possible, and not to separate them. The noble Earl (the Earl of Dalhousie) made an excellent appeal to the patriotism and national feeling of his countrymen. There was no one in Scotland who was more proud of belonging to the Scottish nation than he (Lord Balfour) was; but he was not quite certain whether it was a good policy to emphasize the difference between Scotland and England. They had a different system of law and a different form of Church govern-

ment. Therefore, he did not think it was necessary to form a Department such as this for the purpose of either protecting the Church or the Court of Session. What would be the effect of forming a Department such as this, and giving it the powers which the Bill proposed to give? It was proposed to transfer to the Local Government Board all authority over mines, factories, and workshops, pollution of rivers, contagious diseases, granting of licences, vivisection, control of reformatories and prisons. Surely it was more desirable that all these things should be governed as a uniform whole from the Home Office, and not run the risk of there being separate regulations for one class of things in Scotland and another class of things in England. Certain powers were proposed to be transferred to the new Board which were now exercised by the Privy Council; and he thought there was some mistake in transferring to the Board the powers exercised by the Privy Council under the Public Health Act. As he understood the Schedule, it was proposed to transfer a great deal of the power which was now exercised by the Board of Supervision; but he did not think it was the intention of the promoters of the Bill to transfer to the new Board the administration now exercised by the Board of Supervision. Further, a curious feature of the Bill was that there was no staff provided in the Bill, except such as might be given by the discretion of the Treasury, or, as he understood from the discussion which took place in the other House, such as might be carved out of some of the existing Boards. He understood there was an honourable undertaking that there should be a Permanent Under Secretary in the new Department. He should like to have a distinct answer to this question—Was the Office of the Board to be in London or Edinburgh; were the Permanent Under Secretary and his records to be transferred to and from Scotland every year when Parliament met and when it rose; if not, how was the Business of the Office to be carried on during six months of the year? What an invidious duty it was to cast upon the President of the Board—namely, that of cutting and carving a staff for himself out of the existing Boards without any indication from Parliament as to which was to be in-

creased, and which was to be diminished. He did not think the President would get much out of the staff of the Lord Advocate. He held in his hand an estimate for the current year of the expenses of the Lord Advocate's Office in London, and he found that the whole expenses of that Office were £380 a-year. Of that the Lord Advocate was made to pay £60 a-year as house rent at the Home Office; and he (Lord Balfour) believed the Lord Advocate only got a back attic in the Home Office. Expenses of the Legal Secretary of the Lord Advocate while in London, £160 a-year; expenses of a clerk to the Lord Advocate while in London, £160 a-year—making a total of £380. Their Lordships would, therefore, see that there was not much picking to be got there for the new Local Government Board; and he did not believe that there was much to be got from any of the other existing Offices. Again, he should like to know whether it was the intention of the Government to amalgamate any of the existing Boards in Scotland? If it was not the intention of the Government to do so, he did not see how they were to be supervised by such a Department as that. If it was the intention to amalgamate any of the existing Boards, then it was imperatively necessary that a complete scheme should be presented to the judgment of Parliament. In conclusion, he thought it would be a matter of great rashness to pass this Bill at this time of the Session. He did not pretend to say that the existing state of things was satisfactory, and he was glad to think that the Government had recognized the fact that some change was necessary. But before he could consent to the passing of such a Bill as this, it would have to be carefully examined by a Select Committee, so that Parliament might be enabled to understand what was really intended. At the present moment, no one—not even the Government themselves—knew what the Bill really aimed at. For these reasons he moved that the Bill be read a second time this day three months.

Amendment moved, to leave out ("now") and add at the end of the Motion ("this day three months.")—*(The Lord Balfour.)*

THE EARL OF ABERDEEN said, the noble Lord who had just spoken had

made an attack on the Bill, not warranted either by the object of the measure itself, or by the remarks of the noble Earl (the Earl of Dalhousie) in moving the second reading. The noble Lord alluded to the probability or expectation that the President of the new Board would be an irresponsible Officer.

LORD BALFOUR: I meant irresponsible as to the particular alterations to be made—not generally irresponsible.

THE EARL OF ABERDEEN said, he accepted the explanation. Further on, the noble Lord said that the Bill was either a great deal more than it appeared to be, or a great deal less. The essential part of the Bill was that of transferring certain functions which were now entirely performed by the Home Secretary to the new Department. It was well known that the work in the Home Office was enormous, and it was stated by the Home Secretary in the other House that the effect of this Bill would be to lighten the labour of the Home Office. He could not understand why there should be such serious apprehension on the part of the noble Lord that this Bill had any revolutionary tendency. On the contrary, he (the Earl of Aberdeen) believed it would afford an opportunity for a healthy development of local feeling and sentiment with respect to the Government of Scotland. They had heard a great deal about the danger of centralization, and he thought this Bill had an opposite tendency. In the creation of a new Department it was impossible that every detail of the scheme could be specified in an Act of Parliament. He sincerely hoped their Lordships would give the Bill a second reading. It was true that it was introduced at a late period of the Session; but that was not through any fault of Her Majesty's Government, who had lost no opportunity of pressing it forward.

THE EARL OF GALLOWAY said, it seemed to him that this Bill was neither "fish, nor fowl, nor good red herring." He understood that the Government had, for a considerable time, thought it necessary to appoint a Minister for Scotland; and the noble Earl (the Earl of Dalhousie) surprised him by saying that they found it was a proposition which it was impossible to comply with. A reading the speech of the Home Secretary in introducing the Bill, it struck him that there was no occasion for the

measure at all. It was found that a Cabinet Minister was not exactly the thing that was wanted, and that an Under Secretary of State for the Home Department would be too little; but the noble Earl, in moving the second reading, was not successful in explaining why it was that a middle course had been thought necessary. He hoped their Lordships would not assent to the second reading. It seemed to him that the Bill, if passed into law, would create a great deal of confusion. They did not know exactly what the functions of the President of the Local Government Board were to be; and he thought it was going back almost to the time of the Union to propose now to have a separate Secretary of State for Scotland. He did not see how it was possible to appoint a President of a Local Government Board for Scotland without interfering with the functions of the Lord Advocate. At that late period of the Session, he thought it would be very unwise to pass a Bill of this sort, which promised to lead to confusion rather than to anything else.

THE EARL OF WEMYSS said, there was a distinguished Peer in the House who had held the Office of Lord Advocate—he referred to one of the Lords of Appeal, Lord Watson. He should like to appeal to the noble and learned Lord whether a measure of this kind was necessary. He believed it to be unnecessary. Perhaps the whole history of the measure was contained in the very few lines which gave the Local Government Board power to appoint such Secretaries and officers as they might think fit.

THE EARL OF REDESDALE (CHAIRMAN of COMMITTEES) complained of the late period of the Session at which the Bill had come before their Lordships. They were very imperfectly informed as to its objects. It was extremely dangerous to pass Bills of this kind in that way. If this Bill were passed, they did not know whether they would not have a Local Government Bill for Ireland at Session.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY: My Lords, I venture to say a few words as to the history of this Bill which we are asked to pass at this period of the Session,

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The Earl of Aberdeen

They relate to the Board of Supervision, the Lunacy Board, the Fishery Board, the Prison Board, and a large variety of other matters; and you are asked, by a stroke of the pen, to convey the control of these matters from the existing Boards to a new Department. Now, what consideration has the House of Commons given to this measure, of such an important and sweeping character? The second reading of the Bill was proposed on the 4th of August—on a Saturday. A certain inspiration seemed then to have come over them, and moved them to legislation in this direction. The Committee was taken last Thursday, the 16th of August, after midnight. The Report and third reading were taken together on Saturday morning, after the reporters had left. That is the consideration the House of Commons has given to this important measure. I think I saw it stated that the arrangement for a separate Office for Scotland was abolished in the memorable year of 1745. Therefore, we are now being asked to reverse a policy which has been pursued for 150 years. I am not saying whether that policy is right or wrong. I am simply dealing with the circumstances under which we are asked to alter it at a period of the Session when, physically, we have not the time even to read the Acts which are incorporated in the Bill. I do not wish to say a word as to the policy of the Bill. I adhere very much to what I said at Edinburgh about the dangers of centralization, and the necessity of strengthening local government, in the speech which has been referred to by the noble Earl (the Earl of Aberdeen); and if, at any other period of the Session, the noble Earl will introduce a Bill somewhat fuller in its details, and somewhat more ample and explicit in its provisions, I shall be glad to give it my best consideration. I have no prejudice whatever against the principle of the Bill, and I shall be glad if, at the proper time, your Lordships will give it all the consideration and respectful attention it deserves; but it is not to the interest of the country—it is not respectful to Scotland—that such a Bill should be passed at so late a period of the Session.

THE EARL OF ROSEBURY: My Lords, I did not come down to the House intending to take any part in the discussion of this measure. It has been my

fate that, both by those who have been good enough to discuss the Bill in the House of Commons and by those who have been good enough to discuss it outside, my name has been brought somewhat prominently before the public in connection with the measure. I should have thought that that was a sufficiently good reason for me to abstain from discussing it on the present occasion. It will not be necessary for me to refer to any of the personal aspersions which have been made upon me in the House of Commons. As regard these flowers of rhetoric, they betray sufficiently by their flavour and their fragrance the soil from which they spring. But to pass from that aspect of the matter, I do think there is something to be said as regards the discussion which the Bill has received this evening. My noble Friend who moved its rejection in a spirit of admirable temper, perfect calmness, and mastery of the subject, raised, as I understand, two main objections to the Bill. He said, in the first place, that it came too late in the Session; and, in the second place, that it would not be efficient for the purposes it was meant to effect. As regards the contention that it came too late, he has been ably supported by the noble Marquess, who, I think, will forgive me for saying that he is generally of opinion that Bills promoted by Her Majesty's Government come before the House at unpropitious moments. What is the history of this cry of Bills coming too late in the Session? We hear so much of it that it is worth a little examination. It means simply this, that your Lordships have the faculty of seeing and knowing the discussions on every Bill as they take place in the House of Commons. Your Lordships have the power of making up your minds by the discussions in the public Press, by speeches outside the walls of Parliament, and by every possible means of information which any statesman could desire who brings his mind to bear on the subject. It is quite true—I take the noble Marquess's view as correct—I know no more than he has told; but I am quite willing to accept it—it is quite true that the Bill was not read a second time till the 4th of August; but it is equally true that it was in print and before the public for a considerable time before that. During the whole of the last Recess a considerable part of every speech de-

livered in Scotland, including the memorable speech of the noble Marquess himself, was devoted to the consideration of subjects analogous to this; and when, as the outcome of this discussion on every platform in Scotland, and in every newspaper in Scotland, the other House of Parliament passes a small Bill of six clauses, and it comes up to your Lordships' House in the last week in August, the noble Marquess sinks back in his chair with an air of exhaustion, and says—"What intellect can rise to the consideration of this measure? It is too great an effort. Let us repair to the country; and, affirming the principle of this Bill, let us meditate in calmness over any measure that may be promoted for the next Session of Parliament." Now, my Lords, really is this a statesmanlike, is it a serious, view to take of a Bill of this length, which has been discussed and amply considered in every part of the United Kingdom? I do not think that this House is prepared to abdicate its functions—for it is nothing else—because this is nearly the last week of August. If we are to measure our Sessions by the time of the year, we must have a calendar prepared by the Leader of the House, upon which, just before grouse shooting or partridge shooting begins, it is stated—"Consideration of Bills ends in the House of Lords;" and I shall be more satisfied when things are put on that clear footing than now, when Bills which consist of six clauses are said to be too lengthy to be considered at this period of the Session. The noble Marquess raised a bugbear by referring to the powers which are to be vested in this new Board. He referred to the poor laws, prisons, vaccination, and a variety of other subjects; but, as a matter of fact, the whole of these compendious Schedules are practically contained in three lines of the Bill, which provide that all powers or duties vested in or imposed upon any of the Secretaries of State, or the Privy Council, or the English Local Government Board, shall, so far as they refer to Scotland, be transferred to the new Board. Therefore, as far as the enumeration in the Schedule goes, it is merely supplementary to, and explanatory of, the perfectly well-known lines of the clause. I cannot think that this is a perfectly fair issue to take on a Bill of this description. The noble Lord who moved the rejection of the Bill went

beyond this, and he saw in the measure a conspiracy for annulling those time-honoured institutions, the Boards of Edinburgh. The noble Lord must be well aware that the President of the Local Government Board, if he ever exists, will have no power to do anything of the kind without the authority of Parliament; and, therefore, should he bring in a measure—if he ever exists, which seems in the highest degree problematical—to deal with these Statutory Boards, it will be perfectly competent for the noble Lord to take action on that measure, instead of taking action on this measure, which has a totally different object and result. I noted with very great pleasure the declaration of the noble Marquess as to the principle of this Bill. I took a solemn note of that declaration.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY: What is it precisely that my noble Friend takes note of?

THE EARL OF ROSEBURY: The declaration that you affirm the principle of the Bill.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY: I only stated I would declare nothing against it.

THE EARL OF ROSEBURY: I am quite certain that that declaration of the noble Marquess will be noted in that country North of the Tweed which is most interested in the present Bill, and which is enthusiastic for it. It is quite clear, looking at the present aspect of this House, that there is no enthusiasm for or against the Bill. It is quite true that at this time of the Session you can hardly expect a very large attendance either to support or throw out a Bill of this nature. But, my Lords, you are making a great mistake if you gauge the feeling of the people of Scotland by the appearance of this House. Every great Municipality in Scotland, including the Municipality which conferred its franchise on the noble Marquess, and which he is honoured by delivering a most admirable speech, has petitioned Parliament in favour of this Bill. I do not believe there are six Members returned in constituencies who are hostile to the Bill. The opposition to the

The Earl of Rosebery

land. If your Lordships think fit to reject this Bill to-night—and I am far from saying that the Bill is perfect—I can only say that those who support it must appeal from the judgment of this House to those people whom it chiefly affects. It is in the interests of Scotland that it should be passed; it is the desire of Scotland that it should be passed; and I venture to say that the expression of opinion in Scotland as to the fate of this measure—if your Lordships think fit to reject it—and the expression of opinion not as to the measure itself, but as to the principle which it represents, will convince your Lordships that you made a great mistake in gauging public opinion in Scotland if you think it is hostile to this Bill.

On Question, “That (‘now’) stand part of the Motion?” Their Lordships *divided*:—Contents 31; Not - Contents 46: Majority 15.

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Derby, E.	Kenry, L. (<i>E. Dunraven and Mount-Earl.</i>)
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Sydney, E.	Reay, L.
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Lyveden, L.	
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Resolved in the negative; Bill to be read 2^a *this day three months.*

TRAMWAYS AND PUBLIC COMPANIES (IRELAND) BILL.—(No. 205.) (*The Lord President.*)

SECOND READING.

Order of the Day for the Second Reading read.

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL), in moving that the Bill be now read a second time, said, the Bill had been prepared with great care to meet the admitted want in Ireland of improved means of communication. Ireland was very deficient in branch lines of railway, and attempts in the ordinary way to supply that deficiency by means of Companies established by Private Bills had not been successful. The Bill proposed the construction, not of ordinary railroads, but of tramways, or light railways, and it provided an improved method of guarantee for that purpose. A baronial guarantee was to be provided by the Grand Jury of the county, and that guarantee would take effect, provided that no opposition were offered, by the Order of the Lord Lieutenant and the Irish Privy Council. Thereby great expense would be saved. If opposition were made to the Order in Council, the Order would have to come before Parliament in the shape of a Provisional Order and be submitted to the decision of Parliament. The Treasury was empowered to make a limited grant in aid of the baronial guarantee, and great care had been taken, by the provisions which would be found in the Bill, to prevent the possible loss of any part of such grant. The local authority would also be placed under the strongest motive to take care that its guarantee was not given to untrustworthy promoters. In case the Company who undertook the

tramway were unable to carry it on, the local authority would be compelled to take upon their own shoulders all the responsibilities of the unsuccessful Company. The second object of the Bill was to promote emigration; and, by the application of a portion of the Church Fund, Government would be able to contribute £8 a-head to the cost of each emigrant sent out by private efforts, such as Mr. Tuke's fund, instead of the £5 hitherto contributed. With regard to the clauses which were intended to facilitate the sale of land to Companies in certain cases, and its purchase by the tenants, the effect of those clauses would be that the Land Commission, which had not yet been able to carry out the Purchase Clauses to any considerable extent, would now be able, when they had satisfied themselves that proper security could be given, to make use of any Public Company or Association that might move in the matter for the purchase of land and the re-sale of it to the tenants. Such a Company would stand as an intermediary between the Land Commission on the one hand, and the landlords and tenants on the other. There seemed fair reason to hope that such local associations might be formed, and that they would give some life and motion to those Purchase Clauses, at all events within certain limits. It was also provided that means might be taken for the purpose of trying that experiment of which they had heard so much, and to which so many persons of high authority in Ireland were greatly attached—namely, the idea of what had been called migration, or the removing of tenants from crowded districts and placing them on unoccupied lands. The Companies who might obtain loans under this Bill would be at liberty not only to sell the lands they might acquire to the occupying tenants, but, in case they bought unoccupied lands, they would be at liberty to sell them to other parties, or to any persons or associations who might undertake to settle upon them families to be moved from other districts. The system for that purpose would be exactly the same as that which had worked with so much success in the matter of emigration, which was intrusted to the discretion of the Lord Lieutenant, and which, provided he could trust the person to whom discretion was intrusted, was,

Lord Carlingford

lieved, the only way to successfully manage such matters. Hitherto, the emigration conducted under the authority of the Lord Lieutenant had been successfully conducted; and if the facilities provided for trying the experiment of migration should come to anything, that system would be worked under the responsibility and control of the Lord Lieutenant. He was bound to say a very strong desire had been expressed by persons of all parties and politics in favour of trying that experiment of removal from the most crowded districts to any suitable unoccupied lands that might be found. He had noticed some of the names of those who took the warmest interest in the matter, and they included those of Mr. O'Connor Power, Mr. Parnell, Mr. Rathbone, who represented Mr. Tuke's Committee, Colonel King-Harman, Mr. Hilde Palmer, Mr. Mitchell Henry, and many others. He (Lord Carlingford) was not able to predict himself that anything important would come out of the facilities thus to be given for migration. He did not feel that he had enough information to speak with confidence; but he hoped their Lordships would see that it was highly expedient that means should be afforded for making such an experiment, and he believed a large number of influential persons would only be satisfied when such an experiment was made. The control given to the Lord Lieutenant was such that the work to be done would not, and could not, be intrusted to improper hands. These were the main provisions of the Bill. They dealt with three or four matters which were of the greatest interest in Ireland and which required the attention of Parliament, and he was very hopeful that the efforts that had been made to frame the Bill might not be without happy results. He hoped their Lordships would not cut this Bill short in its career in the same way in which they had cut short two other Bills that evening.

Mr. Gladstone "That the Bill be now read 2^d."
—(The Lord President.)

Vice-President *MR. BURY* said, the Bill was in reality one of the first relating to

three rejected. He did not rise to oppose the Bill; but he really wished to know why clauses relating to emigration were inserted in a Bill dealing with tramways?

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL): Because it was found convenient in this instance.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, he thought the Bill was rather anomalous, and he doubted whether the title expressed all the Bill did. The principal objection to the Bill was, he thought, that it was the most irregularly constructed thing he had ever seen. It was called the Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland) Bill. What had Tramways and Public Companies to say to the planting of trees? If any objection was to be made to the Bill it was an objection of a pecuniary character, with which the House would not deal. The objects of the Bill must have the sympathy of every noble Lord in the House; and except in the way in which it dealt, perhaps, a little extravagantly with public money, he hoped that the various subjects with which it treated—tramways, emigration, and the planting of trees—might be successfully carried out.

LORD HARLECH said, he thought the proper name of the Bill would be an "Omnibus" Bill, as it contained no less than three entirely distinct subjects—namely, tramways, emigration, and land. The provisions relating to the first deserved attention, coming, as they did, from a Liberal Government, who professed to stand up for the rights of the people; whereas, in this Bill, the Presentation or Road Sessions, which were supposed to be the popular tribunal, were entirely ignored, and the whole power was thrown into the hands of the Grand Jury, subject only to the approval, or otherwise, of the Lord Lieutenant.

Motion agreed to; Bill read 2^d accordingly, and committed to a Committee of the Whole House To-morrow.

LABOURERS (IRELAND) BILL.—(No. 183.)
(The Earl of Dunraven.)

COMMITTEE.

Order of the Day for the House to be put into Committee, read.

Moved, "That the House do now resolve itself into Committee."—(The Earl of Dunraven.)

EARL FORTESCUE said, the objections to the Bill which he stated on the second reading had been much strengthened since by further investigation. As a cottage builder, and, indeed, a frequent prize winner in cottage building from the County Waterford Agricultural Society, he could sympathize with the proposed object, while protesting against the provisions, of this Bill. In Ireland a measure was seldom moderately employed, and this one would probably be either used very sparingly, as some predicted, or very largely, as others hoped. If sparingly, he would ask whether it was worth while, for the sake of little fruit, sanctioning a measure containing dangerous principles, germs susceptible, as the House had found those latent in the Land Act of 1870 were, of formidable development, possibly not in Ireland alone? If largely employed, he would say the Bill was not only dangerous in principle, but likely to be injurious in practice. It placed very large powers of purchase, sale, and exchange, as well as of building, in elective bodies whose loyalty, discretion and freedom from jobbery were, in many cases, not to be at all depended upon; while the only practical check would be an amount of local examination and superintendence by the Local Government Board not to be hoped for, unless an army of Inspectors *ad hoc* was to be appointed at the expense of the Treasury, for the protection from Clause 7, requiring Parliamentary confirmation of a scheme, was practically illusory. Land would easily be found purchaseable at a handsome price by consent; while three ratepayers would not easily be found bold enough to risk opposing a popular scheme for the expenditure of Treasury money within the neighbourhood. There was, he observed, no limit placed on the rates to be imposed, or on the area of taxation to be fixed by the Local Government Board for the purposes of this Act, which might be any area, from part of a townland up to an electoral division in each case. He mentioned these not as details incapable of amendment, but as indications of the inconsiderate recklessness with which the Bill had been prepared and passed through the other House. The dwellings of the agricultural labourers were notoriously, as a rule, worse, where their wages were lowest, their food and clothing scantiest—their

general condition worse, where they were most congested and most wanted relieving by emigration. Yet these were the very places where it was most probable cottages would be built with money practically borrowed from the Treasury, in the expectation that, somehow or other, payment of interest might be deferred till it ceased to be demanded; as had been the case with so many former Irish loans for various purposes. Speaking with the experience of 40 years' zealous service in the cause of sanitary reform, he ventured to say that, as a rule, the badness of their usually scattered dwellings, with their miserably defective sanitary arrangements were not, but a deficiency in the quantity and quality of their food was, the chief cause of the generally not very excessive sickness and mortality of the agricultural labourers and their families; though bad structural arrangements were, no doubt, the chief cause of the heavy mortality in the Irish towns—conspicuously in Dublin. And this view expressed by him the other day had been confirmed, nay, conclusively established, by the Report of the Registrar General. He found that in poor Connaught the deaths in 1881 were only about 1 in 70, or about 13½ per 1,000 of the population, as against about 1 in 57, or about 17½ per 1,000 in Ulster, 1 in 58, or about 17½ per 1,000 in Munster, and 1 in 49, or about 20 per 1,000 in Leinster, while the deaths from zymotic diseases were full one-third less than in Leinster and Ulster, and not half those in Munster. He found, moreover, the mortality in Donegal, Galway, Mayo, Sligo, Kerry, and Clare, those very poor Western counties washed by the Atlantic, was only about 1 in 68, as compared with that of the two small rich counties with the greatest population to the acre—Dublin and Antrim—of about 1 in 44. On the whole, believing, as a consistent sanitary reformer, that the comparatively slight sanitary advantages to be obtained by the Bill would be dearly purchased by its probably confirming and protracting the congestion of the population in the very districts whence the removal of a great part was most urgent, that its principle was dangerous, and that it must in practice afford great facilities for jobbery and speculation, he would ask their Lordships to save themselves the trouble of going into Committee

upon a Bill, which, in his opinion, contained only one good clause, and that a not very efficacious one, while it contained too many objectionable ones to be practically capable of being converted into a good measure. He, therefore, moved that the House go into Committee upon it that day three months.

Amendment moved, to leave out ("now") and add at the end of the Motion ("this day three months.")—
(*The Earl Fortescue.*)

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he was very glad indeed that this Bill had fallen into the excellent hands of his noble Friend (the Earl of Dunraven) on the Cross Benches. It was not a Government Bill; but he must say for himself, and he said it for his Colleagues, that they should be very unhappy if their Lordships were to allow themselves to follow the lead of his noble Friend who had just sat down. Whatever might be the merits of the doctrine of *laissez faire*, to which his noble Friend was so much attached, he ventured to say that for the application of that doctrine Ireland was perhaps the worst country in the world. He knew of no country to which the complacent doctrine of letting ill alone was so unsuited as Ireland; and, perhaps, there was no subject to which it was more unsuited than that of the labourers' dwellings. His noble Friend did not seem to understand the extraordinary difference between the condition of things in Ireland and the condition of things in this country with respect to labourers. Insufficient and bad as the condition of labourers' and artisans' dwellings in England often was, the state of those dwellings in Ireland was infinitely worse. Their Lordships who lived in this country could have no conception of the vile huts and hovels to which the Irish labourers were too often condemned; and in numerous instances not, as his noble Friend said, scattered about the country, where the blessings of fresh air mitigated the sanitary evils, but often crowded into the narrow streets and lanes of towns. He felt so strongly the great evil of this state of things that he was convinced that their Lordships would do well to sanction the effort made by that Bill, and that they should not be frightened by the bugbear raised

by his noble Friend, but should make up their minds that it was worth while to run some risk in order to mitigate an enormous evil. He believed that the greatest risk was that the Bill would not be largely acted upon, although he hoped that he might be wrong as to that; but he thought that this attempt to extend to Irish labourers the benefit of provisions analogous to those of the English Artizans' Dwellings Act well deserved their Lordships' support.

THE EARL OF COURTOWN said, he hoped that their Lordships would allow this Bill to proceed. He had seen it in print for a good many weeks. It had been considered with great care by Members connected with Ireland who sat on both sides of the other House; and he knew that Irish Members on both sides were very desirous that their Lordships should pass it. Undoubtedly it was open to objections; but he rather looked upon the fact that it would be employed sparingly as an advantage, as it would enable them to see wherein the measure was defective, and they would be able to put it right.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, he joined with the noble Lord opposite in the appeal to the noble Earl in regard to that Bill. He was not quite sure that this was a fair case for the application of the doctrine of *laissez faire*, about which they had contended so much in that House. His impression was that according to the precedents which had been set by Parliament, supposing that the security was good, and provided there was nothing in the Bill which conflicted with the principles which both he and the noble Earl maintained, they need not necessarily resist such a proposal as the present. He might quote the measure of Sir Robert Peel, under which large advances were made to landlords to enable them to drain their estates. If they had said that the State never was to advance money for any benefit to a private individual, that would have been a highly improper measure; but it was not resisted at the time, and he believed that it had done a great deal of good. The real question was whether the proposed advance was to be made for a good object of public policy, and whether it would be made upon good security. If those two conditions were satisfied, he did not think, in point of principle,

there was any danger to be apprehended. There was another ground why the Irish labourer deserved special consideration. They had destroyed, to a great extent, in Ireland the only person who was in the habit of building cottages—namely, the landlord. The landlord had disappeared, at least to a great extent, and who was now to build the cottages? If they were not built by the tenant they would not build themselves, and if no provision were made for those unhappy people they would have to sleep on the roadside. At the same time, he would urge upon the noble Lord whether it would not be well to introduce some limitation into the Bill. The Irish ratepayer deserved some consideration. There seemed to be an idea in some minds that the Irish ratepayer had a bottomless purse; but it was desirable to protect him by a maximum limit in a measure of that kind. The Bill might not be very largely applied; but if it was applied there should be some safeguard against injustice. He would, therefore, suggest that the rate should not exceed 1s. in the pound, or some such amount, in order to prevent the expenditure going too far; and he should also like to see the duration of the Bill limited to three years.

THE EARL OF DUNRAVEN said, he had no objection whatever to do as the noble Marquess had suggested, and he should be very happy on the stage of Report to introduce an Amendment limiting the rate levied under the Bill to 1s. in the pound. He should also have no objection to limiting the duration of the Bill to a reasonable time; but hardly thought three years would be sufficient, or that the Bill could be fairly tried in less than five years.

On Question, "That ('now') stand part of the Motion?" *Resolved* in the affirmative.

House in Committee accordingly:
Amendments made: The Report thereof to be received *To-morrow*.

REVENUE AND FRIENDLY SOCIETIES BILL.

Read 1st: to be printed; and to be read 2^d *To-morrow* (*The Lord Thurlow*); and Standing Order No. XXXV. to be considered *To-morrow* in order to its being dispensed with. (No. 215.)

House adjourned during pleasure.

House resumed by The Earl of Cork and ORRERY.

AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS (ENGLAND)

BILL.

Returned from the Commons with several of the amendments *agreed to*, several *agreed to* with amendments, and several *disagreed to*, with reasons for such disagreement: The said amendments and reasons to be printed, and to be considered *To-morrow*. (No. 216.)

AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS (SCOTLAND)

BILL.

Returned from the Commons with several of the amendments *agreed to*, several *agreed to* with amendments, and several *disagreed to*, with reasons for such disagreement: The said amendments and reasons to be printed, and to be considered *To-morrow*. (No. 217.)

House adjourned at Three o'clock A.M., till *To-morrow*, a quarter past Four o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Tuesday, 21st August, 1883.

MINUTES.]—NEW WRIT ISSUED—For Rutland County, v. the Right hon. Gerard James Noel, Chiltern Hundreds.

SELECT COMMITTEE—*Report*—Education, Science, and Art (Administration of Votes) [No. 341].

PUBLIC BILLS—*Second Reading*—Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) *; Post Office (Money Orders) Acts Amendment * [253].

Committee—*Report*—Merchant Shipping (Fishing Boats) [288].

Withdrawn—Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (No. 2) * [51]; Court of Criminal Appeal [244]; Superannuation * [285]; Soldiers' Pensions and Yeomanry Pay * [297].

QUESTIONS.

ARMY (INDIA)—QUARTERMASTERS.

COLONEL ALEXANDER asked the Under Secretary of State for India, Whether he will consider the expediency of antedating to 1st July 1881 the Warrant of 1st October 1882, granting to Quartermasters of the British Army serving in India, and holding the rank of Captain, the allowances of that rank?

MR. J. K. CROSS: Sir, the ordinary practice is that changes of this nature take effect from the date of the receipt

in India of the despatch of the Secretary of State, and there is really no reason why this particular case should be treated exceptionally.

VACCINATION—CASE OF E. A. HENNING.

MR. HOPWOOD asked the President of the Local Government Board, If he will inquire into the case of a child named Emily Agnes Henning, aged four months, who was vaccinated on the 25th July, was, within three days, attacked with symptoms of blood poisoning, and died in great suffering on August 15th; whether he is aware that the certificate of death stated the cause to be Erysipelas P. Convulsions S. without mentioning vaccination; and, whether he will cause an inquiry into the circumstances satisfactory to the parents?

MR. GEORGE RUSSELL: Sir, as the Board gives no clue as to the place where the child was vaccinated, or where the death was registered, the Board are at present unable to give any information respecting the case. If they are furnished with these particulars, the facts will be ascertained.

MR. HOPWOOD: I am sorry the information was not given; but if my hon. Friend had applied to me, I could have given it him.

WATER SUPPLY (METROPOLIS)—THE THAMES.

MR. LABOUCHERE asked the President of the Local Government Board, Whether he is aware that Kingston, Richmond, and localities in the vicinity of these towns, still discharge their sewage into the Thames, and that this sewage matter floats up and down with the tide, until it is deposited upon the mud banks, which each year are more exposed at low tide, owing to the quantity of water taken from the river by the London Water Companies and the dredging operations of the Conservators; and, whether, in view of the probability of this system of draining producing fever or some other disease, he will take measures to protect the inhabitants of the Low Thames?

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Thames. The quantity of the water taken by the Water Companies is comparatively small. It is estimated to be not more than a seventh of the ordinary dry-weather flow over Teddington Weir, while the volume of the tidal water of spring tides is estimated to be 1,400 times that of the water flowing over the weir. The Lower Thames Valley Main Sewerage District, which includes, among other districts, Kingston and Richmond, was constituted by a Provisional Order for the purpose of providing a system of sewerage which would secure the disposal of the sewage without contravening the provisions of the Thames Conservancy Acts. The Board regret that works for this purpose have not been carried out. They have issued a Provisional Order extending for another year the period allowed to the Main Sewerage Board for the performance of their duty, and for protection from liability to prosecution under the Thames Conservancy Acts; but when they intimated their willingness to issue this Order, they stated that, unless they were satisfied before the expiration of this further period that the Main Sewerage Board were taking active steps for carrying out the purposes for which they were constituted, the Board would probably be unwilling to grant any further prolongation of time.

MR. LABOUCHERE: Will the right hon. Gentleman inquire into the sewerage of Twickenham? If the smell goes for anything, I should say it was not a success.

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: My hon. Friend wrote me a private letter on that subject some time ago. In 1880 the system was examined, and the experiments were satisfactory; but I will see that further inquiry is made.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR asked whether the right hon. Baronet was aware that the water supply to Northampton was of a very inferior character?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE said, he thought the Question should be placed on the Paper.

SOUTH AFRICA—ADMINISTRATION OF THE NATIVE TERRITORY.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, Whether Her Majesty's Government have any information of a disposi-

tion on the part of the Cape Government to surrender not only the Basuto territory, which they have been unable to conquer, but also the other Native territories beyond the Kei, which were conquered by the aid of Her Majesty's troops, but in which a representative system has not been introduced; whether the small number of Europeans in Natal have so far declined to accept, on the terms proposed to them, responsible Government, and the dominion over the large unrepresented Native population; and, whether Her Majesty's Government have under consideration the question of undertaking the administration of the Native territories in South Africa which have accepted and become accustomed to British rule, but have not been brought within any Colonial representative system?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: Sir, no official proposal for taking over the Transkei has come from the Cape Government. It is true that Natal has declined to undertake full responsible Government; but I demur to the terms of the hon. Member's Question which imply that this would have involved uncontrolled dominion over the large unrepresented Native population. Such a proposal was never made. Her Majesty's Government have not under consideration the undertaking the administration of the Native territories referred to in the Question.

LAW AND JUSTICE (IRELAND)—RELEASE OF THE CONVICT BERNARD SMYTH.

MR. BIGGAR (for Mr. SMALL) asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether Bernard Smyth, one of the prisoners in the Crossmaglen cases recently convicted at Belfast on the evidence of the informer Duffy, and sentenced to ten years penal servitude, has been released from prison; and, whether the same course will be taken with the other men convicted and sent to penal servitude on the evidence of the same man?

MR. TREVELYAN: Bernard Smyth addressed a memorial to the Lord Lieutenant, and His Excellency, on inquiry, and after communication with the Judge before whom the cases were heard, found that the case against Smyth differed somewhat from that against the other prisoners, and also that he is a very

delicate man, subject to spitting of blood, and had been treated in the prison hospital for chronic bronchitis. Under these circumstances, His Excellency took a merciful view of the case, and ordered his discharge. The reasons which influenced His Excellency in dealing with this case do not exist with regard to the other prisoners, and there is no intention of interfering with the sentence in their cases.

TRADE AND COMMERCE—SUGAR IMPORTS.

MR. JOHN MORLEY asked the President of the Board of Trade, Whether his attention has been drawn to the increase in the imports of sugar into the United Kingdom from Germany, in consequence of the large export bounties granted by that country, during the six months to 30th June last, as compared with similar periods in 1882 and 1881; whether he is aware that, owing to these large bounty-receiving imports from Germany, the British West India Colonies are now sending a large proportion of their sugar crops to the United States; and, whether, in view of this unnatural diversion of the trade between Great Britain and her Colonies, Her Majesty's Government will now make a serious effort to obtain the abolition of the practice of granting bounties on the export of sugar from the Continent, and especially from Germany?

MR. CHAMBERLAIN, in reply, said, the Question was one of a very controversial character, but he should endeavour to answer it with as little argument as possible; but he must not be taken as agreeing with the statement of facts or the inferences. It was true that there had been a considerable increase in the imports of sugar into the United Kingdom from Germany, but that increase appeared much larger when compared with last year than with the year before. He was by no means certain that that increase was in consequence of the large export bounties granted by that country, because he was not aware of any increase in the bounties during the period in which the increase in the imports of sugar had taken place. He was aware that the British West India Colonies were now sending a large portion of their sugar crops to the United States; but the actual amount which they sent to this country had practi-

remained stationary for many years past. He did not think, however, that their exports to the United States were due to these bounties. On the contrary, it seemed to him to be the natural course of trade, and not, as described by the Question, as an "unnatural diversion of trade," with the West Indian Islands that they should send a larger proportion of their products to the United States. In answer to the last part of the Question, he had to say that the Government did not think any useful purpose would be served by making any further representations to the German Government on this subject.

POOR LAW (IRELAND)—DEATHS THROUGH WANT IN GALWAY AND MAYO.

MR. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland Whether he can now give any information with regard to the recent deaths through hardship at Loughrea, Galway, and Kilmoree, county Mayo.

TREVELYAN: A sworn inquiry was opened to-day in the case of the girl who died of fever at Kilmoree, and it will be opened to-morrow into the case of John Burke, who died near Loughrea. I can give no further information at present.

MR. HEALY asked, whether the right hon. Gentleman was aware that the local Guardians had protested against the character of the witnesses called by the Local Government Board officer, on the ground that because of their prejudiced evidence was not likely to throw full light upon the facts of the case.

[A reply was given.]

SUNDAY TRAFFIC (SCOTLAND)—THE STROME FERRY RIOTS—SENTENCE ON THE RIOTERS.

MR. MACFARLANE asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department if his attention has been called to the feeling expressed in public meetings in regard to what is known as the unnecessary severity of the

Mr. Trevelyan

whether, as the rioters expressed before the Court their penitence for the offence, and were strongly recommended to mercy by the jury, he is now prepared to advise the remission of their sentence?

MR. DICK-PEDDIE: Before the right hon. and learned Gentleman answers the Question, I wish to put to him a supplementary one — namely, Whether, having regard to the admission by the Lord Advocate, in replying to a Question put to him some days ago by the hon. Member for Wigton (Sir Herbert Maxwell), that the legality of Sunday trading in Scotland is an open question, and to the circumstances that the men convicted in this case acted on the belief that such traffic is illegal, and were seeking to prevent what they regarded as a violation of the law, he does not see ground upon which to recommend Her Majesty to mitigate the sentence passed upon them, especially seeing they have already been undergoing sentence for a month?

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: Sir, as this is a matter of a good deal of interest, I may be allowed to answer it somewhat carefully. As regards the first part of the Question of the hon. Member, I cannot concur in that part of the Question at all. I cannot agree with the consideration that a criminal sentence should be influenced by the feeling expressed at public meetings. Indeed, I must point out to the hon. Member that one of the great obstacles to the mitigation of this sentence has been found in the ill-advised speaking at these public meetings. So long as the unwise and ill-judged language of the friends of the prisoners, amounting at least to a palliation, if not to a justification of the offences, is continued, so long it will be impossible, with due respect to law, to exercise a leniency which would only be an encouragement to fresh outrages. It must be remembered that this offence was not the result of a sudden impulse, but of a deliberate plan. The original line of defence was an absolute justification by the accused of their right to vindicate the observance of the Day of Rest by a violent and organized riot. In answering the Question of my hon. Friend behind me, without entering on the question of the law as to the observance of the Sabbath, it cannot be al-

lowed that this is the proper manner to vindicate this law. I cannot, therefore, regard the original sentence as unduly severe, as it was absolutely necessary to make these men, and everyone else, clearly to understand that this was a thing the law would not suffer, and would severely punish. That is my answer to the first part of the Question; but I turn with more satisfaction to the second part, and my answer to that is this. If it be true that these men, as stated, after their conviction expressed their sincere regret for the offence into which they had been betrayed, and if that view of their conduct is frankly accepted by those who advocate their cause, then, and not till then, the question of leniency will arise. If the matter is dealt with in this spirit, I shall be prepared at the expiration of two months of the sentence to consult with the learned Judge as to whether the sentence can safely be mitigated.

MR. DICK-PEDDIE asked if the Home Secretary would explain how it was possible that the advocates of these men in Scotland were to express their concurrence with the prisoners in their expressions of regret—in what form, and through what organ, could this be done?

MR. MACFARLANE asked, as to the silence of these people and their friends, how long it was to be maintained before the Home Secretary would come to the conclusion that they had exercised a proper reticence? The right hon. and learned Gentleman was understood to say he would consider the case at the end of two months. Did that depend upon silence being maintained in the meantime?

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: I did not say anything about silence at all. What I say is, that it would be a very difficult thing in dealing with a sentence when at public meetings a great many people are maintaining that nothing wrong has been done. As long as that continued it would be impossible to do anything in the way of mitigation of sentence, as it is absolutely certain that the same thing would be done again. In the latter part of the Question the hon. Member speaks of the penitence and regret of these prisoners at the offence they committed; and, if that be so, it may be safe, with a due respect for the law, to consider their sentence.

STEAM TRACTION ENGINES— LEGISLATION.

MR. STUART-WORTLEY asked the President of the Local Government Board, Whether, during the recess, he will consider the possibility of introducing, next Session, a measure to further regulate the use of steam traction engines on roads?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: Sir, I can only state generally that, in the opinion of the Local Government Board, it is desirable that county authorities should have larger powers than they now possess with regard to traction engines, and that the Board would propose that in any Bill dealing with the subject of County Government additional powers should be conferred on the county authorities with respect to the regulation of the use of traction engines on roads.

MR. STUART-WORTLEY asked whether Her Majesty's subjects were to have their limbs broken and lives endangered until a County Government Bill was introduced?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: Her Majesty's subjects, I hope, will not have to wait long for the introduction of a County Government Bill. But I pointed out, in an answer to the hon. Member some months ago, that the present regulations are very strong indeed—much stronger than seems to be known; and in the case of the serious accident that happened lately to constituents of the hon. Member, they were not observed.

MR. STUART-WORTLEY: Can a Circular be issued drawing attention to them?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: The regulations are partly statutory and partly made by county authorities.

NAVY RANK—ASSISTANT PAY- MASTERS.

MR. GABBETT asked the Secretary to the Admiralty, Whether Her Majesty's Order in Council of 23rd October 1877 (Clause C) contained the words—

"Assistant Paymasters, with over eight years' seniority as such, to rank with Lieutenants of under eight years' seniority;

whether an Order signed by the Secretary to the Admiralty was issued a few months subsequently, stating that the above Clause was

"To be considered to mean, to rank with, not after, Lieutenants of under eight years' seniority;"

whether such interpolation virtually took away from these officers the rank granted to them by Her Majesty; and, whether, in the opinion of the Law Officers of the Crown, such alteration by authority of the Admiral Board was legal?

SIR THOMAS BRASSEY: When the Order in Council of the 23rd of October, 1877, was issued, it was found that the words "but after" had been inadvertently omitted from the clause to which the hon. Member refers. It was found necessary to amend the Circular in consequence of the anomalies which the omission of these words introduced even within the Paymasters' Department itself. For instance, it gave an assistant paymaster of over eight years' standing a higher relative rank than he would have been promoted to the higher rank of master. The amended Rule was embodied in the revised edition of the Queen's Regulations, and was covered by the Order in Council of the 4th of February, 1879.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES (ANIMALS) ACT — REMOVAL OF ANIMALS FROM SCOTLAND AND IRELAND.

MR. DUCKHAM asked the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, If he could explain why the Privy Council do not adopt precautionary regulations for the removal of animals into England from Scotland and Ireland similar to those enforced by their orders for the removal of animals into Scotland and Ireland from England, seeing that foot and mouth disease is prevalent in those parts of the United Kingdom, and that the health of the herds and flocks of England is being seriously prejudiced by the continued introduction of the disease?

MR. JODSON: Sir, the Scotch Prohibitory Order was first passed at a time when there was no disease in Scotland, and it has been maintained latterly because, although there have been occasional outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease in Scotland, Scotland is still comparatively free from it.

its district from the district of any other local authority in any part of the United Kingdom. The Order prohibiting importation into Ireland is an Order of the Irish Privy Council, over which I have no control.

MADAGASCAR--ACTION OF THE FRENCH AT TAMATAVE--THE ENGLISH CONSULAR ARCHIVES.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether the Papers belonging to Consul Pakenham and the Consular Archives in Madagascar were examined by the French authorities on the death of Consul Pakenham; and, whether his private Papers and the Consular Archives are at present intact in the hands of Captain Johnstone, or any other British authority?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: No, Sir. Commander Johnstone has reported that, before the Consul's death, he made arrangements for the removal on board the *Dryad* of the Consular archives and Mr. Pakenham's papers. They were, consequently, not examined by the French authorities after the Consul's death.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether information has been received of the arrest, at Madagascar, of Mr. Aiken, a British subject, who is stated, at the request of Consul Pakenham, to have given shelter during the bombardment to all the British residents at Tamatave; and, what steps Her Majesty's Government have taken to obtain the release of this British subject, as well as satisfaction for his arrest?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: Mr. Aiken was arrested on the 16th of June, not for having given shelter during the bombardment to British residents, but on a supposed charge of complicity in Mr. Shaw's offence. He was released on the following day. I cannot at present make any further statement.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF: May I ask whether during the bombardment of Alexandria Her Majesty's naval authorities arrested any French subjects who might have been in communication with the Natives?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: I think that is a Question of which

the hon. Member had better give me Notice?

WESTERN ISLANDS OF THE PACIFIC ANNEXATION OF NEW GUINEA--PUBLIC OPINION IN THE AUSTRALIAN COLONIES.

MR. GORST asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, Whether the views of the Australasian Government on the necessity of annexing New Guinea, and extending the authority of the British Empire over other places in the Western Pacific, has been brought before Her Majesty's Government in an official memorandum signed by the Agents General of the Australasian Colonies; whether the several Australasian Colonies have offered to defray the expense of, and to enter into a federation to give effect to, the policy in the Western Pacific which they deem essential to their interests; whether the memorandum referred to will be laid upon the Table of the House; and, what answer Her Majesty's Government have given to it?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: Yes, Sir; The Memorandum referred to has been laid before Her Majesty's Government. In it the Agents General, on behalf of their respective Governments, offer, subject to the vote and decision of their respective Legislatures, to co-operate with the Government by contributing to the cost of any policy of annexation that might be adopted. The Memorandum and Answer will, in due course be laid on the Table; but no answer has yet been sent to it, as it involves grave and lasting matters which require much consideration.

MR. W. E. FORSTER: With regard to the hon. Gentleman's answer about New Guinea, I suppose the Papers will be laid on the Table, so that they may be circulated during the Recess?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: If the Memorandum were to be laid on the Table alone without the answer it might be; but I cannot say that the answer will be delivered before the House rises.

MR. W. E. FORSTER: I think arrangements are sometimes made for laying such documents on the Table in dummy form.

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: But you cannot lay the answer in dummy form on the Table before it is ready.

TONQUIN AND ANNAM—DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether Her Majesty has any diplomatic or consular representative in Tonquin or Annam; whether, in view of the size and importance of the territories in the Indo-Chinese peninsula, now being attacked by the French Republic, Her Majesty's Government will take immediate steps to acquire early and reliable information as to the conduct and views of the French; and, whether he can give any information as to the progress of the French invasion?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: Sir, I informed the hon. Member during the discussion of the Estimates that Her Majesty has no Diplomatic or Consular Representative in Tonquin and Annam. It is not, at present, intended to alter these arrangements. Her Majesty's Government has no special information in regard to the military operations now going on, beyond the fact that troops have arrived at Saigon on their way to Tonquin, and that the importation of arms into Annam has been prohibited to foreign traders. The last part of the Question is one of opinion, which I hardly think it right to answer.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT asked what was the nearest place to Tonquin where there was a Representative of Her Majesty's Consular or Diplomatic Body; and whether, in view of the fact that British trade with these countries amounts to over £2,000,000 a-year, Her Majesty's Government would take some steps to keep themselves informed as to the progress of the French invasion?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: I answered this Question on the Estimates, and I told the hon. Member that we had no difficulty in obtaining information from Bangkok or Saigon.

TURKEY (FINANCE, &c.)—THE PUBLIC DEBT.

MR. BOURKE asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether the Government will instruct our Diplomatic Agent at Constantinople to press upon the Ambassadors the desirability of settling, without delay, the question of the contribution to the Public Debt of Turkey which is due

by Bulgaria, Montenegro, Servia, and Greece?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: Sir, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, under instructions from the Secretary of State, again brought this matter before the Representatives of the Powers at Constantinople on June 29 last, and he has applied to the Porte for data on which the amount of the tribute from Bulgaria can be determined. Her Majesty's Government have done everything in their power to obtain a settlement of these outstanding questions, and they will lose no favourable opportunity of pressing for their consideration by the other Powers.

MR. BOURKE said, the answer was, so far, satisfactory; but he would ask, further, whether Her Majesty's Representative at Constantinople would be instructed to lay a definite scheme before the Turkish Government, which he believed was now in possession of Her Majesty's Government?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: That will depend upon the character of the information obtained from the Porte in reply to this request. The words of the Treaty are "equitable basis," and information is required in order to define that.

ARMY AND INDIAN MEDICAL COMMISSIONS.

MR. ACLAND asked the Secretary of State for War, What is the reason of the distinction between candidates for commissions in Her Majesty's Army Medical Department and candidates for commissions in Her Majesty's Indian Medical Service with regard to the marks gained by them at Netley, which in the case of the candidates for the Indian Medical Service are counted, and in that of the candidates for the Army Medical Department are not counted, in the totals which determine in each case respectively their order of merit; and, whether it is intended to maintain that distinction?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON: Sir, the examination at the conclusion of the Netley course is, in the case of Army Medical candidates, a pass examination merely, their relative precedence having been settled at the entrance examination. With the Indian candidates, on the contrary, the Netley course is competitive, and aids in determining

the position during subsequent service. The system for the British officers was deliberately adopted, after very full inquiry, by a Committee appointed to consider the causes of the unsatisfactory supply of candidates for the Army Medical Service, which took evidence on this particular point.

ARMY — THE DEPOT CENTRES — INSPECTION OF BUILDINGS.

MR. JAMES HOWARD asked the Surveyor General of the Ordnance, Whether a periodical inspection is made of the buildings at the various Military Centres; and, if so, who is responsible for the condition of new barracks erected in the county of Bedford?

SIR ARTHUR HAYTER: I have to say, on behalf of the Surveyor General of the Ordnance, that a periodical inspection is made of all War Department buildings. The Inspector General of Fortifications is responsible to the Secretary of State for War for the condition of all barracks.

MR. JAMES HOWARD: Will the hon. and gallant Baronet undertake that the attention of the proper authority be called to the existing condition of the barracks at Bedford?

SIR ARTHUR HAYTER: My hon. Friend's Question will call the attention of the Surveyor General of the Ordnance to their condition.

RAILWAYS (INDIA).

MR. SUMMERS asked the Under Secretary of State for India, Whether it is true, as stated by Mr. A. K. Connell, in his work on the Economic Revolution of India, that interest charges for Guaranteed and State Railways, paid out of the ordinary revenues, amounted in 1881-2 to over £32,000,000, and to over £34,000,000 if loss by exchange be taken into account; and, whether, in view of these two items, loss by exchange and past interest charges, the Indian Railways earn $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on the whole capital outlay?

MR. J. K. CROSS: Sir, up to the 30th of June, 1882, the amount advanced to the Guaranteed Railway Companies — omitting the East Indian — was £25,344,000, and the Government share of surplus receipts amounted to £1,697,000, giving an excess of £23,647,000. When the East Indian Railway was purchased, the guaran-

teed interest advanced amounted to £4,505,000. The surplus profits received by Government have amounted to £6,523,000, or £2,818,000 in excess of the amount advanced it as a guaranteed line. The total sum advanced, may, therefore, be put at £21,629,000. If loss by exchange on past transactions be added the amount will, no doubt, be greater. The capital cost of all the lines open to traffic on the 31st of December, 1882, was about 143 crores — the net revenue was 78 lakhs — or 5·37 per cent. If the capital cost be raised by the addition of the interest advanced to, say, 167 crores, the net revenue was 4·6 per cent.

POOR LAW (IRELAND) — THE BALLY- MENA TOWN CLERK.

MR. BIGGAR asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether he is aware that Mr. Mathews, clerk to the Ballymena Poor Law Union, is also clerk to the Town Commissioners, clerk to the Gasworks, clerk to the Intermediate School, clerk to the Burial Board, and collector of county cess for a barony?

MR. TREVELYAN, in reply, said, that Mr. Mathews held the several offices named, and had held them for periods varying from seven to 37 years. He had been a very long time Clerk of the Union, and for a comparatively short time — seven years — Clerk to the Town Commissioners. He was not aware of any complaint being made with respect to the discharge of his duties, and the Local Government Board informed him that they had no reason to believe that his engagements outside the workhouse interfered with his duties as Clerk of the Union. If the hon. Member could refer him to any responsible person who believed otherwise, he would have the matter inquired into.

MR. O'KELLY asked whether this was one of the officials whose very heavy labours the Government proposed to reward by the Union Officers' Superannuation Bill?

[No reply was given.]

NATIONAL SCHOOL TEACHERS (IRE- LAND) ACT, 1875 — SALARIES OF TEACHERS IN WORKHOUSE NA- TIONAL SCHOOLS.

MR. LEAMY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland,

Whether the Bill which the Government proposes to bring in next Session to amend the Irish Teachers' Act, 1875, will place the teachers in the Workhouse National Schools on an equal footing as regards result fees with the teachers in the ordinary National Schools?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, I can give no pledge on this subject now. It would be impossible, without much consideration, to undertake to reverse the policy of former legislation in the matter; but I will consider the subject with the details of the Bill before I introduce it.

THE MAHARAJAH DHULEEP SINGH— POSTPONEMENT OF VISIT TO INDIA.

MR. ONSLOW asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether there is any truth in the report that the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh has postponed his visit to India; if so, for how long; and, whether Her Majesty's Government intend to grant him a further sum of money out of the Revenues of India?

MR. GLADSTONE: Sir, no communication has been received from the Maharajah with regard to the postponement of his journey to India. When, some time ago, a desire to make that journey was expressed, the Maharajah was informed by my noble Friend the Secretary of State for War, who was then Secretary of State for India, that he would have to conform with the instructions of the Viceroy which might be given him there with respect to his journey. No intention has been formed or expressed by Her Majesty's Government of making an increased money grant to the Maharajah. I may say with respect to this question of the journey, and what may grow out of it, that it has recently been referred to the Government of India.

MADAGASCAR — ACTION OF THE FRENCH AT TAMATAVE—CASE OF THE REV. MR. SHAW.

MR. BOURKE asked the First Lord of the Treasury, What overt act of war Mr. Shaw is alleged to have committed to justify his being tried as a British subject by a French court martial?

MR. GLADSTONE: Whether or not the description I gave yesterday of the acts alleged against Mr. Shaw would constitute overt acts of war I am not able to say. There may be some difficulty; but what I understand, on taking

the best advice I can, is that there is no reason for us, with our present information, to presume that there has been an excess of jurisdiction on the part of the French authorities, viewing all the circumstances of the case.

MR. BOURKE: Can the right hon. Gentleman state whether the overt acts, which have made this missionary amenable to be tried by court martial for giving assistance to the enemy and being guilty of hostile actions against the French, consisted of nothing more than giving refuge to the fugitives and establishing an ambulance corps? Is there any information in the possession of the Government that this gentleman has committed any other alleged offence than these two?

MR. GLADSTONE: I think certainly, as far as I am able to form a judgment, though I cannot speak with authority, that the allegation of those two acts against Mr. Shaw would not correspond with the description given by the French Government to us of the charges, upon which charges the House will understand it is not for me to give any sort of opinion.

MR. PLUNKET asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether, having regard to the circumstances of the arrest of Mr. Shaw, a British subject, by order of the French Admiral at Tamatave, described by the Prime Minister on 11th July as "a grave and painful occurrence," and to the continued detention of Mr. Shaw on board a French man of war, and his threatened trial by Court Martial, Her Majesty's Government have put themselves, or intend to put themselves, in communication with Mr. Shaw; and, whether he can now inform the House when and where the Court Martial on Mr. Shaw will be held?

MR. GLADSTONE: Sir, I am so far glad that the right hon. and learned Gentleman has put this Question, as it enables me to remove from his mind what is evidently a misapprehension. He is under the impression that on a former day I described the arrest of Mr. Shaw as a grave and painful occurrence. That is not so. I used emphatic

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inference from the telegrams, necessarily very succinct, had a grave and painful appearance—namely, the case of Mr. Pakenham, the British Consul. [Oh!"] That is so, Sir. I offer the right hon. and learned Gentleman the rectification. If he does not like to accept it that is another matter. We saw from the telegrams that it might be inferred with a certain amount of presumption, though not demonstratively, that the order to Mr. Pakenham to quit the town had been given knowingly by the French Admiral at a time when Mr. Pakenham was extremely and dangerously ill; and further, even, that Mr. Pakenham's death was hastened by that order. The detailed intelligence that has now come in the shape of letters I think removes both of these impressions which might have been drawn from the telegram, and these are what I described as grave and painful occurrences. Of course, the arrest of Mr. Shaw is a serious occurrence, and one with regard to which it is the absolute duty of the Government to watch with the greatest care what takes place. With respect to placing ourselves in communication with Mr. Shaw, no intimation has been conveyed to us that such a desire or a sense of such a necessity exists on the part of that gentleman or his friends; and we have not thought it our duty spontaneously, in the case of a British subject charged in a foreign country, to make an application to the Foreign Government with the view of placing ourselves in communication with him until we have reason to suppose there is some practical object to be gained by it, or necessity for it. We have no information as to the place where, or the time when, the court martial will be held.

MR. PLUNKET said, he found from the report in *The Times* of the right hon. Gentleman's former speech that immediately after referring to the arrest of Mr. Shaw, the right hon. Gentleman spoke of it as "a grave and painful occurrence." Of course, however, he accepted the explanation. He desired to ask the Prime Minister now whether he was satisfied that Mr. Shaw had any means of communication with the Government if he wished to do so? The House had been informed that Mr. Shaw was practically a prisoner on board a French ship of war, and they had no other knowledge of him.

Would the Prime Minister take steps to afford Mr. Shaw the opportunity to obtain a fair trial and the assistance of counsel, if necessary?

MR. GLADSTONE: The right hon. and learned Gentleman may be justified by the report he has read; but I am most distinct in my recollection upon the subject. The right hon. and learned Gentleman will hardly say that he himself, from his own recollection of what I said, can urge that when I spoke of the "grave and painful occurrence" I referred to Mr. Shaw. It was not in my mind in the slightest degree, and it is quite inappropriate to say that the arrest of a British subject in circumstances of war by a Foreign Power was a grave and painful occurrence. It would be an exaggerated style of speech on the part of a Minister, and not warranted on matters on which he felt he had only partial information. I have the strongest conviction that Mr. Shaw can have expressed no desire to communicate with the Government, for I do not for a moment entertain the supposition with respect to a friendly Government that upon the expression of such a desire by Mr. Shaw the knowledge of that desire would be kept from us.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE: I wish to ask a Question, to which I do not know if the Government can give me an answer, on the very point to which the right hon. Gentleman has just referred, that of Mr. Shaw communicating with his friends. I have a letter from a gentleman—I do not know if I am at liberty to mention his name—who very lately came from Madagascar, and who is in a position which is very likely to make him well acquainted with what is going on. He says—

"Do you know, Sir, that when Mrs. Shaw arrived at Tamatave on the 26th June to join her husband, after two years' absence from ill-health, her three successive written applications to Admiral Pierre for permission to see her husband were refused, and not being allowed to land, she had to return to the Mauritius without seeing him."

I want to know if the Government have any information as to any attempt on the part of Mrs. Shaw to see her husband?

MR. GLADSTONE: Sir, there is certainly no information, as far as my knowledge goes—and I think I am correct—amounting to anything like what

has been read by the right hon. Gentleman. I feel that these are Questions which, if they are intended to be discussed as Questions of right, are very nice matters indeed. I am not prepared to state precisely that we have a right to demand from a Foreign Government with regard to the access of friends to a person whom, upon what they think a charge of a legal offence, they have felt it their duty to imprison. This is a very nice question indeed, and one upon which it would be highly imprudent in me to commit myself in answer to an inquiry across this Table. The question what courtesy and what humanity may be thought in our judgment to require is a different question; but although we have reason to believe that some restraints have been placed upon Mr. Shaw with regard to his family which we may not have thought necessary, or for which we may not be able to urge sufficient reasons, yet I think it better that I should not attempt to give any opinion upon that, or, in the absence of full information, state what may have occurred, until I know more perfectly. This, at any rate, I can fairly say—we will make careful inquiry into these allegations if the right hon. Gentleman would kindly supply us with the information in his possession.

MR. BOURKE: I hope the right hon. Gentleman will answer this Question. He said yesterday that Mr. Shaw was to be tried by a French court martial, and that the finding of that Court would be brought to review by what he called a Court of Revision. I want to ask the right hon. Gentleman whether that Court of Revision is to be a Court held in France, or whether it is to be a Court merely composed of naval officers, or other French officers, at Madagascar?

MR. GLADSTONE: I have no information on the subject. The information which I communicated was given exactly as it was received by us from the French Government.

MR. BOURKE: Will not the right hon. Gentleman communicate with the French Government that any Court of Review held at Madagascar composed of French officers would be extremely unsatisfactory to this country?

MR. GLADSTONE: Sir, I would not undertake to lay down rules in anticipation as to the way in which the trial ought to be conducted of a person who has

been arrested in these circumstances, and I think that to do so would be exceedingly unwise. Our business is to take care that the interests of Mr. Shaw are properly protected, and that he is tried according to the general principles of justice, in the shape in which those principles are applied by the laws of a highly-civilized country, whose jurisprudence holds a very leading position in Europe. I admit we are not precluded from interfering, were there a presumption that injustice was about to be done; but, knowing the character of the French nation and of its jurisprudence, we are not justified in presuming, without adequate cause, that injustice is about to be done in this case. I am quite willing to make inquiry as to the nature of this Court of Revision; but I hope the right hon. Gentleman will not press us further.

MR. JACFARLANE: Has Mr. Shaw any means of sending out letters to his friends, or to the officer commanding H.M.S. *Dryad*? Or is he a prisoner in solitary confinement?

MR. GLADSTONE: Mr. Shaw is not a prisoner in solitary confinement, as appears from the answer which I gave yesterday. He was left by the French Consul at Zanzibar walking about the deck of a French ship. With respect to the other Question of the hon. Member, I would request him to give Notice.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT asked if it was not a fact that the French Admiral ordered Consul Pakenham to haul down his flag within 24 hours; and whether in 24 hours, the flag not having been hauled down by Consul Pakenham, the French themselves hauled it down? He would also like to know whether it was not a fact that Captain Johnstone, in a despatch to the Admiralty, had not said he was not allowed to communicate with Mr. Shaw?

MR. GLADSTONE: I think all these matters were covered by the answer I gave yesterday. I have said there is a somewhat complex Correspondence involving a considerable variety of incidents; and, in our opinion, it is not possible to convey a real knowledge of those incidents as to enable the House

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several points which must be the subject of communication between the two Governments. As regards any further Questions of this character, I should be very glad to have Notice.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked how Mr. Shaw was to obtain access to any counsel, if he was not allowed to communicate with anyone on shore? He also inquired whether the right hon. Gentleman would obtain a similar assurance from the French Government to that he got from the Egyptian Government—namely, that Mr. Shaw should not be executed without Her Majesty's Government being first of all communicated with?

MR. GLADSTONE: I have not the smallest doubt in my own mind that Mr. Shaw has perfect means of providing himself with legal assistance. If the hon. Gentleman has any evidence to the contrary it will be matter for our immediate attention.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF: Neither his wife nor the Commander of the *Dryad* was allowed to see him.

MR. GLADSTONE: The hon. Gentleman, perhaps, assumes more than he is justified in doing; but, supposing that to be the case, how am I able to say that the Commander, who was not at the time invested with any civil character at all—

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF: He was acting Consul.

MR. GLADSTONE: He was not acting Consul at all. The hon. Gentleman interrupts to give information instead of asking it. The Commander had no civil authority. He did his best as a gallant British officer; but he had no authority or warrant to act in a civil capacity. But if the hon. Member for Portsmouth has any reason to suppose that Mr. Shaw has any sort of difficulty in obtaining proper means of defence, that is a matter which, upon the receipt of evidence, shall have our immediate attention.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE: Surely the Government will ascertain for themselves whether Mr. Shaw has proper means of obtaining advice or not?

MR. GLADSTONE: Sir, we are in charge of the relations of this country with foreign countries. The right hon. Gentleman does not appear to be aware of the bearing these Questions have on

the amity and goodwill existing between this country and another country. If I were the Foreign Minister of this country, I should deem it a slight and an offence that anyone should come before me and presume that we were about to proceed towards a subject of a foreign land in defiance of the elementary principles of justice. So, in the same manner, I am prepared to deal out to the French Government the measure I should expect them to deal out to me; and I will not, without some presumption that the French Government contemplate an erroneous course—I will not give an answer which, in my opinion, would imply that they were neglecting the very first principles that should govern the intercourse between two nations.

MR. PLUNKET: As this discussion has arisen out of a Question which I submitted to the House, and which was a fair one, perhaps I may be allowed to ask this Question—for I hold that this House is in charge of the liberties of British subjects—Is the House to understand that the Government will leave this matter in its present condition? Mr. Shaw, a British subject, imprisoned on board a French man-of-war, the Government having evidence that the Commander of the British ship and others endeavoured to communicate with him in vain; no evidence that he has any means of communication with his friends; awaiting his trial by court martial, it may be upon a capital crime—["Order!"]

MR. SPEAKER: The right hon. and learned Gentleman is dealing with matters of a controversial nature.

MR. GLADSTONE: The Question involves so much that the right hon. and learned Gentleman can hardly expect me, in the midst of my occupations, to answer all the points from memory.

MR. ONSLOW understood the Prime Minister to say it was the duty of the Government to see that the interests of Mr. Shaw were consulted and that justice was done. How was this to be done if Her Majesty's Government did not see that Mr. Shaw had proper counsel provided for him?

MR. GLADSTONE: The hon. Member has not informed me, nor has any other person, that Mr. Shaw has been in any respect hindered, or put in any difficulty with regard to the means of his legal defence; but when any evidence is brought

before Her Majesty's Government to show that such is the case, it will receive our immediate attention.

MERCHANT SHIPPING (FISHING BOATS) BILL.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, there was a Notice on the Paper in the name of the Lord Advocate to leave Scotland out of the operation of the Merchant Shipping (Fishing Boats) Bill. He would like to know how that came about on that, the last stage; and whether the Lord Advocate was ever consulted, either in drafting the Bill, or in any stage before this House?

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, this Bill was founded almost precisely upon the lines of the recommendations of a small Committee which was appointed by the Board of Trade; and when the Bill was originally drawn it was the belief of those concerned that by the principal clauses referring to trawlers and fishing boats of 25 tons net register and upwards, Scotland was practically excluded from the operation of the measure. After the Bill was introduced, his attention was called to its provisions by the hon. Member for the St. Andrew's Burghs (Mr. Williamson), who pointed out that the Scottish boats were now being built every year larger and larger, and the result would be that if the Bill did not apply now, it might speedily apply to these boats. The hon. Member took some other objections to the measure, which led him (Mr. Chamberlain) to consult the Lord Advocate, who, for the reasons he had given, had not previously been consulted; and the Lord Advocate, after consideration, came to the conclusion that on the whole the Bill was unnecessary in Scotland, and that it was desirable that its application to Scotland should be formally excluded. It had, therefore, been determined to exclude Scotland from the operation of the Bill.

PARLIAMENT—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEAL BILL.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL asked the Prime Minister, Whether he would say when he proposed to proceed with the Court of Criminal Appeal Bill?

SIR MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH said, that having sat on the Grand Committee which considered this Bill, he wished

to call the right hon. Gentleman's attention to the Notice of Amendment which had been given by the Attorney General. There was a long discussion in the Grand Committee upon the proposal to extend the right of appeal in non-capital cases. That extension was resisted by the Government; but it was carried against the Government by a very considerable majority. From the Amendment on the Paper it would appear it was the intention of the Attorney General to ask the House to reconsider the decision of the Grand Committee; and the Bill was, therefore, in a very different position from the Bankruptcy Bill, and was likely to give rise to a long discussion. Under these circumstances, he asked the Government whether, at that period of the Session, it was really their intention to proceed with the Bill?

MR. LADSTONE said, his hon. and learned friend the Attorney General had been governed by a very strong desire to respect the decision of the Grand Committee, so far as his views in regard to the Bill would allow. The Government felt, with the hon. and learned Gentleman, that as long as they could maintain any hope of carrying the Bill through the House and sending it to the other House in a reasonable time, it was a serious matter to abandon a Bill on which the Grand Committee had spent so much time and labour. The Government were very much obliged to the right hon. Gentleman and to the other Gentlemen who sat on the Grand Committee—and he took this opportunity of saying it—for the patience which they had bestowed upon the Bill. Perhaps the Government had clung too long to their hope. They had believed it was possible to-night, after the second reading of the Appropriation Bill and the consideration of the Amendments on the Agricultural Holdings Bill, and the discussion upon the Medical Bill, that they might have had a debate on the Court of Criminal Appeal Bill which would sufficiently show the feeling of the House in regard to the measure. He understood, since he came to the House, that a debate was likely to be raised at the second reading of the

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Motion. Since he came to the House he had been given to understand that a debate was likely to be raised in a different quarter. That debate he regarded as fatal to any hope of proceeding with the Court of Criminal Appeal Bill. If it were postponed to Thursday, which would be the only alternative, they could not hope to pass it this Session in the other House; and, therefore, he was obliged reluctantly, on the part of his hon. and learned Friend the Attorney General, and on the part of the Government, to say they no longer cherished the hope of proceeding with the Bill. He had, consequently, to move that the Order be discharged.

Motion made, and Question, "That the Order for the Consideration of the Court of Criminal Appeal Bill, as amended, be read, and discharged,"—(*Mr. Gladstone*,)—put, and agreed to.

Order read, and discharged.

Bill withdrawn.

NAVY—THE "CLYDE" COURT MARTIAL.

COLONEL ALEXANDER asked the Prime Minister, Whether he would consent to refer to the Law Officers of the Crown the proceedings of the Court Martial on Gunner Fitzgerald, as well as of that on Commander Heron, it being necessary, for the proper elucidation of the case, that the proceedings of the two Courts Martial should be referred to the Law Officers?

MR. GLADSTONE: I will see that the matter is brought under the notice of the Law Officers of the Crown.

SOUTH AFRICA—ZULULAND—CETEWAYO.

SIR MICHAEL HICKS - BEACH asked whether Her Majesty's Government had received any information as to the position of Cetewayo; and whether they could state what was the condition of Zululand?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: Yes, Sir; we have received information that Cetewayo and some of his brothers are located in the Reserve Territory. When the right hon. Gentleman speaks of Zululand I suppose he means Zululand proper. We have no further intelligence as to its condition.

SIR MICHAEL HICKS - BEACH: Another Question arises out of that reply.

The Under Secretary of State for the Colonies stated the other day that the Government would not view with indifference any action on the part of Cetewayo to use the Reserve Territory as a basis for operations in Zululand; and I wish to ask whether any directions have been sent out to South Africa, or steps taken in order to show that the Government will put a stop to any such attempts?

MR. GLADSTONE: Yes, Sir; I will not say that directions have actually gone; but they are in course of preparation, and will be sent.

SIR MICHAEL HICKS - BEACH: Will they be laid upon the Table?

MR. GLADSTONE: They can hardly be presented separately from the Papers that have preceded and will follow them. But they will contain nothing which can ultimately be considered of a confidential character.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

CONSOLIDATED FUND (APPROPRIATION) BILL.

(*Sir Arthur Otway, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Courtney.*)

SECOND READING.

Order for Second Reading read.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a second time."

GOVERNMENT CONDUCT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS DURING THE SESSION.

OBSERVATIONS.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE: It is not my intention, Sir—as perhaps the right hon. Gentleman may have imagined it was—to raise any debate upon this stage of the Appropriation Bill; but I do think it would be reasonable that before we separate a few words should be said upon the general position in which we seem placed, and in which we are about to leave the Business of the country. It is not unusual, when the Appropriation Bill is passing through the House, to cast a glance back at the Business done during the Session; and there are other reasons why, in the present year, it is peculiarly fitting that we should take that course. It was observed to me the other day by a gentleman who takes accurate notice of the progress of affairs, that in the last 19

months the House had sat during a portion of 17 of those months. We have had a very prolonged series of Sittings; and with regard to the present Session, though we must remember that it began a little later in February than usual, yet it has been one which we may describe as very decidedly a full Session. We have had the full time, and of that time a very large and liberal portion has been at the command of the Government. Early in the Session Morning Sittings began, and arrangements have been made for giving the Government command of private Members' nights, with a readiness and on a scale which leaves nothing to be complained of. This Session, we must also bear in mind, has the advantage, or supposed advantage, of the New Rules. We are under the New Rules which, it was said, would facilitate the progress of Business. The right hon. Gentleman, with his great experience of the conduct of Business in Parliament, told us last year that the first and most essential requisite for the transaction of Business by the House of Commons was that it should be master of its own time, and that for that purpose certain Rules ought to be made which would obviate difficulties hitherto existing. Accordingly, we, to the great inconvenience of hon. Members, devoted the whole of the Autumn Session to the working out and construction of that system of Rules. Well, we now have before us the experience of the working of this Session under these circumstances; and I must, in the first place, ask the House just to consider what has been the result in a legislative point of view of the experience we have had. In the Speech of Her Gracious Majesty on the first night of the Session we were told of, I think, 11 important measures which the Government intended to bring forward. Those 11 measures were these—the first was the codification of the law. That is a matter of the very greatest importance, and one which has been the object and desire of successive Governments and Parliaments to carry through; and there seemed to be some hope that with the great advantage which would be given to us by the system of Grand Committees, that object might be accomplished. I am afraid we must shake our heads over what has happened as to the codification of the law. The experience we have had does

not encourage us to believe that that is an object likely to be accomplished by the measures which have been adopted. Standing next to that came the Bill for an appeal in criminal offences. That was sent to the same Grand Committee as the Codification Bill, and it was sent under peculiar arrangements in order that the Bill for an appeal in criminal cases might be taken first, and that when it was got through, then the Codification Bill should be proceeded with, and that the Bill for an appeal in criminal offences should be incorporated with the Codification Bill. I was not present at the labours of that Committee; but, from what I understand, the Court of Criminal Appeal Bill was, in the first instance, discussed at proper length, and was passed by the Committee in such a form as they thought right. I might then have been reported to this House, and been disposed of with reasonable rapidity, after which it might have gone to the other House, where it would have been received by noble Lords peculiarly capable of dealing with it. But, although that Bill was reported on the 27th of June, and might have been reported two or three weeks earlier, it was not reported because, I am told, that the Grand Committee, at the instigation of the Government Members of it, desired to struggle on with the codification scheme, which could not be proceeded with, and so the Court of Criminal Appeal Bill was kept back until they saw what they could do with the other measure. The result is that they have lost both, and that we find ourselves none the further forward for all the labours that have been bestowed upon those two Bills. The third measure mentioned in Her Majesty's Gracious Speech was the Bankruptcy Bill; and here I must congratulate the Government, and especially the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Board of Trade, upon the success which has attended that measure. That Bill has furnished an illustration of the good and satisfactory working of the system of Grand Committees; and I am glad to bear my own testimony to, and to

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leading part in its arrangements, I did endeavour, upon a suggestion of the hon. Member for Carnarvonshire (Mr. Rathbone), to adopt, with reference to the Bankruptcy Bill of that day, a very nearly similar course to that which has proved successful on this occasion. I did then propose that the Bankruptcy Bill should be referred to a large Committee, similar in its nature to a Grand Committee; but that proposal was not received with favour. The present Attorney General was one who strongly objected to it, and the President of the Local Government Board and some other Members of the Government also objected to that course. I regretted it at that time, and I am now glad to see that what was imperfectly attempted, and was not successful then, has since succeeded. But, while I congratulate the Government with regard to the Bankruptcy Bill, I must say that I think it a matter for regret that there was so much uncertainty and change of mind with regard to its extension to Ireland. There is another Bill which has also been successful—I mean the Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) Bill. That has taken us an enormous time to elaborate. I do not intend now to pass any judgment upon the Bill. It was one in which we on this side of the House co-operated with the Government in endeavouring to put it into proper shape. I do not undertake to say whether that has been a great achievement or not. It occupied no fewer than 25 days of the time of the Session. And then, after those Bills, comes a series of others, recommended by Her Majesty, every one of which has been unsuccessful or withdrawn. First of all, we had the Ballot Bill introduced; but it never proceeded very far, and finally it had to be abandoned. Then there was a grand sentence as to the great question of Local Government, to which Her Majesty's Government attached the very greatest importance. We were told that the Metropolis was to be selected as the first subject of experiment, and that, by dealing with that great local Body upon sound and right principles, we should not only accomplish a great feat in the Metropolis, but lay the foundation of a system of local government for the country. That Bill has not been proceeded with at all. It disappeared altogether in the air, and whether we are

to have any further attempts at local government with reference to the Metropolis is a matter on which we are left entirely in the dark. That was a Bill laid aside with very little excuse for other Business which very well might have been postponed. At all events, nothing else so important has been proceeded with in the course of the Session. Then we were to have had the Rivers Conservancy and Floods Prevention Bill for the prevention of floods, and one would have thought that the Government would have carried that to a successful issue. The measure has, however, been allowed to fall through. The same fate has attended the Scotch University Bill and the Education Bill for Wales. Thus, eight out of eleven important measures have failed. Two are practically passed, and as regards the last, the Agricultural Holdings Bill, it remains to be seen what the ultimate result will be. For my part, I hope that measure may be added to those that have been passed. I do not think that the result of the Session which is now drawing to an end is very encouraging. Then, if we have not had the measures which were promised in the Queen's Speech, we have had others, which have taken up a great deal of time, and which were brought forward without there being any real necessity for them. The first to be mentioned among the Bills of that kind is, of course, the Affirmation Bill. That was a measure fortuitously undertaken by the Government. If it had been the original intention of the Government to deal with this question by legislation, surely it was a matter of sufficient importance to be mentioned in the Queen's Speech. But the Speech did not contain any suggestion that such a measure would be introduced; yet a few hours after the delivery of the Speech, and a few minutes before the Speech was read from the Chair, it was announced from the Treasury Bench, in answer to a challenge from Mr. Bradlaugh, that it was the intention of the Government to bring forward a Bill on this subject. I really think that is not the way in which the House ought to be treated if our Business is to be carried on with propriety and dignity. That Bill was not read a second time, a result which was not very satisfactory to the Government. It was one of those mea-

asures which were brought in as after-thoughts, and it was allowed to displace the Business which the Government had deliberately prepared for the country. If that is the way in which our Business is to be conducted, and if well-considered legislative plans are to be set aside for measures of that character, there can be no certainty about Parliamentary transactions. Of course, exceptional legislation and a breach of the prepared programme may be necessary on certain occasions. But there was no such necessity at the time to which I refer, because that which called forth the Bill was well known to the Government when the Queen's Speech was drawn up. It was known then that Mr. Bradlaugh would take steps to take his seat; and if the Government intended to deal with the question by legislation they had an opportunity, which they ought not to have neglected, of making their intention known to the House. I will only refer to the Scotch Local Government Bill to say that that was a measure which was forced upon us in a way which we had no reason to expect. There was no sudden emergency demanding the introduction of the Bill. The administration of Scotch affairs is a matter which the Government must have had before them for some time. It was either a matter that was important for legislation, or it was not; but, really, the way in which it has been brought forward and sprung upon us at the end of the Session does not show that management of Business and that economy of time for which we have a right to look to the Government of the day. I may make the same observations with respect to the Irish Registration Bill, a measure of importance, which was sprung unfairly upon the House when it was becoming wearied and empty, and which has been carried through its several stages after very insufficient consideration. There was, indeed, another Bill brought forward for which I did think there might be some reason. I refer to the Constabulary Bill, which has disappeared. Twenty-one or 22 of the Government Bills have been withdrawn in the present Session, and very few have passed into law. I make these observations because I think the country ought to know what it is that causes the delay in legislation and the unsatisfactory character of much of the legislation. The cause is that there is by far too

of the conduct of affairs in the hands of the Government of the day. I know, of course, the difficulties against which a Government has to contend. There is a constant rivalry and race between the different Departments, each of which wishes to bring forward the measures to which it attaches importance; and the Leader of the House is necessarily very much pressed in the distribution of the time at his command by the attempts that are made by his Colleagues to obtain opportunities for the discussion of the measures in which they are severally specially interested. Unless some rigorous exercise of firmness is shown in repressing the rivalry of different Ministers, we shall find ourselves year after year in the same difficulty in which we have found ourselves this Session. A number of Bills are seen progressing through the House together, and none are finished and got out of hand before they are placed before us. The result is extremely inconvenient to this House, and is remarkably unfair to the other. If the House of Lords is to do its duty, and if we are to obtain the great advantage of the talent, especially the legal talent, to be found in that House, you must adopt some method by which it may be possible to obtain for measures sent up to the other House a deliberate consideration of their merits. The right hon. Gentleman at the head of the Government expressed a wish the other day that we might in some way bring the power of the House of Lords properly to bear upon our legislation; but he said that that was an object difficult of attainment, and the only idea that suggested itself to him was that while certain measures were initiated in this House certain others might be initiated in the House of Lords, which was a course which he thought would not answer. But that is by no means the only thing that might be done. What is especially desirable is that you should strengthen this House the measures which you want the judgment of the House of Lords in time to send them to that House early in the Session, so that you should then consider other measures of your own. That can be

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you will secure a better consideration of the Business of Supply. With reference to the experiment of the Grand Committees, I think that it has operated well in the case of the Bankruptcy Bill; but it does not seem to have worked so well in certain other cases. The subject is one which deserves very careful consideration; and I hope that consideration will be given to it, in a candid manner, when the House re-assembles. Hitherto I have been speaking of the legislation of the Session; but, of course, our Business has not been exclusively legislative. The Business of this House increases largely, the interests with which we have to deal become more and more extensive and widely scattered, and consequently our discussions cover a larger field than formerly. I must say it seems to me that the position in which we are going to leave the affairs of the Empire at the moment of breaking up for the Recess cannot be described as thoroughly satisfactory. I say nothing about the condition of affairs in England, or even in Ireland; but with regard to foreign and Colonial affairs it does seem to me that we are separating in circumstances which justify very considerable anxiety. There are a large number of important questions in connection with which we have to look to the Government, and yet in regard to which we have but very imperfect information as to the intentions of the Government. To take the case of Egypt. Does anybody in this House really know what are the intentions of the Government with respect to that country? Are we to withdraw from it or not? Are we, or are we not, to make sure, before withdrawing from it, that the institutions which we have planted there have taken firm root? Those are questions of the highest importance, and they have been raised during the Session; but I venture to think that even now we are very far from having any clear idea about the intentions of the Government. Then, we are entirely ignorant about their intentions with regard to the Suez Canal. We have a very sanguine forecast in the first instance from the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who said that a plan was to be adopted for the purpose of improving our means of communication through the Canal and benefiting the shipping interests of this country. That arrangement was stated with the perfect con-

viction that it would be a triumphant settlement of a great question. I need not remind the House how the arrangement was received on both sides of the House and by the country. The mixture of disapprobation, dissatisfaction, and even ridicule which that arrangement produced was of a very marked and significant character; and the result was that within about a fortnight of the time when the arrangement was proposed to this House, it had to be withdrawn by the Government as being altogether unacceptable. It never was discussed in this House. Although it had been announced that a discussion was to take place, yet it was withdrawn before that time arrived. In the discussion which we had subsequently on what might be the future proceedings of the Government, the question raised was one as to the pledges that had been given—I think very incautiously—by the Government, and the admissions which had been very incautiously made by them in the course of the negotiations, and which, as it appeared to us on this side of the House, it was necessary to guard against and to protest against. Gentlemen on the other side of the House, even those who disapproved most strongly of the arrangement which the Government had made, did not think themselves at liberty to break away from their Party allegiance, and to join us in the course which we felt bound to take. But whether they did so or not, the point which is perfectly clear is this—that there is a strong feeling on the part of large interests in this country, irrespective of politics, that it is a wrong thing for the Government to admit, and that it would be wrong to sanction, the admission of such a claim as that to which attention was drawn in the course of the discussion. Whether, in consequence of the failure of that arrangement, and in consequence of the vote of the House upon a subsequent point that arose, the matter is now to be allowed to go to sleep, or whether there is to be a real effort made to meet the wants of the country, and to rectify or improve upon the arrangement which was attempted, and which so significantly failed, is a matter as to which we are at present quite unable to judge. We are also left in doubt and uncertainty as to the condition of the Empire in itself. I have

been speaking about the position in Egypt, and the position of our communications with the different parts of the British Empire; but with regard to the Empire itself, it is impossible to say that there is that state of satisfaction and quiet progress which certainly we were all led to expect by the present Government would be at once attained, by the very fact of their being placed at the helm, and taking charge of the Business and relations of the country. It was given to us to understand that all the difficulties there were in our situation arose from the misconduct of the late Government, and that if there was anything wrong in what took place under the present Government, it was to be put down to the "original sin," and not to any transgression on their part. That is a very comfortable doctrine, no doubt, to a great many individuals, who feel themselves to be doing what they ought not to do. No doubt it is convenient for the Government, when they are hardly pressed, to turn round and say—"This is not our fault; it is the fault of our Predecessors." But the Government were placed in power in order that they might put matters into a right train. We do not admit, of course, the charges made against the late Government; but, assuming that there was something wrong, that is no excuse for their Successors for not making the best of the circumstances with which they themselves had to deal. I am bound to say that anything more uncertain, anything more confusing, anything more dangerous than the course they have held with regard to various parts of our Colonial Empire and our Indian Empire, it is difficult to conceive. Look at South Africa. There are questions with regard to the Transvaal, with regard to Bechuanaland, and with regard to Basutoland; and I defy anybody to know what is the policy Her Majesty's Government are pursuing in regard to any of them, or to say with any confidence that we should not have an entire upset there; and that a very serious catastrophe may not occur at any time within a week's notice. We leave the matter in the hands of the Government, because we cannot help ourselves. [*Ironical cheers.*] Hon. Members opposite cheer that sentiment as if it were a satisfactory thing. Those best acquainted with the condition of South

Africa—such an authority as the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Bradford (Mr. W. E. Forster), who would hardly be accused of being a Party man opposed to the Government, and others whom we might select—will not feel that complete confidence which seems to irradiate the countenance of the hon. Gentleman the Member for Stockton (Mr. Dodds). Then there is this Madagascar business. The gloom which hangs over large portions of South Africa hangs with double and treble darkness over our relations with Madagascar and what is going on there. I do not touch upon the subject now further than to say that the reticence of the Government, although there may be some reason for it, is in itself a very alarming symptom. I think, unless there is some strong justification for it, it is a very serious mistake on their part. Of course, we do not want and it would be wrong for us to press the Government to give the proceeds of the negotiations now being carried on if those negotiations have not been completed, and if they are not in a position in which they could properly be communicated. But heaping back the facts of the case has an ugly appearance, and it is impossible for us to accept with acquiescence such statements as those which we hear—that Her Majesty's Government cannot give the facts without laying all the despatches before the House. I cannot understand why a simple narrative might not have been given of the facts which are undisputed and within the knowledge of the Government, and which form the real history of the case; and I think misrepresentations in the public Press, or among the public generally, in the course of the Session will be very much owing to the reticence and the mystery with which the Government have dealt with the question at a time when frankness would have been the proper course to adopt. The impression produced is that there is something very wrong, and that the Government are afraid to mention it to the House and the public, for fear lest they should be obliged, by pressure of public opinion, to take a course which they do not wish to take. I do not think that it

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cessary, and in such a manner as to show that the Government are completely masters of the case, and are dealing with it in what they think is the best way, the public will acquiesce readily in any demands that may be made upon them for moderation and reserve in speaking upon these questions. But if we are to be kept entirely in the dark, and if, at the same time, in some of the answers which have been given, we are unable to see whether the Government are really in possession of all the facts, and whether they have made themselves masters of them, when anything is brought out it may have a most injurious effect, and produce very great excitement. There are one or two other points on which I might also touch. One of the great and cardinal points of the policy of the present Government was that they were going to entirely set aside the wicked policy of their Predecessors in Afghanistan, and that they were themselves about to adopt a policy of entire abstention from interference in the concerns of that country. Now, however, we require some further explanation, for we hear that a large subsidy is to be paid to the Ameer. That subsidy is, apparently, to be given with no fixed Treaty or arrangement; but still it is obviously to be given with the intention of making ourselves masters of the foreign policy of Afghanistan. In fact, that is very much the policy of the late Government; but we ought to have a clear understanding in regard to the policy which Her Majesty's Government are pursuing, and to the reasons which induced them to think it necessary to offer this large subsidy. It looks as if they thought it more necessary to take precautions against the advance of some other Power than they have hitherto been willing to admit. When I refer to India, it is impossible not to say a word on another cause of anxiety which we have in that country. I do not wish, however, to dwell upon it at any length, as we shall have some other opportunity of discussing it; but I wish to express my own feeling very strongly on one point. I think, as I have always thought, that it is of the highest importance that we should take such measures as can be taken for a proper system of the admission of the Natives to a share in the administration of justice. It has been the object pursued by many Administrations, and has al-

ways been the object we have had in view. But, at the same time, you must also consider and show that you have had consideration for the interests and the feelings of the Europeans in India, and the reconciling of these two objects is a matter of considerable delicacy and difficulty. Now, it seems to me that the steps taken in India, with, no doubt, the best possible motives, have been taken at a time and in a manner that tend to make more difficult of attainment the very object which we all desire to attain. The Government have raised a storm which was perfectly unnecessary. They have evoked feelings which it was most desirable not to raise, and have thrown back the question of the proper employment of Natives instead of advancing it; and I cannot but regret extremely the position in which we are placed. I am most anxious that we should abstain from making Indian questions questions of a Party character. We are very imperfectly informed on many questions that have arisen, and I should deprecate anything that would interfere improperly with the action of the Indian Government; but, so far as our expressions of opinion on this side of the world could go, I would be most anxious to impress upon those responsible for the conduct of Indian affairs the very great delicacy and difficulty which appears to us to be in the way they are now pursuing. As to the precise steps which are to be taken when the matter comes next under review, I abstain from saying anything with regard to it. I hope there will be no false pride in the matter, and no neglect of that which must always be regarded as the first consideration—what is due to the Europeans in India. They are the men, after all, to whom we must look for much that is to be done in the improvement of India. I speak of the unofficial Europeans. It is to their capital and enterprize that India must in the future largely owe its progress. And it is the confidence that they will inspire, and which our official Europeans will inspire in the whole country, to which we have to look as the great safeguard of our position there. When speaking of India, we must take care that we do not confuse a particular class who are affected by such measures to which I have referred with the whole population of India. The whole population of India goes far beyond those

classes, and we must bear in mind the effect which anything which will lower, or appear to lower, the position of the English authorities may have upon the great mass of the Indian population which we collect together under the general title of our Indian Empire. I will not refer to any other questions, as I feel we are now approaching the end of the Session, and that we ought to facilitate the progress of the remaining Business; but I could not refrain from making a few observations upon the history of the Session.

MR. GLADSTONE: Sir, the right hon. Gentleman is unquestionably quite within his right in availing himself of this opportunity of reviewing, in any degree of detail which he thinks public duty requires, the proceedings of the past Session. Naturally, he is sorry that time should be spent in anything at this moment except absolute forwarding of the Business; but, at the same time, the process is a legitimate one, and certainly one that he is entitled to undertake and carry through. With the exception of the general charge of the right hon. Gentleman, and the passages of his speech where he went into vague and unspecified and unsustained assumptions, I make very little complaint indeed of the spirit in which he has made his comments. I do not agree with them. But from the right hon. Gentleman's point of view they are fair enough. I can very much shorten my reply to that part of his speech which refers to legislation, for I think it was generally felt he was somewhat insufficient in his numerical manner of handling the measures mentioned in the Queen's Speech at the commencement of the Session. I do not admit his statement as correct. The right hon. Gentleman says 11 measures were propounded in the Speech, of which we had carried two or three, and, therefore, lost eight or nine. There were 13 measures propounded in the Speech from the Throne. The right hon. Gentleman forgets that there were necessarily not one but two measures with regard to compensation of tenants, and that a different Bill was needed for Scotland, differing necessarily in particulars from the English Bill. I think he will also find that he entirely omitted the Patents for Inventions Bill.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE: That is not mentioned in the Speech.

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MR. GLADSTONE: Reference has been made, and I find that that Bill was mentioned in the Speech. Therefore, my representation of the case is that not two or three Bills out of 11, but five out of 13 have, so far as this House is concerned, been passed. With the single exception of the London Government Bill, which it was quite impossible to undertake, the five Bills which we have passed are decidedly of a much more weighty class than the eight Bills we have not passed. There is no Bill amongst these eight Bills which, for a moment, was to be compared with the Bankruptcy Bill, the Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illeg Practices) Bill, and the Agricultural Holdings Bill. I think the right hon. Gentleman, who has some experience of the difficulty of dealing with a business of tenants' compensation, and sees how possible it is for Government and the House to devote themselves with good faith to the subject, to find the result of their legislative labours almost at zero, might give a little more credit to the House of Commons for its labours in the quarter. But my points are these—first, that the right hon. Gentleman has not accurately summed up the totals of his figures as to the Bills in the Queen's Speech; and even when that correction is made, another is required, because the Bills that have not been passed are of far less scope and weight than the Bills which the devoted labours of this House and its Grand Committee have passed. I think that is enough for me to say; but I do not hesitate to affirm, looking at the past 50 years, that the legislative labours of the House during the present year, though, practically, they did not begin until after Easter, have been far beyond those of an average year. And if that is so—and I think the country knows that it is so—the small criticisms upon the numbers of the Bills mentioned in the Queen's Speech are criticisms which we can very well afford to bear. The right hon. Gentleman has made a reference to the Appropriation Bill which amends the

it is silver or gold. The intention of the Affirmation Bill was this. It was not that we thought upon religious grounds that the question of religious qualifications for admission to Parliament required legislative handling. Certainly not. Until recent times no difficulty was raised. Every man, with or without belief, came into this House unimpeded by religious tests. But a great struggle had been initiated in the country. I am sorry to speak of a great struggle between an individual and the House of Commons; but it is a great and serious struggle, in which every man knows which Party is finally to be the winner; he knows that the struggle will end in the defeat of the vote which has been given. The House of Commons had reached a point in this struggle in which there was a serious menace of public disorder, of public scandal; and the Government, acting upon the principle on which they have always acted, while adhering to its own convictions, offered their assistance to enable the House to escape from what they think was a critical, and ultimately, in a certain sense, a dangerous dilemma, and they proposed to legislate on the subject. What happened? Two weeks of the public time—four Government nights—were employed on the second reading. I am not here to make any charge against any particular Party in this House; but I am going to assert my deliberate conviction that had the question arisen in the House 30 years ago the second reading would have been disposed of in one night. There are only a few present who were here 30 years ago; but I am sure that they are conversant with the conditions that the second reading of a Bill of an analogous kind would be disposed of in one night. It was a well-known fact that the loss of Christianity was to be the result of the admission of the Jews. That was as serious a matter, and it might as well have been debated for four nights as the Affirmation Bill, which related to the somewhat shadowy distinctions that are now erected into a substantial barrier. The question as to Roman Catholic Emancipation, no doubt, took longer; but with that were mixed up vast and important political questions. The admission of the Jews was, however, an analogous case, where the Business in former times was disposed of in one

night. I am not referring to this as a matter of reproach. There can be no doubt the scale of speech is enormously altered in this House. I believe examination would sustain the doctrine that one mischief we have to contend with, apart from the charge of Obstruction, is the increasing Business of the country; and we have to recognize the fact that the increase is not to be disposed of without a greater expenditure of time. In consequence of the severe labours of last year, it was necessary to lop off a fortnight from the commencement of the Session; a fortnight was lost, as far as the Business of the Government was concerned, by the Affirmation Bill, and rather more than a fortnight was devoted to the discussion of the Address. It is impossible that the transaction of Business can be brought to a satisfactory state if the House is to initiate the Session by devoting a fortnight of its freshest energies to a vague discussion of immeasurable width, absolutely without result on almost every subject. I cannot but be persuaded that the right hon. Gentleman joins me in the hope that this may be avoided, unless on occasions it is found necessary to raise in a serious manner some great public question which may be justly made the subject of an Amendment to the Address, and that the House will revert to the old practice which has been established for so long a period, and which we have maintained, I think I may say, in unbroken succession, since the passing of the Reform Bill, with only the legitimate exceptions to which I have referred, for I feel that an initial direction is given to the proceedings which vitiates the labours of the Session. To deal with Bills in order, taking first one and then another, is an excellent rule as far as it can be pursued; but it must be varied by delay in the printing and circulation of Bills, and the necessity of informing the country with respect to them. As to the House of Lords, I am not a fervent admirer of its legislative performances; but, at the same time, it ought to have fair play, which it can hardly be said to have had, as their Lordships have not received Bills from this House in time to bestow upon them the labours which they might have done in more favourable circumstances. It is idle to make vague complaints on the subject. The reason why Bills do not go to the House of

Lords in proper time is that this House is not master of its own time, and it is not from ill intention or neglect on the part of the House. The difficulty is felt most when the Government attempts much legislation, and there is a difference between Governments in this respect. I do not wish to draw any invidious comparison; but we had hoped to accomplish more than usual, and the effect is greater pressure and inconvenience. But I do not hesitate to say—and this is the main matter—the effect, on the whole, is a greater result than the average of ordinary years. The great object Members should set before themselves is the restoring to the House proper command over its own time; and it is idle to dream that such an end can be attained by coercive and repressive measures. Repressive Rules have done some good this year, and in the future may do more; but it is idle to look to them as a means of achieving the great restorative change we want to bring about. What we must look to is the multiplication of the means of action through the medium of Grand Committees; and therefore I accept with thankfulness the generally satisfactory declaration of the right hon. Gentleman on this subject. He has taunted some of my right hon. Friends, indeed, with not having given greater encouragement to a suggestion made by him some four or five years ago that a large Committee might be appointed to consider a particular subject, and the House of Commons, on receiving its Report, might be disposed to accept the Bill and allow the work of that large Committee to stand in lieu of a Committee of the Whole House. It may be so—I have no recollection of it—but I offered my support to a similar suggestion by the hon. Member for Mid Lincolnshire (Mr. Chaplin) in reference to the Agricultural Holdings Bill. I rejoice in the acknowledgment now made as to the capacity of the Grand Committees for rendering real service; but I remember the difficulty we had in inducing hon. Gentlemen opposite to accede to the experiment when it was proposed, which was due, perhaps, to the fact that the proposal was discussed at the end of the special Session devoted to the Rules of Procedure. Our Business now is to look to the future, and I earnestly hope, in the interests of every Government and of the country, that the House will set

itself in a serious spirit to a further development of this important experiment. If it fails, I am convinced the House will never resume that freedom and mastery in regard to its own Business which it has always had until comparatively recent years. Well, I will pass from that. I am sorry the right hon. Gentleman remarked that he had nothing to say as to Ireland. If the state of the country had not been improved by firm, but beneficent, government, and the working of the Land Act, I do not think he would have been reticent; but the results that have been brought about by the working of the Act, and the vigorous government of Lord Spencer, deserved a word of acknowledgment from the right hon. Gentleman. As to Egypt, I do not think a fortnight has passed since we spent a whole night in discussing it; and, therefore, the remark of the right hon. Gentleman that we have "approached" the discussion of it is an illustration of what I lament—the immeasurable and insatiable appetite which appears to be seizing us all for boundless talk, and which is so entirely unsatisfied that it requires to make Egypt the subject of a doleful diatribe at the end of the Session. In my conviction the Government have said all that circumstances warrant; and I shall not add to, take away from, or repeat their several declarations. The right hon. Gentleman referred to the Suez Canal. I should have thought that in the late debate the right hon. Gentleman had had enough of the Suez Canal. I have never been particularly proud of any of our performances; I have never pitched high our claims upon this matter; yet I think our workmanship, on the whole, will bear quite favourable comparison with the workmanship of those who framed the Resolution which the right hon. Gentleman submitted to the House. The right hon. Gentleman said we have been incautious in the matter of the Suez Canal; but the right hon. Gentleman and his Government thought it quite prudent to buy the shares of the Suez Canal without knowing what monopoly M. de Lesseps claimed. [Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOKE: No, no!] But he did. The letters in the *For*

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though their value greatly depended upon those claims, without making any inquiry into the nature of the claims. The right hon. Gentleman need be under no apprehension, because our desire is, if it be possible—and I think it to be possible and even not improbable—that the commercial classes themselves, who are, in many respects, better judges of the points of these cases than any Government can be, should, by and for themselves, be brought into direct contact with the directing power of the Suez Canal. Inasmuch as this is the end of August, and it will be but five months more before we have the pleasure of looking one another in the face again across the Table—[An hon. Member: Six months.]—six months it may be; but it is not likely that anything very dreadful will happen between this time and that with respect to the Suez Canal. Certainly, nothing that has occurred will induce us to look with an evil eye on any single-minded and practical proposition that may be launched for improving the position of that great historic work for the commerce of the world. Here I come to the generalities of the right hon. Gentleman, and I think them less satisfactory than his particular observations. He said great wonders were to be attained by the fact of our accession to Office. Who said it? For my part, I endeavoured to make those who are now my constituents sensible of the enormous difficulties interposed on an incoming Government, and of the long time that must elapse before anything like the necessary modification and change could be made. The right hon. Gentleman asked—Have you set the world to rights? I answer—No, Sir; we have not, and I do not expect that we shall. When we regard the scope and range of the British Empire, I think it would be a return to the days of Paradise, if a Leader of the Opposition could not lay his finger on a particular place and say—“Here is a state of uncertainty.” But I think I may remind the right hon. Gentleman that some things, at any rate, have been done since the present Government took Office. I may remind him that at that time there were two territorial questions under the Treaty of Berlin, one in Greece, and the other in Montenegro, each of which, taken by itself, was a danger to the peace of the Levant and the peace of

Europe. These questions have been settled and the dangers obviated. Let the right hon. Gentleman recall these facts in his reminiscences of the period of the present Government. Then he goes to Afghanistan, and he says it was understood we were never to meddle in Afghanistan. Who understood that? Who said that? Who pledged us never to meddle in the affairs of Afghanistan? How was it possible, when we found Afghanistan, once a united and comparatively happy country, broken and smashed into fragments and in a state of anarchy, to bind ourselves to such a proposition? We found Afghanistan broken into pieces, and we have done something towards its restoration, so that, at any rate, the future of Afghanistan will depend on the capacity and inclination of its people, and not on the will of a foreign tyranny. That is something on which, I think, we may look with satisfaction. The right hon. Gentleman appears to glance with censure at the payment of a subvention to the Ruler of Afghanistan. I do not desire to exclude that from debate or censure. But the right hon. Gentleman spoke as if this was a proceeding without parallel or example; but the names of Governor Generals who are remembered in India with honour and gratitude, Lord Lawrence and Lord Mayo, are likewise associated with the rendering of pecuniary assistance to the Ameers of Afghanistan. I am not aware that at any time any Member of the present Government was bold enough to commit himself to the view that such a payment should never be made. The right hon. Gentleman does not notice any of the things in which we took anything but an apologetic position; but as he refers to the professions that were made before the accession of the present Government, I may remind him that one of the favourite subjects at the General Election was the state of the finances. We had before us a long series of deficits, which threatened to become unbroken. I am happy to say that that series of deficits, without any great constructive changes, but coincident with our accession to Office, has ceased to exist; and a series of small surpluses, which represents the true principle of the balance between expenditure and revenue, has taken their place. The right hon. Gentleman goes on to Madagas-

car; and his proposition, as I understand it, may be summed up in these words—that there has been great reticence on the part of the Government and keeping back of facts, and that there exists in the public mind an impression that, in consequence of this reticence, there is something or other wrong. With regard to the impression in the public mind, I have means, perhaps, equal to those of the right hon. Gentleman of ascertaining what is the impression of the public mind. I cannot say better; but I do not believe there is any such impression in the public mind. If it be true that there are very formidable facts in the case which are the cause of our reticence, our position will be a very unsatisfactory one when we come to see the Papers, because our language has been in a contrary direction. We said at first, and say now, that in all these matters, which ought to be frankly and calmly discussed, and, it may be, the subject of friendly explanation, nothing has occurred, so far as our judgment goes, to disturb the minds of any of those—and, thank God, they are many—who set a high value on the alliance between England and France. With respect to the reticence, I am surprised that the right hon. Gentleman should refer to it. I have no wish to go back on former years; but I confess that my opinion is that reticence was never carried so far within my knowledge as in the time of the late Government. Never. It was in March, I think in 1878, that the Conferences of Peshawur were held, which virtually determined the Afghan War. It was after these Conferences, I think, that assurances were given in the Upper House that there was no substantial change in policy, and it was not till 18 months after these Conferences that Parliament became aware that they existed when they had already blossomed into the fatal and dreadful Afghan War. I think it requires some courage to speak of reticence to us. It was only on the 7th of August that the Admiralty received a manuscript of what we have declared to be an intricate Correspondence, and one requiring a course of communications between the two Governments; and, forthwith, it is reticence that we are not now, on the 21st of August, ready to declare the result of the whole matter. The right hon. Gentleman knows very well that incessant questioning upon these

subjects is a matter of some responsibility. This is a matter on which I have no apprehension whatever that either of the Governments will be disturbed in the slightest degree; but there have been times, and I am sorry they are growing more frequent—the Spring of last year was one of them—when Questions have been put by a large number of Members with almost tumultuous eagerness under the guise of calling the Government to account, but almost every Question reflecting and raising injurious presumptions, if not charges, against some other Power or Government, when that questioning itself has been a sort of danger to the country, and constituted, perhaps, the principal difficulties with which the existing Government had had to contend in the discharge of its duties. But this was a matter in which I do not entertain any such apprehensions. I do not speak of the policy of France. It is possible that the opinion of the British public is unfavourable to that policy; but I think it better that the British Government should have no official opinion in the matter, but limit itself to the letter of its own rights, while recognizing the just rights and claims of others. The right hon. Gentleman refers to the Government of India. I am glad to hear his speech in favour of the admission of the Natives to Office; but I am sorry to hear him, by hints and suggestions, convey an impression about the measures and policy of Lord Ripon which can only tend to weaken the hands of that Nobleman. The right hon. Gentleman says it is a very proper thing indeed to extend the admission to office to Natives; but it has been mismanaged—the steps have not been taken at the right time; they have not been taken in the right manner; and, in consequence, the cause has been thrown back, and great attention ought to be paid to the sentiments of the Anglo-Indian community. Well, Sir, I have had much to do for a long period with a series of questions, and I am not aware at this moment of any series of great reforms which have been brought about by the courage, and the wisdom, and the foresight of the British Legislature in—

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support of those residents in the West Indian Colonies, whose opinions, from their experience and knowledge, were undoubtedly of considerable weight. I do not remember that the establishment of a responsible Government in Canada, and of that new system of relations with Colonial institutions which has completely established harmony, where before there was perpetual discord—I do not remember that that establishment of responsible Government, and that introduction of political reform, were treated in the Colonies by those who, up to that time, laid claim to what was called the British Party, and represented themselves as having a monopoly of loyalty—I do not remember they ever received those reforms except with opposition. In 1862 the Government of Lord Palmerston re-united the people of the Ionian Islands with those of their own race, of their own religion, of their own feeling and condition; but there was a British Party there, and that British Party from point to point resisted everything that was proposed for the benefit of the people. Sir, it is the same thing all over the world; and it is not because these resident English communities are made up of people who are worse than ourselves. Do not let it be supposed I have any accusation to make against them; but their position is less favourable than ours for forming a comprehensive judgment. They are doomed almost to narrow modes of examining these questions, and we are compelled to look over the course of history and over the surface of the world. They each of them look at themselves in relation to persons whom they feel to be, in energy and certain practical effects, inferior to themselves; and there is a tendency to indulge in a spirit of ascendancy which it is the business of this House and of this Legislature, and the business of a patriotic Governor General with wisdom and with care, but with decision, to modify and to check. No evidence has come before me, and none before this Government, to convict Lord Ripon of any want either of courage or of discretion in this matter. It is true that there has been great resistance to Lord Ripon. If it is not impertinent, I may mention that I have a son in Calcutta who is a thorough approver of Lord Ripon's policy, and I am bound to say his report is that he is not certain

whether he can find three other men in Calcutta who can agree with him. This is not the first time that such a state of things has existed. Go back to the time when Indian Natives began to be entrusted with judicial functions; go back to the time when the liberty of the Press was enacted in India; go back to the period of Lord William Bentinck and Lord Macaulay, and you will find that the storm which has arisen in India, violent as it is, is less violent and less menacing by far than the storms which then arose. And so it will be in the future. You will go on—you will be compelled to go on; but I hope, what is more, you will be inclined to go on in the noble and upright and blessed work of gradually enlarging the Indian franchise. You will have to look this opposition in the face, and you will have to observe all the rules of circumspection and prudence in the measures you take; and no amount of circumspection and prudence will save you from that opposition. It will become milder from time to time. This Anglo-Indian community is made up of honourable and upright men. They may have their prejudices, and I think they have; but as they come nearer to the facts, and look them more closely in the face, they will begin by degrees to recognize they give to unreal dangers and to shadowy dangers an importance they do not deserve. Every step made in this direction is not only a step towards attaching to yourselves the minds of the vast population of India; but it is a step towards establishing between the different races of that country—between Europeans and Natives—a degree of harmony which in former times did not exist. You have not to go back very far when any idea of any rights or capacity on the part of the Natives of India was regarded as most unnatural and monstrous. Happily, we have outlived that. But we have some other superstitions to outlive. We have a work before us in the performance of which undoubtedly the powers and capacity—the moral as well as intellectual capacity—of this country will be severely strained. I confidently believe we shall continue to go on steadily and steadfastly in that path, and I am persuaded that if we are enabled so to do we shall more and more, from year to year, realize the debt of gratitude we owe to those Governors General of India, those

eminent men of whom we have had many, who have fought and laboured hard among the crushing details of their high Office to inculcate among their fellow-countrymen the broad principles of generosity and justice towards the vast population under their charge and rule. Those men have been the workmen, the most efficient and chiefest workmen, in building up that great and glorious fabric of truly civilized society which it is our duty and task and high privilege to administer throughout the vast regions of the world.

ENGLAND AND GERMANY—DESIRABILITY OF ALLIANCE.

OBSERVATIONS.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT, who had given Notice of the following Motion:—

"That, in the opinion of this House, an alliance between Her Majesty's Government and the German Powers will afford the best guarantee for the interests of Great Britain and for the peace of Europe,"

said, the community in India would read with alarm the concluding words of the right hon. Gentleman. It was a bold thing to say that hon. Gentlemen in the House of Commons were better acquainted with the needs and dangers of our great Empire in India than those who had spent their lives among the people of that country, and who were enriching it with their enterprize and their capital. It would be unfortunate if the Ministry who had produced anarchy in Ireland, and anarchy in the Transvaal and in Zululand, and anarchy in Egypt, and anarchy wherever their policy had had effect, should produce anarchy in India. That certainly would be the legitimate result of their policy. The right hon. Gentleman made some unfortunate allusions to the question of slavery and the Ionian Islands. He might have remembered that it was himself who demanded compensation for the slave owners of the West Indies, while he refused it to the landlords of Ireland; and that Prince Bismarck had stated that the cession of the Ionian Islands by the right hon. Gentleman marked the beginning of the decadence of the Empire. The right hon. Gentleman's speech was based on fallacies from beginning to end. The right hon. Gentleman indulged in some glorification with regard to the conduct of the Greek

negotiations. The Greek nation had been involved unnecessarily in an expenditure of £7,000,000 and a dangerous mobilization, and then compelled by the British Government to accept three-fifths of what they had promised to Greece. As a matter of fact, the settlement of that question was brought about, not by Her Majesty's Government, but in spite of them. The extraordinary claim of the right hon. Gentleman in that respect was only equalled by his reference to Ireland. He told the right hon. Gentleman the Leader of the Opposition that he had forgotten what the Government had done for Ireland. The Prime Minister himself seemed to have forgotten that the Conservative Party left Ireland in a state of peace and prosperity. ["Oh!"] Well, there were only 63 crimes in Ireland in the month preceding that in which the present Government took Office; but in the same month of the same year—December—there were no less than 867 crimes—that is, a greater number than in the whole 12 months of 1870. ["Oh, oh!"] If the hon. Member for Stockton (Mr. Dedds) found his remarks offensive, he would suggest that the hon. Member should go and dine.

MR. SPEAKER: I must draw the attention of the hon. Member to the fact that he is not addressing the House upon the Motion which he has placed upon the Paper.

MR. ONSLOW said, he rose to a point of Order. He wished to ask the Speaker whether he had heard the frequent interruptions of the hon. Member for Stockton indulged in, not only on this occasion, but on many others? It was out of respect to the Prime Minister and the House that hon. Members on his (Mr. Onslow's) side had not risen to call attention to the matter before.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT said, for his part, he always treated the hon. Member for Stockton with the contempt his discourteous interruptions deserved.

MR. SPEAKER: The conduct of the hon. Member for Stockton is not the Question before the House.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT said, he would take no further notice of such interruptions on the Prime Minister's terms are on the

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carry out the policy of their Predecessors. His Notice was to the effect that an alliance between England and Germany afforded the best guarantee for the interests of Great Britain and the peace of Europe. For a country like ours, with its extended Empire, its small Army, and the temptations it afforded to ambitious Governments, the question of alliance was a vital one. But alliances must be based upon mutual interests; and the wisest policy was to seek that alliance which should prove the strongest. England, Germany, and Austria, the three great pacific States, were threatened, on one side, by the ambitious despotism of Russia, and, on the other, by the restless democracy of France. Although he was by no means hostile to France, it must be acknowledged that she was a natural rival of ours in the Mediterranean and Egypt; and there could be no doubt that Russia occupied a still more hostile position towards us in Asia. Recognizing this fact, Lord Beaconsfield formed, at Berlin, an alliance with the German Powers, and upon that he based his policy; but, at the same time, he maintained good relations with France. Could the same be said of the relations of the present Government with France, whose efforts at aggrandizement were threatening our power and influence from one end of the world to the other? Her Majesty's Government had brought things to this pass; they had abandoned the strong German alliance received from their Predecessors, and had thoroughly alienated France. The President of the Local Government Board—

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member has a Notice of Amendment on the second reading of the Bill. In order to bring himself in Order in moving this Amendment, it is necessary that his observations should be relevant. The hon. Member's observations have not yet been relevant.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT ventured to point out that, in previous years, great range had been allowed on the second reading of the Bill, and that, on that occasion, the noble Marquess the Secretary of State for War, and the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, had raised important questions of general policy. The anxiety to substitute a working alliance with France for the alliance with the German Powers was

very largely, if not entirely, due to the unfortunate influence of the President of the Local Government Board, whose French proclivities were so well known, and whose removal from the post he formerly occupied as Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs was of great advantage to the nation. In spite of the assurances of the right hon. Gentleman, the course of events proved that there was no effectual understanding between the two countries. Owing to the anxiety of the Government to work with France there had been a great weakening of our power and influence in Europe. And yet our relations with France could be described only in the words of the Prime Minister as "grave and painful." The Prime Minister, for purposes of his own, had put the country in possession of certain vague statements in support of the views he wished people to entertain; but he had refused to give information with respect to the recent insults offered to British subjects in Madagascar. The condition in which we were left with regard to that question was most unsatisfactory. The first point to which he wished to call attention was, that the flag of our Consul at Tamatave had been hauled down by the French. Another point was, that the French Admiral had boarded a British packet ship without declaration of war, seized her mails, and had endeavoured to seize our Consular despatches; and a third, that British subjects had been arrested. It had been clearly shown that Mr. Shaw was not permitted to see his wife, or to communicate with the Commander of the *Dryad*, who was acting as Vice Consul. That being so, he was much surprised that the Prime Minister should say that there was nothing to show that Mr. Shaw was denied any means of defending himself. The state of affairs in Madagascar ought to give us serious concern, because the action of the French might affect our trade with Mauritius. Such matters were of vastly more importance than many of the clap-trap questions which Ministers had placed in the forefront of their policy. In other quarters of the world our trade was also threatened. For example, if the French were to conquer and hold Annam and Tonquin, our interests might suffer greatly. Whether or not British trade between Tonquin and Annam was to be impeded, and whether or not our trade

with Mauritius was to be paralyzed, were very serious questions. Then, on the West Coast of Africa—

MR. SPEAKER: I must again point out to the hon. Member that he is not addressing himself either to the Bill before the House or to the Amendment of which he has given Notice.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT explained that he had begun his remarks with the proposition that the subserviency of the Government to the French alliance had involved this country in troubles all over the world; and he now desired to point out how much injury the aggressive policy of France was doing to the country, and that they ought to have preferred an alliance with the German Powers. Such an alliance would have prevented the troubles which had arisen from a different policy, and would have enabled the Government to deal effectively with French insults and aggression. He would now sum up the results of the European policy of the present Government. The alliance of the Government with France had enabled that country to obtain Tunis, and had led to the refusal of the Commercial Treaty, to the Egyptian War, and to the aggression of France in Tonquin, in the Congo, and in Madagascar, to which he had already referred. By all of these our trade had been detrimentally affected. He advocated a close understanding, and, if possible, an alliance with the German Powers, who really controlled the policy of Europe at the present time, and were likely to control it for the next 20 years. Never was Germany so strong, so pacific, so secure at home and abroad as at the present time. She had repressed revolution within her land, and had won an almost invincible position in Europe. Our interests were more nearly coincident with those of Germany than of any other Great Power. The Government had now an opportunity of securing the good-will of Germany, Austria, and Italy. As an alliance with those countries would be the best way of safeguarding our interests and securing the peace of Europe, he hoped they would take advantage of that opportunity, instead of continuing their ineffectual and mischievous alliance with the shift and unstable Republic of France.

MR. SPEAKER: Does the hon. Member move his Amendment?

Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT: I will not, under the circumstances, trouble the House by doing so.

SUEZ (SECOND) CANAL.

OBSERVATIONS.

MR. BOURKE said, that the Prime Minister had expressed surprise that his right hon. Friend the Member for North Devon (Sir Stafford Northcote) had not made mention of the debate on the Suez Canal; and he appeared to be perfectly satisfied with the result of that debate. There were many Members on his (Mr. Bourke's) side of the House who would have been pleased if a direct Vote of Censure had been moved on that occasion; but their regret at the failure in that respect was, to a certain extent, mitigated when they found that a supporter of the Government proposed himself to move what amounted practically to a Vote of Censure, and that the Government were themselves actually prepared to support that vote. The Resolution proposed by the hon. Member for Hull (Mr. Norwood) certainly amounted to a Vote of Censure, for he proposed that the House should not pledge itself to a particular measure which the Government had just before pledged themselves to a direct course which the House repudiated. The right hon. Gentleman said that at the time of the purchase of the Suez Canal shares the then existing Government were not aware of the claim of M. de Lesseps to a monopoly. It was very difficult to say whether the Government were aware of it or not; but the Foreign Office was then certainly in possession of the despatches in which the claim was made, and it was repudiated by the Representatives of that Office (Colonel Staunton and Henry Elliot), who treated it as absurd and not worthy the attention of the Government. The claim was put forward in the most shadowy way by M. de Lesseps, perhaps for the purpose of trying what the credulity of Her Majesty's Government would bring forth; but we were represented by very able agents, who at once repudiated the claim and no more was heard of it. Then the Prime Minister said—"If this

man would apply himself to the most elementary principles of the purchase of those shares he would see that it would have been impossible for the question to be raised at that time. The negotiations for the purchase of the shares were entered into by Her Majesty's late Government, not with M. de Lesseps, but with the Khedive, who was the holder of those shares. They were bought for political considerations, and they had been a great success from a political point of view. No one had dared to say anything in the last debate against the policy of the purchase of the shares, although a great deal was heard at Mid Lothian about the bargain being an unfortunate and foolish one, both commercially and politically. Every commercial man knew that if the Government were to sell the shares tomorrow, they would gain £7,000,000 or £8,000,000. One of the most regrettable results of the arrangement recently entered into by the Government with M. de Lesseps was that it left in a most unsatisfactory position negotiations which might be set on foot by different persons in England for a second Canal. As long as there was only one Canal, and as long as that Canal was in the hands of the French Company, so long would it be impossible for the commercial classes of this country and of the world to obtain any redress. In fact, the only means of redress was by a second Canal either *in esse* or *in posse*. Supposing a second Canal were decided upon, and £8,000,000 or £9,000,000 had been advanced by this country, in seven years the traffic would amount to 12,000,000 tons. Six million tons at 5 francs per ton—this would produce 30,000,000 francs, or £1,200,000 revenue. If the expenditure had been £300,000, this would leave a balance of £900,000, and in about 14 years this would form a Sinking Fund, which would redeem the whole cost of the Canal. As long as a monopoly was recognized by Her Majesty's Government, so long would there be an end of all hope of any improvement in the way in which the Suez Canal was conducted. He had no desire to take away any of the just rights of M. de Lesseps. Let M. de Lesseps be treated in a most liberal manner. He had performed a great service to commerce; but for him to set up this monopoly, which was never contemplated at the time the Canal was

made, was an intention utterly inconsistent with the greatness of those views which he claimed for himself when he recognized that the work which he had performed had been of great service to the world.

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE said, the right hon. Gentleman opposite had alluded more particularly to the affairs of the Suez Canal, and had not attempted to follow the hon. Gentleman the Member for Eye (Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett) in that wide survey of mankind from China to Peru which he had laid before the House. He desired, in the first place, to answer the right hon. Gentleman upon the specific points he had raised. First of all, with regard to the monopoly of the Suez Canal, the right hon. Gentleman had stated that, in his opinion, the Prime Minister was not justified in the observations which he made in regard to the transactions of the year 1872, because in that year, as the Papers presented to Parliament showed, not merely, as the Prime Minister stated, was the claim of M. de Lesseps brought to the notice of the Foreign Office, but also it was clearly shown that the Foreign Office did not agree to the view of M. de Lesseps; and that being so, although in the year 1872 the present Prime Minister was Prime Minister, nevertheless in the year 1875 the successors of the right hon. Gentleman were justified in saying that the view of M. de Lesseps had been repudiated by the Government of the country, and that, therefore, they were not under any obligation to notice it then. He thought there was a fundamental misconception on the part of the right hon. Gentleman of what was said by the Prime Minister, who pointed out not merely that the monopoly claimed by M. de Lesseps in the recent negotiations had been claimed by him in 1872, but that a monopoly of something far more had been claimed—namely, an exclusive monopoly of all water communication between the Red Sea and the Mediterranean. It was that large and exclusive monopoly that they found repudiated. The reply to the right hon. Gentleman's argument that the purchase was made from the Khedive, and that M. de Lesseps had no opportunity of advancing his claim, was that in a matter of that kind the Government must have had the whole of this transaction, with all its circum-

stances and conditions, before them. It had been their duty to consider these subjects; and he would even be prepared to say this—that they did consider M. de Lesseps had an exclusive right. If the contention which was now held by the Party opposite was sound, then what was to be thought of their action in putting money into an enterprize the value of which might be reduced one-half, or almost to nothing, by the making of another Canal or other Canals through the Isthmus of Suez; in that case they were guilty, according to their own showing, of what they called an act of financial folly. He (Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice) was anxious not to accuse them of that; but, at the same time, he must ask them to abandon a line of argument which would compel him to accuse them of that which he had no wish to accuse them of. He was perfectly satisfied to meet the hon. Member for Eye on his own ground, and begged most emphatically to deny that the relations between this country and Germany were of anything but the most satisfactory character. At no period of history had the relations of England and the German Powers been more cordial than now. He had no wish to talk about alliances and understandings with particular Powers. There was no reason for this country to be thinking or talking about exclusive alliances; and when the hon. Member detected signs of some unfortunate change of policy he could assure him that he was entirely mistaken. The hon. Member had attempted to pay him certain compliments at the expense of his Predecessor in Office; but he was sure he was expressing the feeling of the President of the Local Government Board (Sir Charles W. Dilke) when he declined to talk about a policy being the policy of one or the other. The policy was that of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Earl Granville), under whom they had both had the honour to serve; and he felt perfectly certain that his right hon. Friend, as well as himself, had felt it a great advantage to serve under so distinguished a Chief. He believed that his right hon. Friend had never attempted to draw distinctions between France and Germany, and that, acting under the Secretary of State, it was his constant effort to establish perfectly cordial relations with both of those Great Powers.

Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice

AFGHANISTAN—SUBSIDY TO THE AMEER.—OBSERVATIONS.

LORD GEORGE HAMILTON said, he wished to refer to one point—that was, the policy of the Government with regard to Afghanistan. The right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister had, in giving the Ameer a fixed subsidy, claimed that he was following the policy of Lord Lawrence and Lord Northbrook; but a few words would suffice to show that the Government was effecting a reversal of the policy of Lord Lawrence and Lord Northbrook. What had Lord Northbrook laid down? That there was to be no fixed subsidy to the Ameer. The origin of the last Afghan War was the Conference of Simla in 1873, the result of which was almost incredible. The Afghans were a greedy and rapacious people, yet Shore Ali was so disgusted at the treatment he had received, that he actually declined to take the sum of £100,000 which was waiting for him in the Treasury at Peshawur. The policy of Lord Lawrence was perfectly intelligible—namely, that of declining to interfere in any way with the affairs of Afghanistan. But if they assisted the Ameer with large subsidies, if they took control over his external relations, and in any way implied that they would assist him if he got into difficulties, they must take care that he made a more or less proper use of the money that was given to him, and that he did not make such use of the assurances given to him as to bring them and him into collision with a Foreign Power. If they entered into alliance with the Ameer they must take certain risks which that alliance conveyed, and the only mode by which those risks could be minimized was by obtaining reliable information from trustworthy agents in Afghanistan. He was glad that the Government had adopted the course of giving the subsidy and of keeping their troops at Quetta; but what they were now doing was proof that they had blundered 10 years ago, and was only another illustration of the fact that the Government were—
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WESTERN ISLANDS OF THE PACIFIC
— THE AUSTRALIAN COLONIES —
POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT.

OBSERVATIONS.

MR. GORST said, he should like to know what the policy of Her Majesty's Government was with regard to the Australian Colonies, and the shocking condition of the Islands of the Western Pacific? The Colonists found upon their Border territory that was gradually becoming a kind of Alsatia, where the most frightful crimes were committed by both White men and Natives. The Pacific Islanders Act of 1875 had failed to meet the case, because the jurisdiction it gave could be exercised over British subjects only. The Colonists asked what steps Her Majesty's Government would take, and offered to bear their share of the cost of what was to be done, and also offered to confederate themselves to support the Imperial Government? If Her Majesty's Government were deaf to these remonstrances and appeals, how could we expect to retain our hold upon the Colonies?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY said, it did not require the well-chosen words of the hon. and learned Member to impress upon the Government the importance of this matter. That the state of things called for our intervention was one of the grounds why the Colonies had approached us; and he did not deny that there were great excesses, which would probably increase unless means were taken to check them. He demurred to the suggestion that there was anything impossible in the hope that maritime nations would agree as to the law and the tribunals that might be resorted to. He would draw the attention of his hon. and learned Friend to the concluding paragraphs of Lord Derby's despatch, in reply to the despatch of the Officer administering the Government of Queensland, which stated that, while disapproving of the annexation of New Guinea, Her Majesty's Government were willing to take steps at once—the date was 11th July—to strengthen our Naval Force, so as to enable ships to be more constantly present in the neighbourhood of those Islands than hitherto, and that in this way we might gradually establish a Protectorate capable of meeting the requirements of the case for some

time to come without incurring objections to which other courses might be open. Instructions, indeed, had been sent out to the Naval Force to be more active; and, in the meantime, a Committee were considering, and were about to report to the Government, what measures they could recommend in reference to the question. The Government were most anxious in every way to give the fullest consideration to the representations that had been made to them on behalf of the Colonies. The honour, *prestige*, and credit of this country must be associated with the future of the Colonies; and he agreed that there was some force in the dread which they entertained lest foreign nations should establish Convict Settlements in that part of the world. The large question of Federation was one on which the Colonies had not made up their minds; but it was a question that would grow, though a considerable time must elapse, in order to its full development. The Government would strain every point, consistently with their view of the interests of this country, to meet the views of the Australian Colonies; but having ascertained that there was no intention on the part of any Foreign Government to establish themselves in those parts, the Government, therefore, did not feel warranted in rushing at once into such an enormous undertaking as the annexation of the whole of New Guinea, except the Eastern portion, which was claimed by Holland. Her Majesty's Government would rather see the interests of Australia protected by some course more gradual, more cautious, and more consistent with the desire not to overburden the Imperial power with great responsibilities than the simpler and somewhat brutal means of annexation; and he was convinced that the Colonies would give their most careful examination to the views of the Government.

SPAIN—EXPULSION OF CERTAIN
CUBAN REFUGEES FROM GIBRALTAR
—GENERAL MACEO.

OBSERVATIONS.

MR. O'KELLY said, that, before the Bill was read a second time, he wished to call the attention of the House to the conduct of the Government as regarded General Maceo. He had hitherto refrained from characterizing that conduct

as it deserved, in consequence of the undertakings given by the Under Secretaries of State for the Colonies and Foreign Affairs that justice would be done in the case. He would remind the House that that gentleman escaped from Cuba to Gibraltar, where he expected to enjoy liberty and protection under the British flag. He was, however, seized by the agents of the British Government, and, without any process or form of law, handed over to what was to him a foreign and hostile Government. Although 10 months had elapsed since he (Mr. O'Kelly) first brought the question before the House, General Maceo still remained in prison. The contention of Her Majesty's Government, that the Spanish Government were not a party to what might be called the kidnapping of Maceo, was disproved by the Papers relating to the seizure. One of these Papers contained a letter from a high official, in which Maceo was described as a felon—a man who had been condemned by the tribunals of his country to some punishment, which he was undergoing at the time in question. But in the Papers actually presented to the House, the phrase, which declared that the Spanish Government had re-claimed this man as a felon, was eliminated, and for it was substituted the euphemistic translation that "Maceo was suffering imprisonment," notwithstanding the fact that it was upon the false statement that Maceo was a felon that the authorities at Gibraltar gave him up to the Spanish Government. Her Majesty's Government, however, deliberately avoided grappling with the difficulty, and stated that the Spanish Government did not make any mis-statement, but that the fault lay wholly with the officials at Gibraltar. That was disproved by the Papers laid upon the Table; and, therefore, it was dishonest that the Government should try to hide their own misconduct by punishing some officials for what was, after all, a mistake into which the latter were led by the misrepresentations of the Spanish Consul, while they passed over others who were more to blame. The conduct of two Police Inspectors at Gibraltar was as bad as could be; and anyone who compared the evidence given before the Court of Inquiry would come to the conclusion that those men, if not guilty of perjury, came perilously near it. Further, the Spanish

Government had admitted the weakness of their case by letting go two of the men taken prisoners with Maceo. When Her Majesty's Government accepted the compromise of the Spanish Government, they stated, in palliation of the act, that they had made such terms with the latter that Maceo would be treated with the consideration due to his rank, and they gave it to be understood that he would be held only on parole of some kind. But the fact was that Maceo had been sent to one of the worst places in Spain for a man born in the tropics, a place where he complained of suffering from the cold in the middle of July. On the 14th of July, Maceo wrote him (Mr. O'Kelly) a letter complaining how bitterly he was suffering from the cold at that period of the year. The Spanish Government, moreover, munificently supplied him with 1s. 3d. a-day to support himself, his wife, and his nephew, who was depending on him. The fact was, the British Government had handed this man back into a position worse than slavery. It would not be in his (Mr. O'Kelly's) power to take a Division on the matter now; but when the House met again next Session, if Maceo was still in prison, he would ask the House to say whether the Government could continue to submit to the indignity of having a man taken from under their flag by misrepresentation, without taking such measures as they would be justified in doing to restore this man to the liberty of which they had deprived him.

RESULTS OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

OBSERVATIONS.

Mr. WARTON said, that the right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister stated, with considerable triumph, that five most important Bills would be passed this Session. Of those five, two—the Bankruptcy Bill and the Patents for Inventions Bill—were dealt with by the Grand Committees. If they assumed that the time occupied by the Grand Committees was so much gained, then it followed that only three Bills of importance would be passed by the House this Session. But, as the Agricultural Holdings (E cultural Holdings) applying to a principle the regarded as one

Mr. O'Kelly

only one other, the Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) Bill. And at what expense had they done so little? At the sacrifice of Supply. The Government, with the advantage of the additional time afforded by taking the Mondays and Thursdays at an unusually early period, had really been more backward with Supply than they were last year. In about five minutes on Friday night two whole Classes of Estimates were passed without a single word. In five or six minutes they voted £10,000,000 or £12,000,000 of the money of their constituents. Therefore, it came to this—and he considered it discreditable to the Government—that with all the additional facilities afforded by the House at the Premier's request last October in the shape of the New Rules of Procedure they had passed fewer measures than ever, and had had less time for Supply, important Votes—notably one of £3,000,000 for the Post Office—having been hurried through without any discussion whatever. He complained that the Indian Budget had been put off until the last Wednesday in the Session, and drew attention to the fact that out of the five fresh financial proposals made by the Government during the Session four had not been countenanced by the House.

INLAND NAVIGATION AND DRAINAGE (IRELAND)—THE RIVER BARROW.

OBSERVATIONS.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR said, that he fully concurred in what had been said by the hon. and learned Member for Bridport (Mr. Warton), in condemnation of the way in which the finances of the country were hurried through Parliament in the closing days of the Session without the semblance of discussion or consideration. Fortunately on that (the Appropriation) Bill, it was possible to discuss *de omnibus ribus et quitusdam aliis*; and, therefore, although, on more than one occasion, he had made way for Motions said to be of far greater national importance, he felt he should not be doing his duty to his constituents, if he allowed the Session to close without calling attention to a grievance they complained of—namely, with respect to the condition of the River Barrow, which skirted Queen's County on the North and West. It was only an Irish river,

which affected no English interest, and might, therefore, seem to that House a matter of no importance; but the drainage of the basin of the Barrow would form a most important consideration with any Irish Government. The Government had thought it their duty to deal with the basin of the Shannon. In the year 1879-80, a sum of £5,000 was taken in the Estimates for that purpose. In 1880-1, a further sum of £20,000 was granted; in 1882, a sum of £24,700; and in 1883 an additional sum, bringing the total grant for the purpose of regulating the flood waters of the Shannon up to £52,500 in four years. The works authorized had now been completed, and the absence of any grant for the purpose in this year's Appropriation Bill presented an opportunity for undertaking works on the basin of the Barrow. After the Shannon, the Barrow Basin was the largest in Ireland, and the amount of damage done by preventible floods in that basin each year was such that he doubted whether anyone could even approximate it, to say nothing at all of the unsanitary effects. He believed a moiety of the sum that had been spent on the Shannon would have done an immense deal of good, if that amount had been spent in draining the river basin in question. The drainage required could only be effectively undertaken by the Government. About 10,000 acres were annually flooded, because of the insufficiency of the basin to carry away the waters. A telegram from a correspondent last Friday urged him to bring the subject before the House, stating that 20,000 acres above Portarlinton were under water; that the main street of Portarlinton was flooded by three feet of water; and that the whole of the hay of the district was destroyed. That was the condition of things in parts of Ireland, while the English farmers were enjoying splendid weather. Sir Richard Griffith, in his masterly Report, presented 73 years ago, on the possibility of reclaiming the bog lands of Ireland, placed in the forefront of that work the bogs adjoining the Barrow. According to this authority, there were then 77,505 statute acres of reclaimable bog along the course of that river. This bog being 315 feet above the level of Dublin Bay, its drainage would be comparatively easy. No other bog could be drained

more easily. Going further down the river, Sir Richard Griffith went on to say that, a little below Portarlinton, there was an irregular weir thrown across the river, which threw back the water for a considerable distance, and in times of flood it did great damage. It would be tedious to continue to take the river in sections; and he would therefore content himself with saying that any hon. Member who chose to consult the Reports would see that every foot of the river had been carefully surveyed, that the rainfall had been measured with great accuracy, and all the requirements of the river carefully ascertained. It was, therefore, merely a question of a competent authority to take the matter in hand. He thought it was obvious that no association of owners or occupiers, and no common action on the part of any number of Grand Juries, could possibly cope with the business which required to be taken in hand. It was for the Government to take such a matter in hand. It was very easy work and inexpensive work, and would open up a very large tract of country to the advantage of a very large population. He believed, if the Government would seriously turn its attention to the matter and effect its accomplishment by annual grants in the Estimates, it would do a great deal more good than by any scheme of emigration.

CAPTAIN AYLMER said, he thought that no scheme would be of greater service to Ireland than that proposed by the hon. Member for Queen's County (Mr. Arthur O'Connor), if it were properly carried out. He thought the hon. Member would have done good service to Ireland, if he could extort from the Chief Secretary for Ireland a promise that something should be done to reclaim the vast bogs in the centre of that country. In his opinion, that operation should be taken up by the Government as a national one.

MR. MAGNIAC said, that he had had the honour of bringing in an English Bill on the subject; but, because that had failed, it by no means followed that the Irish subject should not be attended to. With regard to it, it was most refreshing to have heard the business-like speech of the hon. Member for Queen's County, for he (Mr. Magniac) knew that the difficulties to be met with in carrying it out would be very trifling, for the

River Barrow was very capable of being dealt with in the way proposed. His dear Friend, the late Lord Frederick Cavendish, had this subject much at heart; and, had he lived, it would have had his most earnest attention. There were three levels of the bog, the first of which would cost next to nothing to drain; the next would cost a little more; but the third would require consideration, and could not be done without the assistance of the Government. When once that assistance was given, in his belief, private assistance would also come in. He thought, therefore, that if the hon. Member for Queen's County could only get some of his friends to support him the matter would soon be carried out.

MR. BIGGAR: Sir, the question raised by my hon. Friend (Mr. Arthur O'Connor) is very important; but I should not like to ask large grants or loans of money from the Government, unless a well-matured plan were prepared, by which the improvements could be carried out in such a way that the Government would suffer no loss. I also believe that until we have county government in Ireland no plan can be carried out in fragments in a profitable way. In Ireland there is a Government who do not understand the people whom they govern; and the consequence is that they are led to undertake all sorts of impracticable schemes, so that when a really useful project is put forward, the Government are indisposed to take any action in the matter. As regards the main subject, I attribute the waste of time during the Session to the mismanagement of the Government. For instance, referring to the action of the Grand Committees, the Committee on the Bankruptcy Bill prolonged their labours by the manner in which the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Board of Trade met the rival Irish sections with regard to the extension of the measure to Ireland —

MR. SPEAKER: I must call the hon. Member to Order for irrelevancy.

MR. BIGGAR: I wish, Sir, to criticize the measures that have been introduced by the President of the Board of Trade, whose name is included in the attention to his of his Office, & Business. In

Mr. Arthur O'Connor

Bankruptcy Bill before the Grand Committee, the President of the Board of Trade successfully muzzled both the Irish sections.

MR. SPEAKER: The observations of the hon. Member are not relative to the Bill before the House.

MR. BIGGAR: Well, Mr. Speaker, I will not say anything more about this unfortunate Bankruptcy Bill. I have probably said as much as will give me the opportunity of showing at some future time that I have been a true prophet, and that the whole affair is a good illustration of the way affairs are managed by judicious Members of the Government. I will now contrast against the conduct of the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Board of Trade the action of the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster in connection with the Agricultural Holdings Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member seems to think that the Bill before the House is the Agricultural Holdings Bill. The Bill before the House is the Appropriation Bill.

MR. HEALY: On the point of Order, Sir, I would point out that there are several items in the Appropriation Bill; and I submit to you, Sir, whether my hon. Friend (Mr. Biggar) will not be in Order in discussing every particular item in this Appropriation Bill becoming a charge on the country? There are £30,000,000 or £40,000,000 dealt with by this Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: Quite so; but the hon. Member is discussing the Agricultural Holdings Bill.

MR. BIGGAR: I have not the slightest intention, as my hon. Friend the Member for Monaghan suggests, of going over every item in this Bill. If I wanted to talk against time I could very easily do so. There is no great difficulty in doing that. But what I want to do is to call attention to the want of good management on the part of the Government. That is my sole object in speaking here now. There are several items in this Bill. For example, I might raise discussion on the Lord Lieutenant, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, and so on; but that would be an operation which it would be just as well to practise at some other time, and therefore I do not do so. But I thought I might have been justified in showing that the right hon. Gentleman the Chancellor of the Duchy of

Lancaster mismanaged these two Agricultural Holdings Bills.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member is quite incapable of attending to my direction. The Bill before the House is the Appropriation Bill. The hon. Member seems to persist in discussing the Agricultural Holdings Bill, and the action of the right hon. Gentleman who has charge of it. In doing so he is out of Order.

MR. HEALY: I wish to ask you, Sir, whether, upon the salary of a particular Officer in this House—the Chief Secretary for Ireland, or the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster—the hon. Member is not entitled to go into that Officer's whole conduct? On the Vote for the Chief Secretary for Ireland we discussed the whole range of his conduct. Here is a Vote for the Chancellor of the Duchy. Is not the hon. Member entitled on that to discuss the conduct of the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member for Cavan is not entitled to do anything further than discuss the Bill before the House.

MR. BIGGAR: I shall not say anything more about the Agricultural Holdings Bill, or the Bankruptcy Bill. I have said all I desire to say on those subjects. But the waste of time which has taken place this Session was a subject raised by the Prime Minister, and I shall refer to that. In connection with it, I will allude to the question of the Southport Foreshore. I maintain that it was improper for the right hon. Gentleman the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster to go behind the back of the Town Council of Southport, and make a bargain with other parties in regard to the foreshore. If the Government had managed better, the time that has been wasted on the subject of the Southport Foreshore would have been saved. Then, with regard to the Suez Canal, there has been a great waste of time; because the Government made a bargain with the Company, without consulting beforehand practical men. Lastly, the evasions to which the Government have resorted in answering Questions has led to 20 being put where one would have done. I hope the Government will take all these things into consideration, so as to be able to give a better account of their work another Session.

MR. HEALY said, he must complain of the constant interruptions that were proceeding from the hon. and learned Member for Stockport.

MR. HOPWOOD: I beg your pardon, Sir. I did nothing of the kind. It is not a fact.

MR. HEALY said, he wished to call attention to the Report of the Royal Commission, presented in 1881, with regard to the Coleraine and Belfast navigation, and to the flooding of the lands in five counties surrounding Lough Neagh, by the overflowing of the Bann. Every time rain fell to any considerable extent the crops of those unfortunate people were ruined. He was constantly receiving letters on the subject. The inhabitants of those five counties were the most loyal in Ireland; and if the Government desired to keep up good relations with the people of Ulster, they would legislate on the subject in accordance with the recommendations of the Royal Commission, which were practically to the effect that the canal navigation should be sacrificed to the interests of the farmers, and that the rivers should be made what they were intended to be—conduits for the drainage of the land. With railways competing with the canals the accommodation afforded by the latter was quite unimportant. Although the Report of the Royal Commission was presented in 1881, no statement had yet come from the Government. He trusted that, during the Recess, the hon. Gentleman the Secretary to the Treasury would give his best consideration to that Report, so that, next Session, he might be able to legislate for the carrying out of the drainage of the Barrow, and the lands around Lough Neagh.

MR. COURTNEY said, that both the questions referred to had been before the House at the earlier part of the Session. In the first place, he would dismiss the complaint of the hon. Member for Queen's County (Mr. Arthur O'Connor). It was stated in that House that, after considerable negotiations, an agreement was arrived at for a survey of the Barrow, half the cost of which was to be at the expense of the Government. That survey was now going on, to show how the basin of the river could best be relieved of its surplus waters, and by whom the cost should be undertaken, since he, as Secretary to the

Treasury, was not prepared to consent to the Imperial Exchequer bearing the burden of relieving the riparian proprietors from all the disadvantages of floods caused by excessive rainfall, seeing that those persons bought their lands with the full cognizance of how they were subject to be affected by floods. With regard to the Bann, the Royal Commission referred to by the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) recommended the Government to consult with the Grand Juries of the counties affected. Their whole desire and interest was that the counties should undertake the work; but the Grand Juries had all negatived the proposition, refusing to spend a single sixpence on it. With regard to the navigable canals, it was the object and desire of the Treasury to get rid of them, as far as possible, since they were practically useless, besides being a constant drain upon the Treasury.

MR. MELDON said, the hon. Gentleman the Secretary to the Treasury entirely mistook the contention. It was not merely the riparian owners who were to be considered, but also those living in and near the towns in the neighbourhood of the Barrow, especially Portlough, who suffered much as regarded their health, from the periodical overflow of the river. He was surprised at the hon. Gentleman's (Mr. Courtney's) statement that a survey of the Barrow was now going on. The right hon. Gentleman the Member for Bradford (Mr. W. E. Forster), when Chief Secretary for Ireland, consented to the appointment of a Commission to do something definite, and the Commissioners were actually named; but since the right hon. Gentleman retired from Office cold water had been thrown upon the project at the Treasury, and from that time up to the present moment he never heard that the Government intended doing anything. The survey must have been a secret arrangement. In his opinion, the survey would be utterly useless. What was required was, that the promise made by the right hon. Member for Bradford should be carried out, and that a Commission of

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character of the Statistical Abstract. The property liable to income tax under Schedule B was set down for some years past as about £10,000,000, instead of £3,000,000, as formerly correctly made out. There had been a confusion between the gross and the net amount, which was made quite manifest when viewed side by side with the other Schedules—for example, under Schedule B the taxable property of Ireland was represented as one-sixth of that of the United Kingdom, whereas under Schedule A it was only 1-13th, and under Schedule D 1-25th. The proportions shown under Schedule B were delusive.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill read a second time, and committed for To-morrow.

AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS (ENGLAND) BILL.—[BILL 299.]

(*Mr. Dodson, Mr. Shaw Lefevre, Mr. Solicitor General.*)

CONSIDERATION OF LORDS' AMENDMENTS.

Order for Consideration of Lords' Amendments read.

Lords' Amendment considered.

NOTE.—*The page and line refer to the Bill No. (171) as first printed by the Lords.*

MR. DODSON said, the House would observe that there were a considerable number of Amendments on the Bill, many of them verbal, but not a few of them were of substance, and affected the operation of the Bill to some extent. As regarded most of the latter class of Amendments, it would be his somewhat unpleasant duty to ask the House to disagree with the Lords; but it was his more pleasant duty to ask the House to agree to this first Amendment. When the extension of this Proviso to permanent improvements was proposed in the House of Commons by the right hon. Gentleman the Member for East Gloucestershire (Sir Michael Hicks-Beach), the Government stated that they considered the Amendment unnecessary, but that they would accept it, in order to remove the apprehensions of those who feared what the action of some valuers might be. The Government, therefore, did not put their objection very high. They had now to consider whether or not they would

accept this extension of the Proviso to all improvements. For himself, he did not attach much importance to the Proviso, either as regarded permanent or temporary improvements. He did not think the extension of the Proviso material either one way or the other; and, under those circumstances, he was ready to agree to the Amendment of the Lords.

Page 1, line 15, leave out "Parts I. and II. of," the first Amendment, read a second time.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That this House doth agree with the Lords in the said Amendment."—(*Mr. Dodson.*)

MR. J. W. BARCLAY said, he regretted very much that the Government proposed to accept the Amendment, and to apply this Proviso to the only compulsory part of the Bill. He believed its effect would be to introduce confusion into the minds of the valuers. His objection to the Proviso was that it would confuse valuers. They would not understand what was meant. Some valuers might contend that the whole of the improvement was due to the inherent capabilities of the soil, and, therefore, that the tenant was not entitled to compensation. He thought the House ought to protest against this change in the Bill, as it still further nibbled away the Bill, which at best was no great concession to the tenant farmers.

MR. JAMES HOWARD said, he also regretted the acceptance of the Amendment; but he regretted much more the original acceptance of the Proviso of the right hon. Baronet the Member for East Gloucestershire (Sir Michael Hicks-Beach), which, on the part of Government, he considered was a most unwise step. It had landed the Government in a great difficulty, and he did not see on what ground they could now reject the Lords' Amendment. The Lords had simply pushed to its logical conclusion the acceptance by the Government of that principle. He believed the Proviso would not only puzzle valuers, but would prove a fruitful source of wrangling amongst persons following that profession. He should have been very glad if the Government could have seen their way to reject the whole Proviso; but as they had not, if his hon. Friend the Member

for Forfarshire went to a Division, he should vote with him.

SIR MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH said, he thought it would be very unfair to charge the Government with having made a concession by the acceptance of the Amendment which he had felt it his duty to move in Committee on the Bill. So far as he understood, it had always been the intention of the Government that anything due to the inherent capabilities of the soil should not be included by the valuer in the amount to be awarded to the tenant. The Lords, as the hon. Member for Bedfordshire had pointed out, had simply pushed the Amendment to its logical conclusion, and made it applicable to all improvements; and he was very glad the right hon. Gentleman opposite (Mr. Dodson) had seen his way to accept it.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE BALFOUR said, he thought the proper and shortest way in which to come to a conclusion was to divide the House, and then they would see in the Lobby how the matter stood. Such a course would guide the House in dealing with the Scotch Bill.

MR. JESSE COLLINGS hoped his hon. Friend (Mr. J. W. Barclay) would divide the House. It would be better to drop the Bill than to accept this Amendment. ["Oh!"]

MR. ARTHUR ARNOLD said, he thought that the Government having accepted the Amendment of the right hon. Baronet opposite (Sir Michael Hicks-Beach) as wise and just, he felt bound to support them in extending it to its logical conclusion.

MR. LABOUCHERE said, he hoped his hon. Friend (Mr. J. W. Barclay) would go to a Division. In that case he should vote with pleasure for him, and would vote against every Amendment introduced into the Bill by the House of Lords, without consideration whether they were good or bad. They perfectly well knew that the landed interest had a very great number of supporters in that House; but in the House of Lords they were all landlords, and mostly Conservative landlords; and he objected to the Bill, upon which many concessions had been made in that House, being referred to a House which was practically a House of landlords. What would be said if, when a Conservative Government were in, the Bill were submitted to an hereditary House of Radical

labourers? He thought it was most desirable to teach the House of Lords a lesson. It was full time they should have it out with the House of Lords. When a Conservative Government was in, everything went on very smoothly—everything always went on smoothly when going down stream—and when a Conservative measure was brought into the House of Commons, it was carried, without any difficulty or objection, in the House of Lords; but when a Liberal Government came in, that Liberal Government was put in by the nation, and the nation expected that that Government should be allowed to carry out its own policy. How could it do so when its Bills were emasculated in this manner by the House of Lords?

Question put.

The House divided:—Ayes 121; Noes 64: Majority 57.—(Div. List, No. 310.)

Page 1, line 22, leave out, "this exception that," and insert "the exceptions following that (1)" and after "has," insert "within ten years;" line 27, leave out "when," and insert "(2.) Where;" page 2, line 5, leave out "has;" lines 5 and 6, leave out "the Act consented in writing," and insert "this Act declares in writing his consent;" line 6, after "then," insert "such tenant;" and line 8, leave out "he," the next six Amendments, *agreed to*.

Page 2, line 11, after "improvement," insert—

"Provided that no compensation shall be claimed under this section in contravention of any specific agreement existing at the time of the passing of this Act between the parties in reference thereto,"

—the next Amendment, read a second time.

MR. DODSON said, he regretted that he had to ask the House to disagree to this Amendment, on the ground that it was either unnecessary, or, in his view, it might do mischief. If the tenant had made improvements, for which he had, in any way, received valuable consideration, the case was already provided for in Section 6. If there were a case—and he could not say—of an old tenant had without remuneration, and

Mr. James Howard

claiming fair and reasonable compensation for it, that was not an agreement which they ought to recognize, or in favour of which they should insert that Proviso. That was a sufficient objection, from his point of view, to the Amendment; but he was not sure that the Proviso might not have the effect that a tenant, who had agreed not to come under the Agricultural Holdings Act of 1875, might not be held to be disqualified from claiming compensation under this Act.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That this House doth disagree with the Lords in the said Amendment."—(*Mr. Dodson.*)

SIR MICHAEL HICKS - BEACH said, he thought the Amendment was a very proper one, as it only applied to agreements made before the passing of the Act. He did not know that it would apply to many cases, because he did not believe that there were many cases in which tenants had made agreements with their landlords distinctly barring them from compensation for improvements; but he was surprised at the doctrine laid down by the right hon. Gentleman opposite (*Mr. Dodson*). An agreement between landlord and tenant distinctly barring the latter from compensation in some shape or other for his improvements would be an agreement which he should disapprove of; but, nevertheless, it might be that some such agreements might, in certain instances, have been made up to this time under the sanction of the law as it stood. And to argue that such an agreement as might be made by law, because it happened to be one of which they did not approve, ought to be rendered invalid under a subsequent Act of Parliament, was a doctrine which he could not consent to, and which called, at least, for the protest of a Division.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

Page 2, lines 16 and 17, after "previously," insert "to the execution of the improvement and after the passing of this Act;" line 28, leave out "one month," and insert "two months;" line 29, after "landlord," insert "or his agent duly authorized in that behalf;" line 30, leave out "a specification of," and insert "manner in which he proposes to do;" line 35, after

"may," insert "unless the notice of the tenant is previously withdrawn;" line 36, after "himself," insert "and may execute the same in any reasonable and proper manner which he thinks fit;" and line 40, after "outlay," insert "in the said period," the next seven Amendments, *agreed to*.

Page 2, line 40, leave out the word "three" and insert "four," the next Amendment, read a second time.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That this House doth disagree with the Lords in the said Amendment."—(*Mr. Dodson.*)

MR. MAGNIAC said, he thought the right hon. Gentleman (*Mr. Dodson*) had shown a remarkably bad reason for disagreeing with the Amendment. To talk about a sinking fund for 25 years for the repayment of money spent on drainage works was a delusion; because everybody knew that, in many parts of the country, those works did not last for anything like 25 years, so that the result would be that the tenants who came in after the present occupiers would have to pay for improvements the value of which had utterly disappeared. Besides, 3 per cent would not be a commercial interest, as part of it ought to be reckoned as repayment of capital.

MR. BIDDELL said, he was disposed to think that the Lords' Amendment would, if carried, be found to be beneficial to tenants; for if the low 3 per centage was adhered to, the object of the clause—which he understood to be to encourage drainage by landlords—would be defeated, as they would not drain subject to having such a bad return for their money.

MR. J. W. BARCLAY said, the effect of the Lords' Amendment would be that the tenant would have to pay 6½ per cent. That was too much for the improvements to be charged against the tenant. They had to recollect that the landlord had it entirely in his power to do the improvements if he liked.

MR. A. J. BAIFOUR said, the object of the provision in the Bill, by which the landlord was permitted, if he chose, to drain, was to give him some real alternative for the tenants doing the drainage. If that was to be a *bona fide* benefit, they must not say that the landlord, if he did not do the drainage himself, should practically have to lend money

to the tenant to do it at 3 per cent interest. They would be unfairly handicapping him, if he desired to lend, by compelling him to lend at 3 per cent. All the Amendment would do would be to say that if the tenant compelled the landlord to drain his land he should not make him do it at a cheaper rate—that was to say, at less interest than that at which he could borrow money from public bodies. Anything that more carried justice on the face of it—anything that was more obviously consistent with justice, he (Mr. A. J. Balfour) could not imagine. As the hon. Gentleman behind him (Mr. Biddell) had pointed out, this Amendment of the Commons would not merely be an injustice to the landlord, but would prevent improvements being done which would be primarily a benefit to the tenant.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, that if the landlord agreed to do the drainage, and a higher interest had to be paid, the parties could agree to that; therefore, the observations of the hon. Member opposite (Mr. Biddell) fell through. The hon. Member for Hertford (Mr. A. J. Balfour) said that there might be a hardship on the landlord. Well, supposing the tenant said—"I can do the drainage at 5 per cent, if I like;" and then the landlord should say—"No; you shall not do it at 5 per cent; I will do it myself, at a charge that amounts to 6 or 6½ per cent"—the amount did not much matter; but, at all events, at a higher interest than the tenant would do it at himself. Surely, that would be a hardship. What did the arrangement proposed by the Amendment amount to? Why, it amounted to this—that if the tenant remained five years on the farm, after the drainage was done, he would pay more than 5 per cent during that time—1½ more than 5 per cent—and would be really paying a contribution to the value of the landlord's estate. The tenant would be adding to the landlord's capital very materially during the latter years of the existence of the improvements. If this arrangement were to be made, the tenant would be contributing to the sinking fund as well as paying the landlord's capital, and that would be a great injustice.

MR. JAMES HOWARD opposed the Lords' Amendment. There seemed to

Mr. A. J. Balfour

be mistaken notions as to how long drainage would last; some hon. Members being under the impression that it would not last more than 15 or 20 years. Well, it so happened that he had, not very long ago, taken up a portion of drainage which had been carried out 25 years ago; and the remark of his bailiff had been that, from the appearance of the pipes and the drains, it looked as if the drainage had only been done last week. His contention was, that if drainage was properly done it would last 50 or 100 years.

MR. DUCKHAM said, there were drains upon his farm which had been laid down more than 40 years, and had never cost a penny since. There could be no doubt that if drainage was properly done it would last for a very long time. It might happen that a drain would now and then blow up; but that would only be a very occasional occurrence. He trusted that the House would not agree to the Amendment of the Lords.

Question put, and agreed to.

Page 2, line 41, leave out "in the said period," and insert "such annual sum to be recoverable as rent," the next Amendment, agreed to.

Page 3, line 5, after "agreement," insert "in a lease or otherwise," the next Amendment, read a second time.

MR. DODSON said, he would move to disagree with this Amendment, which appeared to him to be hardly necessary. The insertion of these words would be calculated to raise doubts; and, therefore, would do more harm than good.

Motion made, and Question, "That this House doth disagree with the Lords in the said Amendment,"—(Mr. Dodson,)—put, and agreed to.

Page 3, lines 21 and 22, after "compensation," insert "having regard to the circumstances existing at the time of making such agreement," the next Amendment, agreed to.

Page 3, line 25, after "Act," insert—

"The last preceding provision of this Act relating to a party in the case of tenancy currie Act in reg the third specific con-"
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by any agreement in writing, or custom, or the Agricultural Holdings (England) Act, 1875,"

—the next Amendment, read a second time.

MR. DODSON said, the object of this Amendment was to supply an omission which had been discovered in the clause. The first paragraph of the clause provided—

"Where, in the case of a tenancy under a contract of tenancy current at the commencement of this Act, any agreement in writing, or custom, or the Agricultural Holdings (England) Act, 1875, provides specific compensation for any improvement comprised in the First Schedule hereto, compensation in respect of such improvement, although executed after the commencement of this Act, shall be payable in pursuance of such agreement, custom, or Act of Parliament, and shall be deemed to be substituted for compensation under this Act."

The last paragraph provided for fair and reasonable compensation by a particular agreement in regard to an improvement under a future contract or tenancy; but the *casus omissus* was that of improvements made after the passing of the Act by a particular agreement, but under a contract of tenancy current at the time. The Proviso, comprised in the Amendment of the Lords, would provide for a fair and reasonable agreement in that case as in the case of a future contract.

Amendment agreed to.

Page 3, line 26, leave out "*estimates of*," and insert "*compensation for*;" and line 40, after "*therefrom*," insert "*and*," the next two Amendments, agreed to.

Page 4, line 16, leave out "*four*," and insert "*seven*," the next Amendment, read a second time.

MR. DODSON said, he had to ask the House to disagree with this Amendment. The Proviso as it stood was that of the Agricultural Act of England, 1875, and which gave the landlord power to set off claims for compensation for waste or breach by the tenant committed, or permitted, in relation to a matter of husbandry, more than four years before the termination of the tenancy. It must be remembered that the landlord had the same right of action, without limit of time, at law as he had before. This was a special power to set off given to the Act of 1875. They had adopted

it in the Bill, and he did not see any reason for extending it.

Motion made, and Question, "That this House doth disagree with the Lords in the said Amendment,"—(*Mr. Dodson*),—put, and agreed to.

Page 4, line 17, after "*tenancy*," insert—

"In the ascertainment of the amount of compensation payable to the tenant in respect of manures there shall not be taken into account any larger outlay during the last year of the tenancy than the average amount of the tenant's outlay for like purposes during the three next preceding years of the tenancy or other less number of years for which the tenancy has endured."

—the next Amendment, read a second time.

MR. DODSON said, he had to ask the House to disagree to this Amendment, as it conflicted with the general principle of the Bill, which was that compensation should be according to the value of the improvement, and not according to the outlay. The Amendment was not only introducing the outlay as a measure of compensation, but it adopted what the House had discarded all through—namely, the limit of time. As there had been no reference to outlay before, the Amendment, as now inserted, was slightly unintelligible.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That this House doth disagree with the Lords in the said Amendment."—(*Mr. Dodson*.)

MR. CARPENTER-GARNIER said, he was rather sorry that Her Majesty's Government could not accept the Amendment, for the reason that he believed its effect would be to encourage good farming throughout the whole rotation of crops, and not only during the last year. Without this Amendment there would be encouragement given to high farming in the last year of the tenancy, so as to run up the bill for value on going out.

SIR MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH said, he agreed with what had fallen from his hon. Friend (Mr. Carpenter-Garnier), and he did not quite see the force of the argument of the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. Dodson) that the adoption of this Amendment would really conflict with the principle of the Bill, which he understood was the principle of value. He failed to see how it

was possible for a valuer to value the manures put on a field in the last year of a tenancy on any other basis than that of cost price. No one could tell what the future value of that manure might be. There was another reason in favour of this proposal—the Amendment was moved originally in Committee by the hon. Member for Herefordshire (Mr. Duckham), who was himself a practised valuer, and understood these matters thoroughly, with the desire to obviate the danger of fraud in these matters, which, without some check of this nature, everyone would be liable to. Looked at from that point of view, it was a Proviso quite as much in the interest of the tenant as of anyone else. He did not think it desirable that the Bill should leave open a door for fraud—no one would wish to see such a thing.

Mr. J. W. BARCLAY was understood to say that the principle they should keep in view was that the tenant should be compensated for what he left on his farm to his successor. That would be regulated by the outlay as a rule. The difference between this Bill and the Act of 1875 was that the tenant would be compensated for his outlay, whether it was a profitable one or not to his successor. The Bill would not give compensation only for what would be profitable to the successor. It would be a hardship to the tenant if, during his last year, he was to make a large expenditure on feeding cakes; because, if he did so, he would not get compensation, as his successor would not get value for it.

Mr. HENEAGE said, he was sorry the Government could not agree to the Amendment, because it was directed against fraud. He could not remain silent, because he had suffered that very year from fraud, such as that in question. He had the idea that tenant farmers would not be parties to fraud as to feeding stuffs, and when he put the Lincolnshire custom into his agreements, he left out those words. This was not a landlord's question, as it was entirely a matter of inventory between the outgoing and the incoming tenant whether the latter was to be charged for an excessive amount of cake or manure which he did not require. In such a way, a man had nothing to do but to run up a large amount for feed-

ing stuffs, and the incoming tenant had nothing to do but to pay it. The incoming tenant was the only one who would get any benefit from the feeding stuffs really used; he had to pay for them; and it was for his protection against fraud—against which he could not protect himself in any other way—that the land valuers throughout Lincolnshire were all desirous of seeing this Amendment put in the Bill. He had been speaking of this subject that day to a large tenant farmer, who had said to him that, within his own knowledge, the agent of an artificial manure firm had asked an outgoing tenant to double the quantity of manure he had ordered, saying—"You will not have to pay for it." "But," said the farmer, "I do not want it." "Never mind," said the manure man, "what does it matter to you, as the incoming tenant will have to pay for it." The gentleman to whom he referred farmed 2,000 acres, and was well known to the Members of the House and to agriculturists.

Mr. SHAW LEFEVRE said, the view the Government took of the matter was that a provision of this kind would be very reasonable when applied to the Lincolnshire custom, or when applied to a principle based on outlay such as was contained in the Act of 1875; but when they had adopted the principle of value, and not that of outlay, a principle of this kind seemed to be inapplicable. If manure in excess of requirements had been used, the valuer would take that into consideration.

Sir JOHN HAY said, that if the Amendment were to be omitted, the omission would be in favour of the fraudulent manure merchant, and against the interests of the landlord and tenant, as far as the Scotch landlord went. The insertion of this provision would preserve them from that which they had not guarded against, especially in the case of poor tenants—namely, the purchase of manures of a bad quality.

Mr. DUCKHAM said, that when he introduced this Amendment originally, he did so because it was equitable; he considered it to be equitable between the landlord and

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Sir Michael Hicks-Beach

stick to the principle of the Bill as to payment by results, and not by outlay. As to what had fallen from the hon. Member for Grimsby (Mr. Heneage), in regard to the fraudulent tenant, he (Mr. James Howard) failed to understand, if that tenant intended to commit a fraud during the last year of his tenancy, what there would be to prevent him, even if this Proviso were accepted, from committing the fraud during three previous years of his tenancy. He failed to see any use in the Proviso, and he thought great injury might arise under certain circumstances to particular tenants. It might happen that during the last year of a tenancy a tenant had a larger stock of straw than usual, and which he was anxious to turn into manure, and he might, in order to do that, consume a larger quantity of cake during the last year than he had done in previous years; and, under those circumstances, if he did consume an extraordinary quantity of cake, he would leave behind him value for his expenditure. He trusted the House would reject the Amendment of the Lords.

Mr. BIDDELL said, he regretted the decision of the Government, and would suggest that they should accept the Amendment, and modify it by providing that the valuer should take into consideration the average amount spent on manure during the last two years, instead of the last three years.

Mr. BULWER said, that everybody would agree that a farmer who manured his land three years running was farming very much better than the tenant who left the land without manure for two years, and then put an excessive quantity on during the last year, for which an incoming tenant would have to pay. This Amendment, as had been pointed out, was directed against the commission of fraud, and they might assume that it was within the bounds of possibility that frauds would be committed. The hon. Member for Bedfordshire (Mr. James Howard) said it was useless to attempt to legislate against fraud, because, if a man was a fraudulent tenant, he would commit a fraud during the three previous years just as much as he would commit one during the last year of his tenancy. He (Mr. Bulwer) must point out that a man was not likely to commit a fraud upon himself during his own occupation.

Mr. DODSON said, that if there was to be a valuer at all, he would be able to form his own opinion, from the number of animals on the farm, and from the condition of the holding, what amount had been laid out. He would be hardly likely to give £1,000 about the value. Either the parties must agree in the fraud, or the valuer would not know his business, as the matter was one of mere calculation.

Question put.

The House divided:—Ayes 126; Noes 51: Majority 75.—(Div. List, No. 311.)

Page 4, line 28, after "particulars," insert "and amount," the next Amendment, *agreed to*.

Page 5, line 32, after "Commissioners," insert—

"But if either party shall in writing object to such appointment, then the umpire, or any successor to him, shall be appointed by the President and Council of the Institute of Surveyors,"—the next Amendment, read a second time.

Mr. DODSON said, he must again ask the House in this case to disagree with the Lords' Amendment, which was unnecessary. It would be inconvenient to introduce a third authority for the appointment of an umpire.

Motion made, and Question, "That this House doth disagree with the Lords in the said Amendment,"—(Mr. Dodson,)—put, and *agreed to*.

Page 6, after Clause 16, insert Clause 16^a—

(Award in respect of compensation under ss. 3, 4, and 5.)

(16^a.) "In any case provided for by sections three, four, or five, if compensation is claimed under this Act, such compensation as under any of those sections is to be deemed to be substituted for compensation under this Act, if and so far as the same can, under the terms of the agreement, if any, be ascertained by the referees or the umpire, shall be awarded in respect of any improvements thereby provided for, and the award shall, when necessary, distinguish such improvements and the amount awarded in respect thereof; and an award given under this section shall be subject to the appeal provided by this Act,"

—the next Amendment, read a second time.

Mr. DODSON said, the object of this clause was to make clear what was expressed in the original clause. The ob-

ject of that clause was to make clear that substituted compensation might be ascertained by the process of reference under the Bill in all cases where there was no special agreement to the contrary. The substituted compensation might be for a particular improvement, or particular improvements, and not for all or for a great number. It would be very inconvenient for the landlord and tenant to have, in such a case, a process divided where it ought to be made one.

SIR MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH said, he had been puzzled to understand what the clause meant. He did not think it read properly as it stood now—

"In any case provided for by sections three, four, or five, if compensation is claimed under this Act, such compensation as under any of those sections is to be deemed to be substituted for compensation under this Act, if and so far as the same can, under the terms of the agreement, if any, be ascertained by the referee or the umpire, shall be awarded in respect of any improvements thereby provided for and the award shall, when necessary, distinguish such improvements and the amount awarded in respect thereof; and an award given under this section shall be subject to the appeal provided by this Act."

He could not understand it.

MR. DODSON said, the clause was complicated; but if the right hon. Gentleman would look at it carefully, he would see its meaning. The object was to secure that, where the ascertainment of compensation was not specially provided for in some other way, it should be ascertained by the referee under the Act.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the House doth agree with the Lords in the said Amendment."—(*Mr. Dodson.*)

MR. JAMES HOWARD said, he had to read this clause half-a-dozen times before he obtained even an inkling of its meaning. He thought it should not be agreed to. The latter part of the clause provided that, when necessary, the referees or umpire should distinguish between the improvements under the Act and improvements under agreement, and state the award in respect thereof. It was quite proper that the award should specify the improvements to which it related; but it was not necessary that this should be inserted in an Act of Parliament.

Mr. Dodson

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (SIR FARRER HERSHELL) said, with reference to the remarks of the hon. Member for Bedfordshire (Mr. James Howard), it was quite true that the umpire or referees would have to state what the improvements were; but that only secured that they should show those which came under the Act, and those which came under the agreement. It was only an additional obligation on the umpire and referees. To make the Amendment clearer, he would suggest that they should leave out the word "under" where it occurred a second time, and insert the words "consistently with," and that Amendment to the Lords' Amendment he begged to move.

Amendment to the said proposed Lords' Amendment agreed to.

Said proposed Amendment, as amended, agreed to.

Page 7, line 13, leave out from "d" to "each," in line 15, and insert "The time at which," the next Amendment, read a second time.

MR. DODSON said, he must ask the House to disagree with this Amendment. The Government had been obliged to introduce the element of time into the clause, and to make an exception to the rule to meet one special case; but the effect of the proposed Amendment would be to make the exception the rule of the Bill, and to introduce the measure of time in every case.

Motion made, and Question, "That this House doth disagree with the Lords in the said Amendment,"—(*Mr. Dodson.*)—put, and agreed to.

Page 7, line 42, after "invalid," insert—

"2. That the award proceeds wholly or in part upon an improper application of or upon the omission properly to apply the special provisions of section five or any other part of this Act,"

—the next Amendment, read a second time.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That this House doth agree with the Lords in" (*Dodson.*)

MR. J. W. said that the other tha—

not be agreed to. He considered the provisions of the Bill with regard to appeal were already sufficient and ample. He was quite unable to understand on what ground this proposal for a new appeal rested.

Mr. DODSON said, that perhaps the hon. Member for Forfarshire (Mr. J. W. Barclay) would allow him to explain. There was some difficulty with regard to Clause 5; it was doubted by some whether compensation under agreement came under the appeal provided by the Act, as was the case with the other compensation. When the Bill was in Committee, the Government had expressed their belief that it did, and had stated that it was their intention that it should do so. This Amendment, which they asked the House to agree to, was to make the matter clear, and place it beyond all doubt. The hon. Member would be aware that the Appeal Clauses were the same as those in the Act of 1875, and that, therefore, they applied to compensation under Clause 5.

Mr. PUGH said, the effect of the Amendment would be to give an appeal on every possible ground, and, on that account, he objected to it in its present form. He begged to move the omission of the concluding words of the Amendment.

Amendment proposed to the said proposed Lords' Amendment, to leave out the words "or any other part of this Act."—(*Mr. Pugh.*)

Mr. JAMES HOWARD said, he was opposed to giving a power of appeal on any ground, and he was therefore utterly opposed to opening the door for it too wide. He would remind the House that, under the Lincolnshire custom, so often referred to during the passage of this Bill, the arbitrators' award was final. One of the main faults of the Bill was that it presented too many opportunities for litigation, and he believed that would prove to be its ruin. He saw no reason whatever for this litigation, and he trusted the House would reject the Amendment altogether. If, however, the Government were determined to accept it, he hoped his hon. Friend the Member for Forfarshire (Mr. J. W. Barclay,) would agree with him to divide the House upon it.

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (Sir FARRER HERSCHELL) said, he would

suggest that the Amendment of his hon. Friend the Member for Cardiganshire (Mr. Pugh), before the House, should be withdrawn, and that they should add the words "sections three, four, or" before the word "five" to the original Amendment of the Lords, leaving out the words "or any other part."

Amendment (*Mr. Pugh*), by leave, withdrawn.

Amendment proposed, to the said proposed Lords' Amendment, to leave out the word "section," and insert sections three, four, or" before the word "five;" and leave out the words "or any other part."—(*Mr. Solicitor General.*)

Amendment agreed to.

Page 8, line 32, leave out "The county court may appoint," and insert "where the appointment of;" line 33, after "woman," insert "is required," and after "Act," insert "the county court may make such appointment;" line 35, leave out "married woman," and insert—

"woman married before the commencement of the Married Women's Property Act, 1882," 45 & 46 Vict. c. 75,"

and after "use," insert—

"to land her title to which accrued before such commencement as aforesaid;"

line 38, leave out "married woman," and insert—

"woman married before the commencement of the Married Women's Property Act, 1882,"

line 39, after "Act," insert—

"in respect of land her title to which accrued before such commencement as aforesaid;"

page 9, transpose Clause 26 to follow Clause 30; page 10, line 12, leave out "section four of;" line 32, after "assigns," insert—

"The estate or interest of any landlord holding for an estate or interest determinable or liable to forfeiture by reason of his creating or suffering any charge thereon shall not be determined or forfeited by reason of his obtaining a charge under this Act, anything in any deed, will, or other instrument to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

(45 & 46 Vict., c. 38.)

"Capital money arising under the Settled Land Act, 1882, may be applied in payment of any moneys expended and costs incurred by a landlord under or in pursuance of this Act in or about the execution of any improvement mentioned in the first or second parts of the schedule hereto, as for an improvement authorised by the said Settled Land Act; and such money may also be applied in discharge of any

charge created on a holding under or in pursuance of this Act in respect of any such improvement as aforesaid, as in discharge of an incumbrance authorised by the said Settled Land Act to be discharged out of such capital money ;”

page 11, line 21, leave out “buildings,” and insert “building;” line 25, after “tenant,” insert—

“before or within a reasonable time after the termination of the tenancy;”

page 14, line 1, after “writing,” insert—

“Of the patron of the benefice, that is, the person, officer, or authority who, in case the benefice were vacant, would be entitled to present thereto, or;”

leave out lines 13 to 17; line 18, after “landlord,” insert “in respect of charging the land;” and line 22, after “Improvements,” insert “and Miscellaneous,” the next 14 Amendments, *agreed to*, without discussion.

Page 16, line 2, leave out “one year,” and insert “two-years,” and after “distress,” insert—

“Except in the case of arrears of rent in respect of a holding to which this Act applies, existing at the time of the passing of this Act, which arrears shall be recoverable by distress up to the first day of January one thousand eight hundred and eighty-five to the same extent as if this Act had not passed,”

—the next Amendment, read a second time.

MR. DODSON said, he had to ask the House to disagree with this Amendment, so far as it substituted two years for one year. This question had been already fully discussed in Committee, and it had been decided to insert one year instead of two years.

Motion made, and Question proposed, “That this House doth disagree with the Lords in the said Amendment.”—*(Mr. Dodson.)*

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT said, he regretted that the Government were not able to accept the Amendment, because he was sure that a very large number of farmers in the country would rather have two years inserted. He had received a letter that morning from an intelligent farmer in his own district, who said that the Amendment would allow the landlord to trust the tenant for two years instead of one.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

Page 16, leave out lines 12 to 16; line 24, after “feeding,” insert “or if any part of such price has been paid exceeding the amount remaining unpaid;” page 17, line 9, leave out from “jurisdiction” to “order,” in line 12, and insert “and any such county court or court of summary jurisdiction may make an;” line 16, after “requires,” insert—

“Any such dispute as mentioned in this section shall be deemed to be a matter in which a court of summary jurisdiction has authority by law to make an order on complaint in pursuance of the Summary Jurisdiction Acts;”

page 18, line 22, leave out from the second “of” to “and,” in line 24, and insert “a county court;” and line 28, leave out “in the district in which he has jurisdiction,” the next six Amendments, *agreed to*.

On the Motion of Mr. DONSON, line 35, leave out “first day of January,” and insert “thirty-first day of March;” and line 38, after “that,” insert “not being a market garden is less than two acres in extent or,” the next two Amendments, *agreed to*.

Page 19, line 3, leave out “of,” and insert “held under;” page 20, leave out lines 25 to 30; line 38, leave out “after the commencement of this Act;” line 40, after “other,” insert “immediately after the commencement of this Act;” page 21, line 32, after “1875,” insert “and the Agricultural Holdings (England) Act, 1875, Amendment Act, 1876;” line 34, leave out from “any” to “any,” in line 35, and insert “thing duly done or suffered or any proceedings pending under or in pursuance of;” line 36, leave out “of a tenant;” page 22, line 3, after “Act,” insert—

“or (d.) Any right in respect of fixtures affixed to a holding before the commencement of this Act;”

line 4, leave out “such tenant shall be entitled to enforce such right,” and insert “right reserved by this section may be enforced;” and line 6, leave out “he would have been entitled,” the concluding ten Amendments, *agreed to*.

“Committee appointed, “to draw up Resolutions to be assigned to The Lords for disagreeing to certain of the Amendments made by The Lords to the Bill:”—MR. DONSON, MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT, SIR MICHAEL CATTE, MR. SOL. GENERAL for DON, SIR THOMAS Threloke to be the diately.

AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS (SCOTLAND) BILL.—[BILL 301.]

(*The Lord Advocate, Mr. Solicitor General for Scotland.*)

CONSIDERATION OF LORDS' AMENDMENTS.

Order for Consideration of Lords' Amendments read.

Lords' Amendments considered.

Page 1, line 12, after "tenant," insert—

"Provided always, that in estimating the value of any improvement in the schedule hereto there shall not be taken into account as part of the improvement made by the tenant what is justly due to the inherent capabilities of the soil,"

—the first Amendment, read a second time.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR), in moving that the House do agree with the Lords in the said Amendment, said, that, although it was not in the Bill when it left that House, a similar Amendment had been inserted in the English Bill, and therefore he could not ask the House to disagree with it, as it would make both Bills accord.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That this House doth agree with the Lords in the said Amendment."—(*The Lord Advocate.*)

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON, in opposing the Motion, said, the Amendment in the English Bill was accepted by the Government with the greatest reluctance; and, when the English Bill was going through Committee, it was not proposed to introduce the Amendment. The Scotch tenant farmers objected to it, and he saw no reason for inserting it. It would lead to a great deal of litigation.

MR. SPEAKER: I must point out to the hon. and gallant Member (Sir Alexander Gordon) that the Motion before the House is that the House do agree with the Lords in the said Amendment.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, he wished to move an Amendment to disagree with the Amendment.

MR. J. W. BARCLAY said, he objected strongly to the proposal; but he supposed the Government would carry it, and he should move to substitute the word "value" for "capabilities" in the last line of the Amendment.

Amendment proposed, in line 4 of the said proposed Lords' Amendment, to leave out the word "capabilities" in order to insert the word "value."—(*Mr. J. W. Barclay.*)

Question proposed, "That the word 'capabilities' stand part of the said Amendment."

MR. A. J. BALFOUR said, that proposal was open to the objection that it might be taken to mean prairie value only.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE BALFOUR said, he thought the Amendment absurd, and likely to cause confusion, and he should support the Amendment of the hon. Member for Forfarshire (Mr. J. W. Barclay).

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, the introduction of the word "value," as suggested by the hon. Member for Forfarshire (Mr. J. W. Barclay) would make nonsense of the Amendment. He quite understood what was meant by the inherent capabilities of the soil—those qualities which were there, apart altogether from stimulus, and would have certain efficiency in the way of causing growth; but the introduction of "value" would have no intelligible effect at all. What was "inherent value?" Value was what a thing would sell for.

DR. FARQUHARSON, in protesting against the Proviso, said, the different character of agriculture in England and Scotland was sufficient reason for rejecting it. Experienced agriculturists in Scotland had no notion what was meant by the phrase "inherent capabilities of the soil."

MR. WADDY said, he could not admit that the mere fact that this Proviso was inserted in the English Bill was a reason for accepting it here. If so, they might as well have the two Bills in one. As the overwhelming majority of Scotch Members, and of Scotch farmers, were opposed to the Proviso, he hoped the House would not accept it. If, however, it was accepted, he thought the word "capabilities" should be replaced by "qualities."

Question put, and agreed to.

Question put, "That this House doth agree with the Lords in the said Amendment."—(*The Lord Advocate.*)

The House divided:—Ayes 96; Noes 41: Majority, 55.—(*Div. List, No. 312.*)

Page 1, line 17, after "has," insert "within ten years;" line 18, leave out "made," and insert "executed;" line 24, leave out "the," and insert "this;" line 26, leave out "has," and leave out "the," and insert "this;" line 27, leave out "consented in writing," and insert "declares in writing his consent;" lines 27 and 28, leave out "then in either of such cases," and insert "in either of these cases the tenant;" line 29, leave out "a," and insert "the," and leave out "he;" and in page 2, line 1, leave out "such improvement," and insert "the improvement which he has executed," the next eight Amendments, *agreed to*.

Page 2, line 3, after "improvement," insert—

"Provided that no compensation shall be claimed under this section in contravention of any specific agreement existing at the time of the passing of this Act between the parties in reference thereto,"

—the next Amendment, read a second time.

On the Motion of The LORD ADVOCATE, the said Amendment *disagreed to*.

Page 2, lines 8 and 9, after "previously," insert "to the execution of the improvement and after the passing of this Act;" line 22, leave out "a specification of such," and insert "of the manner in which he proposes to do the intended;" line 23, leave out "and specification;" line 26, leave out "any such," and insert "an," and, after "made," insert "that the improvement is to be executed by the tenant;" and in line 30, after "so," insert "in any reasonable and proper manner which he thinks fit," the next five Amendments, *agreed to*.

Page 2, line 34, after "outlay," insert "in the said period," and leave out "three," and insert "four," the next Amendment, read a second time.

On the Motion of The LORD ADVOCATE, the said Amendment *disagreed to*.

Page 2, line 35, leave out "in the said period," and insert "such annual sums to be recoverable as rent;" and in line 38, leave out "of the execution," the next two Amendments, *agreed to*.

Page 2, line 39, after "Act," insert—

"Where in the case of a tenancy under a lease current at the commencement of this Act there is in such lease, or in any relative writing made prior to the passing hereof, an express stipulation limiting the outlay on any improvement specified in the second part of the schedule hereto, the tenant shall have no claim to compensation under this Act for any such improvement in excess of the sum provided for in such stipulation."

"The landlord and tenant may, if they think fit, dispense with any notice under this section, and come to an agreement, in terms of the lease or otherwise, between themselves in the same manner and of the same validity as if such notice had been given,"

—the next Amendment, read a second time.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, it was impossible for the House to agree to the Amendment, because it would put it in the power of the landlord to make an agreement with a tenant, by which the tenant should surrender his right to compensation under certain circumstances. As the Amendment stood, it dealt with agreements which had been made prior to the commencement of the Act. He should think there were very few of such agreements. It was difficult to say what could have led to such agreements being made in times past, unless for some good and adequate considerations. The Amendment might be amended by striking out the word "commencement," in the second line, and insert "passing." The effect of that would be to limit the Amendment to agreements now in existence. He would move to amend the Amendment in the manner he had suggested.

Amendment proposed, to the said proposed Lords' Amendment, to leave out, in line 2, the word "commencement," and insert the word "passing."—(*The Lord Advocate*.)

Question, "That the word 'commencement' stand part of the said Amendment," put, and *negatived*.

Question, "That the word 'passing' be there inserted," put, and *agreed to*.

Mr. WADDY said, he could not help thinking that the whole provision was very objectionable. It was clear it might be an impression, but use of the tenant all himself out.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR): It applies now to agreements made after the passing of the Act.

MR. WADDY: Not entirely.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, he would further propose to amend the said Amendment by leaving out, in lines 9 and 10, the words "in terms of the lease or otherwise." The clause, as it originally stood, required to be set in motion by notice. It was thought expedient that a notice should not be requisite, if the parties could agree differently.

Further Amendment proposed, to the said proposed Lords' Amendment, to leave out, in lines 9 and 10, the words "in terms of the lease or otherwise."—(*The Lord Advocate*.)

Question proposed, "That the words 'in terms of the lease or otherwise,' stand part of the said proposed Amendment."

MR. WARTON said, the right hon. Gentleman in charge of the English Bill (Mr. Dodson) did not put the exclusion of these words on the same ground as the right hon. and learned Lord Advocate had. The right hon. Gentleman the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster said the words were unnecessary words to introduce in the English Bill, because the word "agreement" included the word "lease." He knew it did so in the ordinary sense, but not generally. People spoke of an agreement as something else than a lease; therefore, by excluding these words, they might do some harm.

Question put, and *negatived*.

Lords' Amendment, as amended, *agreed to*.

Page 3, line 11, after "compensation," insert "having regard to the circumstances existing at the time of making such agreement," the next Amendment, *agreed to*.

Page 3, line 14, after "Act," insert—

"The last preceding provision of this section relating to a particular agreement shall apply in the case of a tenancy under a lease current at the commencement of this Act in respect of an improvement specified in the third part of the schedule hereto, specific compensation for which is not provided by any agreement in writing or custom."

—the next Amendment, read a second time.

Motion made, and Question, "That this House doth disagree with the Lords in the said Amendment,"—(*The Lord Advocate*.)—put, and *agreed to*.

Page 3, line 15, leave out "estimates of," and insert "compensation for;" line 24, after "husbandry," insert "or according to the terms of any written contract specifying such rules;" and line 33, after "burdens," insert "or interest, moneys payable in respect of drainage, or premiums of insurance," the next three Amendments, *agreed to*.

Page 4, line 4, leave out "four," and insert "seven," the next Amendment, read a second time.

Motion made, and Question, "That this House doth disagree with the Lords in the said Amendment,"—(*The Lord Advocate*.)—put, and *agreed to*.

Page 4, line 8, after "tenancy," insert—

"In the ascertainment of the amount of compensation payable to the tenant in respect of manures there shall not be taken into account any larger outlay during the last year of the tenancy than the average amount of the tenant's outlay for like purposes during the three next preceding years of the tenancy, or other less number of years for which the tenancy has endured,"

—the next Amendment, read a second time.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That this House doth disagree with the Lords in the said Amendment."—(*The Lord Advocate*.)

SIR JOHN HAY said, he had no intention to detain the House; but he desired to enter his protest against the disagreement with this Amendment for the same reason he gave when the English Bill was under discussion.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

Page 4, line 8, leave out "two," and insert "six," the next Amendment, read a second time.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, he should propose to disagree with the Amendment as it stood. The Amendment related to the period of notice of intended claim that should be given. There were many persons in favour of the view that two months' notice was too short; but, on the other hand, it appeared to the Government that six months' notice was too long.

Six months' notice would, in many cases, inflict on the tenant the obligation of sending in his notice with required particulars before some of the expenditure in respect of which the claim was made might have been made. He would suggest that four months should be the period fixed upon, because that, upon the whole, would be a very fair period.

Amendment proposed, to the said proposed Lords' Amendment, to leave out the word "six," and insert the word "four."—(*The Lord Advocate*.)

Question proposed, "That the word 'six' stand part of the said proposed Amendment."

MR. J. W. BARCLAY said, the right hon. and learned Lord Advocate had forgotten what took place when the Bill was passing through Committee. In a subsequent part of the clause, it was provided that the tenant must not only state the particulars, but the amount, of his compensation. A tenant, during March and April, would be giving feeding stuff to his cattle, and therefore it would be quite impossible for him to state the amount of his claim. It would, therefore, be unfair to fix the period at four months, though during the summer months there would not be the same objection to four months as during the winter months.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, they would be making it two years again. The whole of the time the incoming tenant would be uncertain what he would have to pay for compensation.

Question, "That the word 'six' stand part of the said proposed Amendment," put, and *negatived*.

Question put, "That the word 'four' be there inserted."

The House *divided*:—Ayes 82; Noes 27: Majority 55.—(Div. List, No. 313.)

Amendment, as amended, *agreed to*.

Page 4, line 17, after "particulars," insert "and amount," the next Amendment, read a second time.

MR. J. W. BARCLAY said, that in consequence of what had taken place on the last Amendment, he hoped this would be disagreed to, because it would

be impossible for the tenant to give a statement of what had taken place. He could not give a statement as to feeding stuff, until that feeding stuff was consumed. They must object to this Amendment, because either the tenant must be forced to put in a hypothetical claim, or deprive himself of the feeding stuff put on the holding during the past four months.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, there was no reason for objecting to the Amendment. The feeding of cattle would go on up to the expiration of the lease, and this provision for giving particulars must, like all such provisions, be subject to the reasonable understanding that they should be given only in so far as they could be given at the time, and that they should be liable to amendment, if necessary, afterwards. The word "particulars" in itself would be enough. That word had been thought proper, and there had been no objection to its going in the Bill. In England, the tenancies were almost invariably yearly, or at will, and, therefore, the period of notice would agree; but it did not follow that the same period of notice was desirable in a 19 years' tenancy. The difference had been recognized in the House. There was no proposal to extend the time in the English Bill; but, for reasons stated in the other House, six months was substituted, and the Government suggested that four months would be enough. There was no reason whatever for leaving out the word "amount" in what had been done.

Amendment *agreed to*.

Page 5, line 31, after "any," insert "sample or voucher or other," the next Amendment, *agreed to*.

Page 6, line 25, after "county," insert—

"In any case provided for by sections three, four, or five, if compensation is claimed under this Act, such compensation, as under any of those sections, is to be deemed to be substituted for compensation under this Act, if and so far as the same can consistently with the terms of the agreement, if any, be ascertained by the referee or the overseen, shall be awarded in respect of any improvements thereby provided for, and the award shall, when necessary, distinguish such improvement."

Section shall be by this Act,"

—the next Amendment.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, he proposed to amend this Amendment, by leaving out the word "under," in line 4, and inserting the words "consistently with."

Amendment agreed to: words substituted.

Lords' Amendment, as amended, agreed to.

Page 7, line 18, after "invalid," insert—

"(2.) That the award proceeds wholly or in part upon an improper application of, or upon the omission properly to apply, the special provisions of section five, or any other part of this Act,"

—the next Amendment, read a second time.

On the Motion of THE LORD ADVOCATE, the said Amendment amended, as follows:—leave out the word "section," and insert the words "sections three, four, or;" and leave out "or any other part."

Amendment, as amended, agreed to.

Page 8, line 42, after "assignees," insert—

"Any charge under this section shall rank after all prior charges and burdens heritably secured upon the holding or estate.

"Where a holding or estate is charged by the landlord under this section, such charge shall not be deemed to be a contravention of any prohibition against charging or burdening contained in the deed or instrument under which the holding or estate is held by the landlord.

"The price of any entailed land sold under the provisions of the Entailed Acts, where such price is entailed estate within the meaning of those Acts, may be applied by the landlord in respect of the remaining portion of the entailed estate, or in respect of any other estate belonging to him, and entailed upon the same series of heirs, in payment of any expenditure and costs incurred by him in pursuance of this Act for executing or paying compensation for any improvement mentioned in the first or second parts of the schedule hereto, or in discharge of any charge with which the estate is burdened in pursuance of this Act in respect of such improvement;"

page 9, line 2, leave out "Limited Liability," and insert "Companies;" line 13, leave out "charged;" line 15, leave "landlord's interests," and insert "interest of the landlord, his executors, administrators, and assigns," after line 16, insert as a heading to Clause 27—

"Removing for Non-payment of Rent;" line 19, leave out the first "to," and insert "for;" line 23, leave out "said

six months rent is," and insert "arrears of rent then due are;" line 25, line 30, leave out "said," and insert "such," the next eight Amendments, agreed to.

Page 10, line 2, leave out "two years," and insert "one year," and leave out "three," and insert "two," the next Amendment, read a second time.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, the Government were disposed to agree to this Amendment. There had been a good deal of discussion on the subject, and it had been pointed out that, possibly, the adoption of so long a period as two years' notice might degenerate into a mere form, and that a shorter period would not be open to the same objection. They had consulted with many persons interested in agricultural matters, and he gathered that there was no strong opinion upon the point one way or other; but, as there seemed to be an impression that a shorter period would be satisfactory, they were willing that "one year" should be inserted instead of two.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That this House doth agree with the Lords in the said Amendment."—(*The Lord Advocate*.)

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON said, he hoped the House would not agree to the Amendment. They had discussed the question already very often, and the House had agreed, a few days ago, that there should be two years' notice instead of one. That conclusion had been unanimously arrived at, and he could not but express his surprise that the right hon. and learned Lord Advocate should now turn round. The period agreed upon had been asked for by the farmers ever since he had been in Scotland, in consequence of the form of leases which was customary there. In this matter, the English custom was no guide whatever. It was surely no hardship on a landlord who had a lease, to ask him to make up his mind two years beforehand, whether he would keep his tenant or not.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, he would point out that the obligation was upon the tenant, as well as the landlord. It would be putting a great deal upon the tenant to retain the period of two years in the clause. It

very often happened that a tenant could not make up his mind whether to go or remain.

SIR JOHN HAY said, he thought two years better than one for the purpose of the Bill; but, although he would admit there was a strong feeling on the subject, and agreed with the view of the question taken by his hon. and gallant Friend opposite (Sir Alexander Gordon), he hoped it would not be thought necessary to put the House to the trouble of dividing on the Amendment.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

Page 10, leave out lines 19 to 21; and in line 24, after "planting," insert "feuing," and after "purpose," insert "or to subjects let for any period less than a year," the next two Amendments, *agreed to*.

Page 10, leave out Clause 29, the next Amendment, read a second time.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR) said, he must ask the House to disagree with this Amendment. Clause 29 was a section of the Bill to which great value had, in his opinion, been justly attached. There appeared to have been some misapprehension as to its nature and scope in "another place," which arose, probably, from the language used in its construction, which might have given rise to the idea that it was to authorize assignment during the life of the tenant. He should move to amend the clause by striking out the word "assignment" wherever it occurred, and insert words that would make it clear that a *mortis causa* gift was intended, and which would also provide that the tenant should have the power of designating his heir. They were also prepared to meet certain objections that seemed reasonable—that was to say, objections of a somewhat limited kind.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

Clause *restored, and amended*.

Page 11, line 28, after "tenant," insert "before or within a reasonable time after the termination of the tenancy," the next Amendment, *agreed to*.

Page 13, line 12, leave out from "holding," to "the," in line 16, and insert—

"Of less than two acres in extent, not being a market garden, or to a holding unless it is either wholly agricultural or wholly pastoral, or in part agricultural and as to the residue

pastoral, or in whole or in part cultivated as a market garden, or to a holding let to the tenant during his continuance in any office, appointment, or employment held under,"

—the next Amendment, read a second time.

On the Motion of The LORD ADVOCATE, said Amendment *disagreed to*.

Page 13, line 18, leave out from "tenant," to "shall," in line 22, and insert—

"By virtue of which he is deprived of his right to claim compensation under this Act in respect of any improvement specified in the schedule hereto except an agreement providing such compensation as is by this Act permitted to be substituted for compensation under this Act;"

page 14, line 11, after "thing," insert Clause (a.)—

(Consents, &c. not subject to statutes regulating execution of deeds.)

"(a.) It shall be no objection to the validity of any consent in writing or agreement in writing within the provisions of this Act signed by the party or parties thereto or by any person or persons authorised by him or them that such consent or agreement has not been executed in accordance with the statutes regulating the execution of deeds in Scotland;"

leave out lines 13 to 18; page 15, line 10, after "Scotland," insert "'Companies Acts' means the Companies Acts, 1862 to 1880, and any Act amending the same," the next four concluding Amendments, *agreed to*.

Committee appointed, "to draw up Reasons to be assigned to The Lords for disagreeing to certain of the Amendments made by The Lords to the Bill:"—The LORD ADVOCATE, Mr. SOLICITOR GENERAL for Scotland, Mr. SOLICITOR GENERAL for England, Mr. DUFF, Mr. DUNN, The JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL, and Lord RICHARD GROSVEOR:—Threes to form a quorum:—To withdraw immediately.

MERCHANT SHIPPING (FISHING BOATS) BILL.—[Bill 268.]

(Mr. Chamberlain.)

COMMITTEE.

Order for Committee read.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair."—(Mr. Chamberlain.)

Mr. BIRKBECK said, it was most unfortunate for the fishing interest that the Bill had been introduced so late in the Session. question had good reason the fishing thing what

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no doubt, be passed in a hurried manner, and for that the President of the Board of Trade must be held entirely responsible, as well as for the evil effects of such hurried legislation.

SIR JOHN HAY said, the Bill, as he understood, was founded upon the Report of a Committee of which his hon. Friend who had just spoken (Mr. Birkbeck) was the Chairman. He (Sir John Hay) was glad to find that Scotland was to be excluded from its provisions.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he was prepared to take all responsibility with reference to the Bill, which was founded on the Report of a Committee that was, with regard to all its main provisions, absolutely unanimous. He was very much surprised that the hon. Member opposite (Mr. Birkbeck) should entertain any doubt on the subject, as he was a Member of the Committee and signed its Report.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

Bill considered in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1 (Title and construction of the Act).

Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 17, after "Act," to insert, as a new paragraph, "This Act shall not apply to Scotland."—(*The Lord Advocate*.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

SIR JOHN HAY said, before the Amendment was put, he thought it right that the House should recognize that credit was greatly due to the hon. Member for St. Andrews (Mr. Williamson), who had called attention to the fact that the Bill was entirely inapplicable to Scotland, and he (Sir John Hay) thanked the Government for having proposed to exclude that country from its operation.

MR. WARTON said, that he was strongly of opinion that the provision for the exclusion of Scotland ought to form a separate clause and be inserted at the end of the Bill. They had got into a loose way of drafting their Bills, and it was not at all an unusual thing to find clauses altogether misplaced.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he quite appreciated the view taken by the hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for Bridport (Mr. Warton); but he (Mr. Chamberlain) thought that, in all mat-

ters of this kind, they were bound to depend on the proof received from the draftsman. The present wording had been drawn by the draftsman, and it had been approved of by the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Lord Advocate of Scotland.

Amendment *agreed to*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 2 *agreed to*.

Clause 3 (Application of the first part of this Act, and definitions).

MR. HENEAGE, in moving the following Amendment:—In page 2, line 1, after "Service," omit "or," and insert—

"Shall apply to all fishing vessels of 25 tons register tonnage and upwards: and such portions of the first part of this Act as in any way relate to,"

said, he did so for the purpose of applying the provisions of this Act as to certificates, agreements, and certificates of discharge, to trawlers of 25 tons, as well as to agreements with boys, and indentures to all fishing vessels of 25 tons and drifters.

Amendment *agreed to*.

MR. HENEAGE, in moving the following Amendment:—In page 2, after line 15, insert—

"The Board of Trade may before making any order under this section institute such inquiry as in their opinion may be required for the purpose of enabling them to make such order by such person or persons as the President may appoint for the purpose, and the person or persons so appointed shall have power to take evidence on oath or otherwise, and shall have all the powers of an Inspector appointed under the first part of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854,"

said, it was necessary in order to give power to institute inquiry before issuing any notices in *The Gazette* under the provisions of the Act.

Amendment *agreed to*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clauses 4 to 7, inclusive, *agreed to*.

Clause 8 (Indentures and agreements with boys to be void if not entered into before a superintendent of mercantile marine).

MR. HENEAGE, in moving the following Amendment:—In page 4, at the end, insert—

"Nothing in this Act shall prevent the daily employment in a fishing boat of any boy under

sixteen years of age who is under no obligation to remain in such employment for a longer period than one day, and with whom no written agreement has been made,"

said, it was intended to provide for the case of boys engaged for a day, or sailing with their parents.

Amendment agreed to.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 9 to 15, inclusive, agreed to.

Clause 16 (Fishing boats making short voyages may have running agreements).

MR. HENEAGE, in moving the following Amendment:—In page 7, line 1, after "voyages," insert "or any number of weeks," said, it was intended to apply in the case of a broken voyage.

Amendment agreed to.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 17 agreed to.

Clause 18 (Definition of "voyage" of a fishing boat).

On the Motion of MR. HENEAGE, Amendment made, in page 7, line 26, after "thereafter," insert "upon the conclusion of the trip."

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 19 (Reports of a fishing boat's crew on a voyage to be made).

MR. HENEAGE, in moving, as an Amendment, in page 7, line 29, to leave out "twenty-four," and insert "forty-eight," said, it applied to the time before departure of vessel for sending in the list of her crew.

Amendment agreed to.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 20 to 23, inclusive, agreed to.

Clause 24 (Skipper to deliver account of wages).

MR. HENEAGE, in moving as an Amendment, in page 8, line 31, after "every," insert "owner or," said, the necessity for it was shown by the fact that owners generally kept accounts, and paid the crew.

Amendment agreed to.

MR. HENEAGE, moved an Amendment, in page 8, line 31, leave out "twenty," and insert "four," for the

Mr. Heneage

purpose, as he said, of providing an account of wages four hours before settlement.

Amendment agreed to.

MR. HENEAGE, in moving the following Amendment:—

In page 8, line 32, after "seaman," insert "unless the seaman gives notice to the skipper that he does not require it,"

said, it was intended to apply in cases where accounts were not required.

Amendment agreed to.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 25 (Seaman to have inspection of owner's accounts and books relating to catch).

MR. HENEAGE, in moving, as an Amendment, in page 9, line 2, after "catch," insert "and any dispute arises as to his share," said, it was intended in order that a seaman, after a dispute had arisen, might inspect such account and books.

Amendment agreed to.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 26 to 31, inclusive, agreed to.

Clause 32 (How seamen and apprentices deserting, or neglecting or refusing to join or proceed to sea, or absent without leave, or guilty of disobedience or neglect of duty, may be dealt with).

MR. HENEAGE, in moving the following Amendment:—In page 13, after line 14, insert—

"Whenever any seaman or apprentice engaged or liable to serve on any fishing boat neglects or refuses to join or deserts from or refuses to proceed to sea in or absents himself without leave from such fishing boat, the skipper, owner, or boat's husband may, with or without the assistance of the local police officers and constables (who are to give their assistance in such cases when required so to do by the master, owner or boat's husband), take and convey such seaman or apprentice before such superintendent, principal officer, or deputy as aforesaid, and thereupon such seaman or apprentice shall be dealt with as if he had been arrested under a warrant issued under this section."

said, it was intended for the purpose of bringing the seaman or apprentice before the Magistrate, in "warrant," in cases of command or.

Clause, as

Clause 33 (Notice by seaman that he intends to absent himself from his ship and effect thereof).

Mr. BROADHURST moved, as an Amendment, in page 13, line 18, to leave out "forty-eight," and insert "twenty-four," on the ground that 48 hours' notice of his incapacity to go to sea was an unnecessarily long notice to require from a seaman.

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN said, he hoped the Amendment would not be pressed. Forty-eight hours' notice was considered fair by all persons practically concerned.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause *agreed to*.

Clause 34 (How wages are to accrue and to be calculated. Forfeiture of whole if voyage or trip shorter than period of forfeiture).

Mr. HENEAGE, in moving, as an Amendment, in page 13, line 26, after "or trip," insert "or the season," said, it was necessary to insert it, because wages were contracted for by the "season" in Cornwall, as well as by voyage and trip.

Amendment *agreed to*.

On the Motion of Mr. HENEAGE, Amendment made, in page 13, line 29, after "or trip," insert "or season."

Mr. HENEAGE, in moving, as an Amendment—

In page 13, line 30, after "or trip," insert—"or season: Provided, always, that a seaman or apprentice shall not be entitled to more than what his share of the profits or catch made during the period he has actually served may or would have amounted to,"

said, it was intended to provide that the share of the catch should be only for the period when the seaman or apprentice was serving.

Amendment *agreed to*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 35 *agreed to*.

Clause 36 (Certificates for fishing boats heretofore granted to be deemed to have been granted under 17 & 18 Vict. c. 104 (Part III)).

Mr. WARTON asked the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Board of Trade (Mr. Chamberlain) whether it would not be advisable to drop this, the certificate clause?

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN said, he thought it might be taken for granted that all the persons affected by this clause were well acquainted with the other provisions of the Bill. Local inquiries had been held; a great number of fishermen gave evidence; and they were well aware of what was being done. What was required was, that these men should pass a very elementary examination in what constituted good seamanship for these fishing boats. He considered that it was alike in the interest of both masters and men that this elementary examination should be insisted upon.

Clause *agreed to*.

Clauses 37 to 39, inclusive, *agreed to*.

Clause 40 (Certificates of service to be given to certain skippers of fishing boats).

Mr. HENEAGE, in moving, as an Amendment, in page 15, line 7, to leave out "July," and insert "September," said, it was intended to provide that service certificates might be given until next September, before regular certificates were required under the Act.

Amendment *agreed to*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 41 *agreed to*.

Clause 42 (No fishing boat to proceed to sea without duly certificated skipper, and penalty for so doing).

On the Motion of Mr. HENEAGE, Amendment made, in page 16, line 3, before "no," insert "after the first day of January one thousand eight hundred and eighty four."

Mr. BROADHURST, in moving, as an Amendment, in page 16, line 6, at end, to add—

"Or unless the second hand holds a certificate of competency or service entitling him to act as second hand of such fishing boat,"

said, there was no argument that could be adduced in favour of the skipper holding a certificate that could not be adduced in favour of the second hand holding a certificate. There might be 14 or 15 hands on board, and, as the Bill stood, there would be only one person on board as to whose competency there would be any guarantee whatever. In case the skipper were washed overboard, the boat might drift about the sea, without any person being aboard

competent to take charge of it. He was aware he would be told there were always a number of men aboard who were perfectly capable of taking charge of the boat, in case of the loss of the skipper. But if they were perfectly capable of taking charge of the boat, there could be no objection to requiring them to show their capacity by undergoing a simple examination in seamanship. It would be very satisfactory to the families of the men if they knew that, in case of the loss of the skipper, there was someone on board who was capable of safely guiding the boat into port. It was very necessary every protection for the lives of our fishermen should be afforded.

Amendment proposed,

In page 16, line 6, at end, to add—"Or unless the second hand holds a certificate of competency or service entitling him to act as second hand of such fishing boat."—(Mr. Broadhurst.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there added."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, it was one of the recommendations of the Committee, in their original Report, that the second hand should hold a certificate of competency; but, on fuller consideration, it was decided to omit such a provision from the Bill. A new system was being introduced, and he did not think the Bill was likely to work successfully if they were too stringent in the first instance. In the interest of the Bill itself the Committee had better leave the clause unaltered.

MR. BROADHURST said, he was sorry the Government took such a view as that expressed by the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. Chamberlain) of this matter. The only possible parties who could raise an objection were the very parties who objected to any certificates at all. The men concerned in the business, and whose lives were at stake, and the families of the men, were deeply in earnest in favour of the second hand holding a certificate. The Committee ought not to pander to the prejudices of men who objected to any certificates, and if he could get anyone to follow him, he should go to a Division.

MR. ACLAND said, he thought the difficulty might be met by postponing the proposal of the hon. Member for Stoke (Mr. Broadhurst) for 12 months.

Mr. Broadhurst

If the Act was to come into force at the beginning of next year, the system of certificate would have a good chance of working by the end of 12 months, and then, possibly, the views of the hon. Member might be met by requiring the second hand to be certificated.

MR. BIRKBECK said, he hoped the Committee would not agree to the Amendment of the hon. Member for Stoke (Mr. Broadhurst). He (Mr. Birkbeck) had had great experience of the management of fishing boats, and he knew of many cases in which the second hands of fishing boats had rescued merchantmen, the captains of which were certificated. The second hands of fishing boats very often knew more of the North Sea than the captains of merchantmen themselves. It was a very great mistake to suppose that loss of life occurred on account of a skipper or a second hand of fishing vessels not having certificates.

MR. BROADHURST said, the hon. Member opposite (Mr. Birkbeck) had said the second hands on fishing boats were perfectly capable of managing the boats, and that they often knew more about the North Sea than many of the captains of sea-going vessels. If that were so, there would be no difficulty in the second hands passing an examination such as was required in the case of the skipper.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, the hon. Member for Stoke (Mr. Broadhurst) seemed to forget that, as a matter of fact, they had, in the Bill, already stipulated for additional precautions. It was unreasonable to press still more precautions against the views of those who were practically acquainted with the subject. The hon. Member was mistaken when he said this Amendment was desired by the men themselves. The fishermen had a rooted objection to many of these certificates; and, although, in the long run, it might be to their interest that these certificates should be held, the men were opposed to them. The Board of Trade had to administer the Act, and he (Mr. Chamberlain) was persuaded that if its provisions were made too stringent it would soon become

MR. WILKINSON
the hon. Member for
Stoke (Mr. Broadhurst) was
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swains who were very useful men, but who could not pass an examination. Much more difficult, therefore, would it be for the second hands of fishing vessels to pass.

Mr. BROADHURST said, no one would more readily join in thanks to the President of the Board of Trade (Mr. Chamberlain) than he should, in the name of the fishermen, for the good work he was doing in this Bill. His (Mr. Broadhurst's) object in the Amendment was, that, while they were engaged in good work, they should make it as perfect as possible. If the Government were determined to oppose him in this Amendment, there was no other course open to him than to withdraw the Amendment.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clauses 43 to 51, inclusive, *agreed to*.

Clause 52 (Fishing tenders to be home-trade ships).

Mr. HENEAGE, in moving, as an Amendment, in page 20, lines 26 and 27, to omit "The Merchant Shipping Acts, 1854 to 1873," said, it was meant to place fishing tenders under the provision of the Bill before the House.

Amendment *agreed to*.

On the Motion of Mr. HENEAGE, further Amendments made, in line 27, by omitting "home-trade ships," and inserting "trawlers."

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clauses 53 and 54 *agreed to*.

Clause 55 (Repeal of enactments and saving).

Mr. HENEAGE, in moving, as an Amendment, in page 21, to add—

"The repeal effected by this section shall not repeal any enactment so far as the same extends to Scotland,"

said, it was simply a saving section for Scotland, consequential on the Amendment introduced in Clause 1 by the right hon. and learned Lord Advocate.

Amendment *agreed to*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Schedules *agreed to*.

House *resumed*.

Bill *reported*, with Amendments; as amended, to be considered *To-morrow*.

VOL. CCLXXXIII. [THIRD SERIES.]

AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS (ENGLAND) BILL.

Reasons for disagreeing to certain of The Lords Amendments *reported*, and *agreed to*:—
To be communicated to the Lords.

AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS (SCOTLAND) BILL.

Reasons for disagreeing to certain of The Lords Amendments *reported*, and *agreed to*:—
To be communicated to the Lords.

House adjourned at Three o'clock

HOUSE OF LORDS,

Wednesday, 22nd August, 1883.

MINUTES.]—PUBLIC BILLS—*First Reading*—
Post Office (Money Orders) Acts Amendment * (219).

Second Reading—Epidemic and other Diseases Prevention * (213).

Second Reading—Committee *negatived*—Municipal Corporations (Borough Constables) * (214).

Second Reading—Committee—Report—*Third Reading*—Revenue and Friendly Societies (215), and *passed*.

Committee—Report—Corrupt Practices (Suspension of Elections) * (198); Medals * (208); Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland) * (205); Public Works Loans * (209).

Report—Bankruptcy (211); Labourers (Ireland) * (183).

Third Reading—National Debt * (212); Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) (189); Isle of Wight Highways * (191); Education (Scotland) * (199); Expiring Laws Continuance (197), and *passed*.

REVENUE AND FRIENDLY SOCIETIES BILL.—(No. 215.)

(The Lord Thurlow.)

SECOND READING. COMMITTEE.

THIRD READING.

Order of the Day for the Second Reading read.

LORD THURLOW, in moving that the Bill be now read a second time, said, he had to ask their Lordships to dispense with Standing Order XXXV., it being desirable to take all the remaining stages of the Bill that day, in order that it might be sent back to the Commons, so that that House might have time, before the Prorogation, to consider some Amendments he should have to make in Committee. He might briefly say the Bill was an omnibus one, and

contained a great variety of small, but urgent, matters relating to the Revenue.

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^d."
—(*The Lord Thurlow*.)

Motion agreed to; Bill read 2^d accordingly.

Standing Order XXXV. considered (according to order).

Moved, "That the said Standing Order be dispensed with."—(*The Lord Thurlow*.)

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, a great number of matters were dealt with in the Bill, and the very least they could expect was that the noble Lord opposite (Lord Thurlow) should make a short speech in explanation of each clause. It was a case in which they seemed to be reverting to the ancient practice of putting all the Acts passed in a Session of Parliament into one Act. He did not know whose ingenious imagination had conceived this idea; but, if the principle of which they had an example here were only developed, they need not have so many Acts of Parliament as at present was the case.

LORD THURLOW said, it was strictly in accordance with usage to combine a number of small matters of great importance in one Act. He had himself in previous years passed many similar Bills.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, he was sorry to hear this confession on the part of the noble Lord. They had apparently detected him for the first time. Every clause in the Bill was a new Act, and he only demurred to having Committee superseded. If there was any sort of Bill on which Committee was an important stage, it was a Bill in respect to which each clause practically was a new Act of Parliament on a separate subject.

LORD THURLOW said, that, if the noble Marquess objected to the Bill passing its main stages that day, the result would be that the Bill would have to go on without amendment, and would go forward to the world as "The Revenue and Friendly Societies Bill," although the clause relating to Friendly Societies had been struck out.

Motion agreed to; House in Committee accordingly.

Preamble.

Lord Thurlow

On the Motion of The Lord THURLOW, the following Amendment made:—In paragraph 1, line 2, leave out ("and to reduce the interest payable on investments of friendly societies").

Preamble, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 1 (Short title).

On the Motion of The Lord THURLOW, the following Amendment made:—In page 1, line 5, after ("revenue") leave out ("and friendly societies").

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Remaining clauses agreed to.

On the Motion of The Lord THURLOW, title of the Bill changed to "Revenue Bill."

House resumed.

Report of Amendments received.

On the Motion of The Lord THURLOW, Bill read 3^d, with the Amendments.

Bill passed, and sent to the Commons.

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS (CORRUPT AND ILLEGAL PRACTICES)

BILL.—[No. 139.]

(*The Earl of Northbrook*.)

THIRD READING.

Order of the Day for the Third Reading read.

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3^d."
—(*The Earl of Northbrook*.)

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, he wished to ask the noble Earl in charge of the Bill (the Earl of Northbrook), whether it would not be possible to restore the Bill in one particular to the state in which it was when it was originally presented to the House of Commons? As amended, no candidate would be entitled to employ more than one agent, though the borough which he desired to represent was composed of groups of boroughs, each with a certain amount of independent life. He thought such candidates ought to be permitted to employ a separate agent for each separate portion of the borough. The Government were of opinion that that should be allowed when the Bill was introduced.

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mons, those Members who represented such boroughs had expressed their wish to be placed on the same footing, in this respect, as other Members, and that wish was acceded to. They were the best judges of their own case, and he was, therefore, sorry that the alteration desired by the noble Marquess could not be made.

LORD DENMAN said, that, although the Bill would be a Continuance Bill, it might, as the noble Marquess proposed, be altered next year, and not stereotyped in its present form.

Motion *agreed to*; Bill read 3^d accordingly, with the Amendments, and *passed*, and sent to the Commons.

BANKRUPTCY BILL.—(No. 211.)

(The Lord Chancellor.)

REPORT.

Amendments *reported* (according to order).

Clause 6 (Conditions on which creditor may petition)..

On the Motion of The LORD CHANCELLOR, the following Amendments made:—In page 3, line 12, leave out ("has"); and in line 13, before ("resided,") insert ("has ordinarily").

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 7 (Proceedings and order on creditor's petition).

On the Motion of The LORD CHANCELLOR, the following Amendments made:—In page 3, line 23, after ("affidavit,") insert ("of the creditor or of some person on his behalf having knowledge of the facts"); in line 34, after ("debts,") insert ("or that for other sufficient cause no order ought to be made"); and after line 34, insert—

"(4) When the act of bankruptcy relied on is non-compliance with a bankruptcy notice to pay, secure, or compound for a judgment debt, the court may, if it thinks fit, stay or dismiss the petition on the ground that an appeal is pending from the judgment."

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 66 (Appointment by Board of Trade of official receivers of debtors' estates).

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY, who had on the Paper the following Amendment:—

In page 36, line 25, leave out sub-section (1), and insert—"A proper person or persons shall

be appointed for each district to act as official receiver or receivers of debtors' estates. Such persons shall be appointed, as regards the London Bankruptcy Court, by the judge of that court, and, as regards other districts, by the judge of the county court having bankruptcy jurisdiction within that district. One person only shall be appointed for each such district unless the Board of Trade shall otherwise direct, and the same person shall not be appointed for more than two districts. The official receivers shall act under the directions of, and may be removed by, the Board of Trade, but shall also be officers of the courts to which they are respectively attached."

said, that it appeared, from communications he had received, that the particular kind of patronage in the Bill, objectionable though it might be, was necessary for the working of the measure. He should, therefore, not submit the Amendment to their Lordships.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he was glad that his noble Friend had not insisted on the Amendment. Although he (the Duke of Argyll) had objected to this patronage on first seeing the Bill, he had since made careful inquiry, and had come to the conclusion that the appointment of Official Receivers by the Board of Trade was an essential principle of the Bill.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said, he would also express his gratification at the course taken by the noble Marquess.

Amendment (by leave of the House) *withdrawn*.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said, that as some apprehensions seemed to have been entertained as to the possibility of an excessive use of the patronage the Bill conferred on the Board of Trade, he had communicated with that Department, and in order to meet that objection, he proposed to add the following Amendment, in page 36, at end of line 31:—

"The official receivers who are to be appointed, and the districts with which they are to be associated, shall be fixed by the Board of Trade, with the concurrence of the Treasury. One person only shall be appointed to each district, unless the Board of Trade, with the concurrence of the Treasury, shall otherwise direct."

The effect of the Amendment was that it associated the Treasury with the Board of Trade in determining the number of officers to be appointed.

Amendment *agreed to*; words *added*.

Clause, as amended, *agreed to*.

Clause 122 (Power for county court to make administration order instead of order for payment by instalments).

THE EARL OF MILLTOWN, in moving, as an Amendment, in page 57, line 12, to insert, after the word "value," the words "in the aggregate," said, the clause would exempt from seizure household goods, wearing apparel, and tools and implements of trade up to the value of £20; and the object of his Amendment was to remove ambiguity as to the meaning of that provision.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said, he would accept the Amendment.

Amendment agreed to; words inserted.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Bill to be read 3^d To-morrow.

EXPIRING LAWS CONTINUANCE

BILL.—(No. 197.)

(The Lord Thurlow.)

THIRD READING.

Order of the Day for the Third Reading read.

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3^d."
—(The Lord Thurlow.)

Motion agreed to; Bill read 3^d accordingly.

Moved, "That the Bill do pass."
—(The Lord Thurlow.)

LORD DENMAN: I beg to move the insertion of a clause to empower widows and spinsters, who pay the same rates and taxes as voters do, to vote for Members of Parliament. I am induced to do so because, at my decease, my widow would not be able to vote for a Member of Parliament. In 1881 it was reported that the noble Lord, now Secretary of State for India, had said that I might bring in a Bill on this interesting subject; but I never heard his Lordship say so, though it must be correct, as it is reported in *Hanard*. But I venture to think that this clause would effect the object far better than the dependence on the carrying of a Reform Bill, or on the agitation of ladies in St. James's Hall. I find that they have exercised their privilege, both by ballot and openly, with much discretion—by ballot as to school boards, and openly in the election at Haddington (Scotland) of two Ministers, at different times, of the Established Church. I believe

that, by passing this clause, the Government would not lose any votes at the next General Election. And the Ballot lasting for only one year, it would be seen, as to this class of new voters, if, during that time, their conduct had been wise or the contrary; and the Ballot is, certainly, a great protection to female voters.

Amendment moved, after Clause 2, add the following Clause:—

"Provided that the Act 35 & 36 Vict. c. 33, continued as aforesaid, shall be extended so as to admit widows and single women who have the same property qualification as the present electors for counties and boroughs to vote for the election of members of Parliament for counties and boroughs."—(The Lord Denman.)

LORD THURLOW said, he was sorry that he could not accept the Amendment of the noble Lord; but he would point out that the Bill was simply one for continuing expiring laws, and that it was not customary to introduce into such a measure new legislation, particularly of so important a character as that which the noble Lord had suggested.

Amendment negatived.

Motion agreed to.

Bill passed, and sent to the Commons.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION — SCHOOL BOARDS — POWER OF EXACTING HOME LESSONS FROM SCHOLARS.

QUESTION. OBSERVATIONS.

LORD STANLEY OF ALDERLEY, in asking the Lord President, Whether school boards have any legal right to exact home lessons, and to dispose of the time of children attending board schools out of school hours; and, if so, under what section of what Act of Parliament? said, that he regretted having to trouble his noble Friend again with the Question, after the satisfactory reply which he had given on a former occasion. He (Lord Stanley of Alderley) was, however, compelled to do so, because the most important part of the reply of the Lord President on a former occasion had failed to reach the Reporters' Gallery, and, because, a few days later the Vice President in "another place" would have been over, &c.

had again refused admission to Mr. Shackleton's sons; whilst they appeared to shrink from committing themselves to a written refusal, for, on the 17th instant, they had not replied to a letter of Mr. Shackleton's of the 13th, although there had been a meeting of the Board on the 16th instant; and as the term of office of this Board expired on the 25th, they might wish to ignore the case. On a former occasion, the Todmorden School Board sent away the reporters when discussing the matter. He would observe that the Education Office had made a singular mistake, and misled the Lord President into repeating it in this House—namely, that Mr. Shackleton had given no reasons for refusing to allow his sons to do home lessons. When that was alleged by the Education Department letter of January 19, 1882, signed by Mr. Palgrave, Mr. Shackleton wrote to the Todmorden local paper to show that this statement was entirely inaccurate, and *The School Board Chronicle* had reprinted the letter, and commented upon it, and supported Mr. Shackleton against both the School Board and the Education Department. Since he last addressed the Lord President on this subject, he had heard of complaints of overwork and home lessons from various parts of the country, and he had received remonstrances against the assertion of the Lord President that the New Code was less severe than the Old Code.

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL), in reply, said, the answer he had to give was, that he had no authority, as President of the Council, to decide the legal rights of the school boards. Any such question as the present could only come before him under the Code, and when it did so he should be very happy to give it his attention, and decide it; but he was bound to add, that he was not prepared to say it would be the duty of the Education Department to refuse the annual grant to a school board, simply because that board had declined to admit a child, the parents of which had refused, without showing reasonable grounds or excuse, to permit the child to go through the home lessons prescribed by the school board. He was not prepared to say that the Education Department would refuse the grant on any such ground as that.

PROVIDENT NOMINATIONS AND SMALL INTESTACIES BILL.

(*The Lord Norton.*)

CONSIDERATION OF COMMONS' REASONS.

Commons' reasons for disagreeing to one of the Lords' Amendments *considered* (according to order).

On the Motion of The Lord THURLOW (for The Lord NORTON), the said Amendment *not insisted on*.

AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS (ENGLAND) BILL.—(No. 216.)

(*The Lord President.*)

CONSIDERATION OF COMMONS' REASONS.

Commons' reasons for disagreeing to certain of the Lords' amendments, and Commons' amendments to Lords' amendments *considered* (according to order).

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, that, before he asked their Lordships not to insist on their Amendments with which the Commons had disagreed, he should like to say a few words as to the view taken by Her Majesty's Government of the present position of the Bill. The Government had submitted the measure to Parliament in order to meet the reasonable requirements of the tenant farmers of this country, without, in their opinion, going beyond those reasonable requirements, and without prejudice to the rights and interests of the landlords. In the belief of the Government, and, as he (Lord Carlingford) believed, by almost universal admission, the measure was of a most moderate character when introduced into the other House. Their Lordships, however, had thought fit to make several changes in the Bill, all of them more or less restrictive of the benefits intended to be conferred upon the tenant farmers. Two of the Amendments made by their Lordships relating to the first two clauses of the Bill—the first being by far the most important—had been accepted by the other House on the recommendation of Her Majesty's Government. That Amendment was one to which many of their Lordships attached great importance. With regard to the remaining Amendments, upon which the other House had differed from their Lordships, he had this to say on the part of

the Government—that they believed that every one of those Amendments was quite unnecessary for the protection of the landlord. They believed that the Bill as it stood, without those Amendments, would not in any way cause injustice to the landlord, or any serious inconvenience. On the other hand, the Government felt convinced that the introduction into the Bill of these charges might have a very prejudicial effect on the success of the measure—a success which he believed noble Lords on both sides of that House equally desired. These Amendments would have a bad effect, in some cases, in the interest of the landlords; and, certainly, in many cases, more or less, in the interest of the tenants, who would attach exaggerated importance to the changes made, and in whose eyes the measure was likely to be very seriously damaged by them. Any such effect would, in his opinion, be most disadvantageous to both parties. The Amendments, in fact, were likely to interfere with that reasonable settlement between landlord and tenant which it was hoped would have prevented the necessity of re-opening the question for many years to come. If their Lordships insisted on their Amendments, the impression would be produced that they were dealing with the measure in a jealous and grudging spirit, and that they desired to cut down and weaken all the provisions of the Bill which were favourable to the tenant—which to some extent, though not to so great an extent as the tenant farmers believed, would undoubtedly be the case. The first of these Amendments with which he would deal, and to which he considered the observations he had made would apply, was that which was moved by the noble Marquess opposite (the Marquess of Salisbury) upon the 2nd clause, by which the following words were inserted:—

“Provided that no compensation shall be claimed under this section in contravention of any specific agreement existing at the time of the passing of this Act between the parties in reference thereto.”

That Amendment was really of narrow scope, and dealt entirely with improvements already executed before the commencement of the Act. Now, the case stood thus. If any kind of agreement for compensation were now in existence with respect to an improvement already

made, such an agreement was good under the earlier words of the clause. Again, if any valuable consideration of any kind had been given by a landlord on account of an improvement—any benefit given or allowed—that consideration would, under Clause 6, take the place of the compensation given under the Bill. The only agreement which under Clause 2, with relation to improvements already effected, would not be good, was an agreement absolutely excluding the tenant from any compensation. Such an Amendment was scarcely worthy of the noble Marquess. Under Clause 5, any existing agreement under an existing contract of tenancy which debarred the tenant from compensation, without any consideration being given, would still, under the Bill as it stood, and in spite of the Amendment—the noble Marquess remain null and void. He begged their Lordships, therefore, to consider what amount of benefit such a provision as this would confer upon the landlords of this country. If the Amendment were worthless, as he was convinced it was, why should they spoil by such an addition the very appearance of the Bill? Such jealous care in guarding the fancied interests of the landlords in regard to agreements which were in themselves, if they really existed, contrary to public policy, could do no good to their Lordships or to the landlords throughout the country, and could do nothing but prejudice the success and the hearty acceptance of this Bill.

Page 2, line 11, after (“improvement,”) insert—

“Provided that no compensation shall be claimed under this section in contravention of any specific agreement existing at the time of the passing of this Act between the parties in reference thereto.”

The Commons disagree to the amendment in page 2, line 11, for the following reason:—

“Because it is inconsistent with the principle of the Bill which provides that in the case of existing tenancies, where the tenant has no right to compensation under the terms of his tenancy, he shall, nevertheless, be entitled to compensation for improvements made by him, where compensation is not excluded by any agreement in reference thereto.”

Lord Carlisle

Moved, "That this House do not insist on the amendment in page 2, line 11, to which the Commons have disagreed."—(*The Lord President*.)

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, that with regard to the general arguments of the noble Lord opposite (the Lord President of the Council), he wished, in the first place, to observe that the House was placed in a position of considerable difficulty by the course which the Government had thought fit to adopt. With regard to the Bill, their Lordships had been willing to yield, to a large extent, a principle to which they certainly attached great importance. He referred to the principle of freedom of contract between landlord and tenant; as to which they were willing that in future it should be modified, and as to which he understood that the provisions relating to freedom of contract constituted the main feature of the Bill. That was a great concession on the part of those Members of their Lordships' House who had been brought up to believe in freedom of contract. But that was not all. They had also assented to the strange and almost monstrous principle that the tenant should be allowed, in spite of his landlord, and against his wish, to place drains where he pleased, and even where they would be positively injurious, and that the landlord should have no redress whatever against such undesirable drainage. These, for the sake of carrying a Bill to which he would admit that a certain number of tenant farmers appeared to attach importance, they had been willing to adopt, and these their Lordships had considered to be the main principles of the Bill. But, besides these main provisions, there were, here and there, scattered throughout the Bill, provisions of a much stronger character—provisions bearing the mark of that confiscatory policy with which they had all been made familiar in regard to another of the Three Countries. Their Lordships had objected to, and had been eager to divest the Bill of, these excrescences, and to allow the principles to which he had referred to pass, in the hope that they might produce for the tenant farmers the advantage which Her Majesty's Government anticipated. No doubt, in order to have effected these changes in a more efficient manner, it would have

been much more satisfactory if they could have devoted more time and care to the examination of the Bill. But why had they not been able to devote more time and care to it? Why had the Bill come to them at so late a period of the Session that questions of great interest had practically to be decided "Aye" or "No" within two days of the Prorogation? Was that the fault of any accident in the other House? Was it simply the result of that exuberance of debate of which they had lately heard so much? No; that might account for the delay in regard to other Bills that had come to them late in the Session, but in regard to this particular measure the delay which had embarrassed them so much was due to the deliberate premeditation of the Government themselves. The state of the case was this. At the end of May two Bills had passed their second reading in the House of Commons—the Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) Bill and the Agricultural Holdings Bill. The former was a Bill primarily concerning the other House, and it was well known that it was not a Bill to which their Lordships would think it necessary to devote much attention. In regard to the other Bill, it was known that the subject was one with which their Lordships were familiar and in which they were likely to take a good deal of interest and deal with carefully. The Government had their choice which they would take first, and which they would send up to the House of Lords first; and not only had they their choice, but they had a distinct warning—the warning which he (the Marquess of Salisbury) had the honour to give the noble Earl opposite, the Leader of the House (Earl Granville) on the 8th of June—as to the danger of putting the Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) Bill first through Committee, and leaving the Agricultural Holdings Bill behind. But the Government refused to receive that warning. They insisted on taking the Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) Bill first, and left the Agricultural Holdings Bill on the shelf for five or six weeks. But did they hasten the Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) Bill by so doing? Did they bring it to an issue at an earlier date? Not a bit; because the moment they had passed it

through Committee they pushed the *Agricultural Holdings Bill* through all its stages, and sent it up to their Lordships; so that the action of the Government had led to no benefit whatever, and the *Agricultural Holdings Bill* had been sent up six weeks later than it might have been if the Government had chosen to attend to the warnings addressed to them at the time. The result was so obvious, that it was impossible not to believe that the Government had some ulterior reason for what they had done; and now, if they were embarrassed and had to come to decisions with so little time for considering, the blame lay, not with their Lordships, but with the Government. With regard to the Amendment now under consideration, it was rather hard that he should be reproached with the fact that his Amendment did so little. If they proposed large Amendments, it was objected that they would interfere with the principle of the Bill. If they proposed small Amendments, they were told that it was not worth while insisting upon them. Whether their Amendments were small or large, the Government, for one reason or another, were sure to object to them. His objection to the Bill, as the House of Commons had sent it back to them, was that it violated a great principle. That violation of principle was not necessary to the success of the Bill. It stood altogether apart from the Bill; but, if they left it as it was, it would remain as a precedent to sanctify and support future inroads on the sanctity of private rights. This Amendment had been discussed out-of-doors as if it concerned future improvements under existing contracts. It did nothing of the kind. It referred only to past improvements under the existing agreements. The practical evil and injustice he apprehended might be illustrated by referring to two instances. There were very often put into leases specific provisions that certain courses of cultivation should be followed, which, according to the general custom of the country and district, involved some expenditure of the kind mentioned in the 3rd Part of the Schedule of the Bill. The leases were given on the faith that that amount and kind of expenditure should be incurred, and perhaps such expenditure had been incurred—the thing was past and gone, and the owner of the land

imagined that his position was quite clear and that an agreement had been made. But, now, if this Bill passed, the tenant, having been already paid by the fact of his having received his lease on the faith of the undertaking to incur that expenditure, would acquire a claim against his landlord to which he had no right, and would have to be paid over again in the shape of compensation under the Bill. He would give another instance—that of the hay farmers in Middlesex. Their practice was universal, under agreement, of not taking the manure from the farm, but of buying it and laying it out on the farm; and that was done in accordance with a distinct agreement. And the manure might be placed upon the land two, three, or four years, according to the character of the soil and the peculiarities of the soil; but now, under this Bill, the tenant would have a right to come and claim compensation for that improvement he had undertaken to make, and to be paid for doing that which, at the time the agreement was made, it was perfectly well understood that he should be bound to do. That contract of his was torn up by the Bill as it now stood, and the tenant would have a right to claim compensation. If he advocated the adoption of his Amendment simply on the ground of the injustice that would be caused by the clause as it stood, he would have a strong case. But he entirely demurred to the idea that ran through all the remarks of the noble Lord opposite, that this Bill was to be something in the nature of liberality to the tenants. They were there simply to do justice between the two classes, without any favour on one side or the other; and it was not to be assumed that all landlords were rich men, or that all tenants were poor men. They had no right, because there were a certain number of landlords in that House who were men of large fortunes, and who, probably, could submit to any inconvenience the Bill might subject them to, to play away the rights, the absolute rights, of a vast number of smaller landlords, who might by this Bill be overwhelmed. The old theory long entertained right to the right of the tenant of the present 30,000 be now

well known that there were hundreds of thousands of them, many of whom were poor men upon whom the Bill would press very heavily. The rights and interests of these poor landlords were as dear in the eyes of the law as the claims of the tenants. He asked their Lordships to view with suspicion this extreme anxiety on the part of the Government for a provision which, by their own admission, could have no very great effect. Was it not intended that there should be furnished in this Bill a precedent, a germ, which, he was afraid, might be dangerously developed hereafter, and found useful at some future occasion? Had they not heard that the question of leases in Ireland was likely to come up? And would it not be very useful to have on the Statute Book an instance of past agreements having been torn up by Parliament? For that reason, and on the grounds he had stated, he thought it desirable to insert some Amendment on the clause which would remove all doubts and ambiguity. He imagined the question of improvements in town property, too, was one quite as likely to occupy the public mind as any relating to property. If the noble Lord said that his Amendment, as it stood now, would not do enough, he would propose some variation of language—he would propose that the clause should run—

“Provided that no compensation shall be claimed under this section for any improvement where the agreement fixing the rent was made on the express or implied condition that such improvement should be executed by the tenant.”

He imagined that was elementary justice to which even Her Majesty's Government could not object. They would tell him that all that was provided for by the 6th clause; but, in his opinion, that 6th clause was one of the most ingenious specimens of Parliamentary drafting he had ever come across. The word “benefit” in that clause might be interpreted as he wished it; but it was quite possible that a Court of Law might say—“We cannot take the mere fact of a lease being granted as a benefit under this Act.” Of course, Her Majesty's Government were entitled to their own interpretation of their own Act; but they (the Opposition) must be pardoned if they looked with some jealousy upon the language of that clause;

and he would press upon them to accept an Amendment which would make clear the doctrine which they professed to value, which would give the Act the effect which they professed to think necessary, and which would not be exposed to any possible doubts or ambiguity in its interpretation before a Court of Law.

Amendment *moved*, to leave out all the words after (“House,”) and insert (“do amend their Amendment in page 2, line 11.”)—(*The Marquess of Salisbury.*)

THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY said, for himself, he was very much disappointed to see the manner in which the noble Marquess opposite (the Marquess of Salisbury) treated the spirit of the Bill. When Her Majesty's Government brought before Parliament a measure of this kind, a strong Bill containing provisions acceptable to many of their supporters—a measure which, adopting the language of the noble Marquess, was, in their opinion, a Bill seeking to do simple justice, without fear or favour, between landlord and tenant—it was very disappointing to hear the noble Marquess talk of confiscatory provisions. He was astonished to hear it.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY: I simply stated that there were scattered about in the Bill confiscatory provisions.

THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY said, he would ask their Lordships to conceive the frame of mind of anyone who, looking at a Bill of this kind, thought there were in it confiscatory provisions. When a measure of the kind was viewed in a spirit of that sort, it was extremely difficult to imagine where the noble Lords who held those opinions could live, with whom they associated, and whether they had the slightest knowledge of the feeling which existed in this country among tenant farmers. He would not say that they seemed to have lived in a balloon, but that they seemed to have lived in some other sphere altogether. They could never have had any conversation with the tenant farmers of England on the subject. He thought this was a very serious matter. The relations of landlord and tenant, and the maintenance of harmony between the two classes, were matters of very great importance, and certainly not of little importance to those whom he addressed. When there

existed a considerable feeling, which undoubtedly did exist—and it was a growing feeling—of dissatisfaction with the present law as regards the relations of landlords and tenants, and when an attempt was made by the Government to deal with the subject in a fair and just spirit, it was, in his opinion, extremely disappointing that the Leader of the Opposition in that House should talk of parts of the Bill as containing confiscatory provisions. He (the Earl of Kimberley) viewed, with very serious suspicion any Amendment which came from a noble Lord who entertained that opinion. That suspicion would be shared not merely by Members of the Government in that House, and by Members of the other House, but by a great many men throughout the country, whose good-will and good opinion they all valued, as in the interest of all concerned. It was their opinion that the relations between landlords and tenants would be very much improved by the Bill. The noble Marquess had, in his extreme anxiety not to assist in passing a Bill of the kind, endeavoured in every possible way to turn the Bill into a Party question, and to bring Party prejudice to bear against it. He even accused the Government of some Machiavellian design in bringing up the Bill late in the Session, and, assuming that he knew much better than they did themselves how to manage their Business, he complained that they had not accelerated its progress by a single day, and had postponed it to the Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) Bill. But, in the first place, he (the Earl of Kimberley) claimed for the Government at least as good a knowledge of the manner in which they should conduct their own Business as the noble Marquess; and he could assure their Lordships, while he emphatically denied that any Member of the Government had conceived the notion of delaying the Bill, which the noble Marquess had attributed to them, that the measure had been introduced into that House at the earliest possible moment. The matter was the subject of discussion, and regret was felt by the Government that they could not at an earlier period send the Bill to their Lordships' House. With regard to the Amendment itself, he thought the noble Marquess, in harping so much as he had upon the

danger of admitting a wrong principle, had altogether lost sight of the fact that the principle, whether right or wrong, was already, to a very great extent, admitted in the Bill. He drew a picture of some landlord who, conceiving he had discharged all his obligations, suddenly found himself called upon to pay a sum of money by way of compensation. As the Bill now stood, many landlords might find themselves in the position described by the noble Marquess, because, where there was no reference whatever made to compensation in the lease, the landlord would be liable to pay, unless, that was to say, there was some specific agreement upon the subject providing for the case. The principle, therefore, was already in the Bill, and claims might be made to a large extent, since all improvements not subject to the agreement between landlord and tenant would be the subject of compensation. If, however, there was a definite understanding, which could be produced and proved, that certain things were to be done in return for any consideration whatsoever, that case was provided for by the 6th clause; and the only conceivable case in which the proposed Amendment of the noble Marquess could apply, and which was not covered by the Bill, was a case in which the landlord had absolutely prohibited operations of agriculture necessary for the improvement of the farm, and where, therefore, the admission of such a provision would be distinctly in contravention of the principles of the Bill. He hoped their Lordships would not think it necessary to persevere with an Amendment which he really thought was unnecessary, and which would not have the effect of establishing the principle on which the noble Marquess laid so much stress, and which could not fail to prejudice the Bill.

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON said, he could assure their Lordships that it had always been a matter of the greatest grief for him to find himself unable to support his noble Friend who sat behind him (the Marquess of Salisbury); but, having for three years presided over the Royal Commission on Agriculture, considerable consideration of agricultural matters had been just

The Earl of Kimberley

in their Lordships' House, if he did not get up on the present occasion and state that he could not assent to the proposal of his noble Friend. It was perfectly true that what the noble Lord was proposing could be thought there was a great deal of justice in the Amendment originally brought forward by his noble Friend. But since then he had had time to consider the matter further, and having now obtained a much wider and more comprehensive view of the subject, he had come to the conclusion that it would not be wise to insist on the Amendment. As to the other details, he thought there were several good points in the remarks of the noble Lord who had just said what the Duke of Devonshire had said, that a very great extent, although not altogether to that extent, the desirability of the Amendment, an Amendment which he proposed in the former version, was avoided by words which were in the Bill. He, the Duke of Richmond, and to some was not one of those who thought a small measure or a small amendment important. He believed that the measure which was brought forward now, though anxious well to be brought forward with great anxiety and great interest by the vast majority of the tenant farmers of the country. He believed that in that House they had anything in any way to oppose the passing of the Bill, they would be doing that which he would be regretting to the verge of the welfare of the tenant farmers of the country. *There* of a Noble Lord who were not only anxious and he had not forgotten that his own opinion was that the Bill in the House, and though it would be an act of wisdom and prudence in bringing the measure before the House, in expressing their dissent to the Bill. If noble Lords had read the very voluminous Papers which were the result of the Royal Commission they would have seen that a great deal that was embodied in the Bill was proposed for by the majority of the noble and the noble Lords who had read the Papers had not been able to express their dissent, and he believed that the Government was up to the mark in their dissent to the Bill, and he would say on what the Bill was based. He did not forget that one of the special recommendations of the Royal Commission was to be found in the Bill.

clause of the Bill, that the tenant was entitled to be reimbursed the money which he had expended upon the work of improving the condition of the farm, and that the landlord should be liable to pay the interest on the money which would be so repaid to the tenant. It was contended against the clause on the grounds that the tenant was not entitled to be reimbursed the money which he had expended upon the work of improving the condition of the farm, and that the landlord should be liable to pay the interest on the money which would be so repaid to the tenant. It was contended against the clause on the grounds that the tenant was not entitled to be reimbursed the money which he had expended upon the work of improving the condition of the farm, and that the landlord should be liable to pay the interest on the money which would be so repaid to the tenant.

[illegible]

been made, were incomparably greater than those in support of the particular Amendment under discussion. In regard to the Amendment for which he was responsible in the Scotch Bill, it really would refer to only a very few cases. He knew of certain cases in Scotland where agreements had been made between landlord and tenant to this effect—that certain improvements should be done by the landlord up to a certain sum, and that beyond that the improvements should be done by the landlord or the tenant, at the will of either party, for no compensation, unless by separate agreement, and beyond that the tenant was to accept the lease as valuable compensation for any extra improvements he might make. As he read the Bill, that was provided for by Clause 3. At all events, it was clearly the intention of the Government that it should be so considered, and he could not doubt for himself that any Judge would so decide it. They must remember that this was a matter which would not be decided by valuers, but was a question of law, and there would be an appeal to the Judges of the land. He placed implicit confidence in the Judges; he placed no confidence in Commissioners or Sub-Commissioners, who were not lawyers, nor supported by the authority of the law, and who were not giving decisions according to law, and were not protected from popular impulse and passion. But in regard to all the questions referred to the Judges of England, he had absolute confidence that justice and law would be administered rightly; and he had no doubt whatever that, if there was any existing contract by which the landlord and tenant had agreed that the tenant should accept the terms of the lease as valuable compensation for anything he did, that contract would not be overridden. He next invited attention to the clause relating to drainage. He hoped that the Members of the Government would not think that he was using language of irritation when he said that there never was a clause which came up from one House of Parliament to the other that was more slovenly drawn than that one was. He was bound to say that the Government had admitted its faults, and had indeed confessed that many of those faults were due to an Amendment which was introduced in the House of Commons, and that the

clause was not at first constructed with a view to that Amendment. The Government had, however, agreed to a most important alteration of the clause—namely, that the landlord should be bound, not by the specification of the tenant, but that he might execute the work himself, as he chose, and might charge the tenant interest upon the cost. That made the whole difference. But when he came down to the House that night, he was much surprised to find that the words “in a lease or otherwise,” which were accepted by the noble Lord the Lord President of the Council and the noble Earl the Secretary of State for India, and which he thought the Government had conceded, were struck out by the House of Commons. It was impossible to conceive that those noble Lords would be guilty of anything approaching to a breach of faith in that House. The moment he read the reasons given by the House of Commons, he went first of all to other Members of the Government and then to his noble Friend the President of the Council, and his noble Friend at once assured him that there had been a mistake—that the House of Commons had struck out the words to which they had agreed in the House of Lords, and that the words should be restored; so that, on that matter, the ground of his objection had been removed. For himself, he looked upon the clause with reference to drainage as one of the most important in principle which was in the Bill. He still objected to the limitation of interest; but the mere limiting of interest was a matter of comparatively small importance, and if the words he had alluded to were to be restored, it would remove a great objection. The Government had also agreed to the important Provision moved by the noble Duke opposite (the Duke of Richmond and Gordon) with regard to manureal improvements; and being satisfied with that, as well as with the alterations made on the drainage clause, he should vote to-night against insisting upon the Amendments on the Paper, solely on the ground that he thought it would be unwise for that House—unwise in reference to the agricultural interest—to insist upon those amendments—of those

round—they must look to the position of affairs—and he said it would be a serious matter to lose the Bill on account of any of the Amendments which were still insisted upon by the Government.

LORD BRAMWELL said, he thought the reason given by the Commons for rejecting the Amendment was a fallacious one; and he was satisfied that it was drawn up by a lawyer, and not by a farmer, or a Representative of the tenant farmers. If the Amendment now proposed should be rejected, claims might, on occasion, be made in contradiction of agreements. The reason given by the Commons was wholly untenable; and, speaking in the interest of common fairness, and common honesty, unless they were to say that a man might enter into an express agreement, and then deliberately violate it, their Lordships ought to insist on their Amendment. For himself, he could not understand why solemn agreements should not be carried out.

LORD BALFOUR said, they were placed in a position of considerable disadvantage, in having a discussion which was partly mixed up with general principles and the general position, and partly with the merits of a particular Amendment. He sympathized very much with the view taken by his noble Friend (the Marquess of Salisbury) as to the position in which they were placed, and as to the reasons which had brought them into that position; but he was unable to vote with him on the merits of the particular Amendment before the House. He agreed almost entirely with the remarks of the noble Duke opposite (the Duke of Argyll). Was it not the fact that, in the Amendment, they were contending for a point which, in fact, was a very small one? In practice, he believed the clause would hardly come into operation. Therefore, he put it to their Lordships, whether they were not, for the sake of a bare principle, contending for the protection of those landlords who had not given what public policy required that they should give? Would they not appear to be standing exclusively on their own particular rights in regard to a case which would hardly ever be found to exist in practice? If they were to insist upon these Amendments, would they not be giving too much force to the idea that they were desiring things which

would protect the rights of a minority of their own number, and that the minority which, in this matter, was least entitled to consideration? ["Oh, oh!"] He felt the unpopularity evinced on that side of the House at anyone expressing from it such views, and he might also say he never separated himself from those with whom he was proud to act without a great misgiving that he must be wrong; but he did think that the point involved was not worth the risk they would incur by insisting upon it, and he should vote, as regarded the Amendment—and his remarks applied to this Amendment only—that they did not insist upon it.

THE EARL OF DERBY said, he did not wish to enter again upon the discussion which they had upon the second reading; but he desired to suggest to some noble Lords opposite, who might be in doubt as to what their course ought to be on this Amendment, that it would not be for their interest, either politically, or as landlords, to insist on this Amendment. The noble Marquess opposite (the Marquess of Salisbury) had said that very large concessions had been made by him and by his Friends when they accepted the violation of the principle of freedom of contract; but, on the other hand, certain Amendments had been accepted in "another place," and if they would consider the probabilities of the case, they would, he thought, see that it was exceedingly likely that, in that "other place," if their Lordships insisted upon the acceptance of the Amendment now proposed, the consequence of a persistence in the difference between the two Houses would be that the Bill would be lost. What would be the result of that? Surely it could not be the desire of noble Lords opposite to leave this question open to renewed agitation throughout the country—a question which had done more than any other to separate the landlords from the tenant farmers. It would surely not be to the interest, politically speaking, of those who posed before the country as the friends of the tenant farmers, to be placed in the invidious position of being their opponents. But their Lordships must consider, further, how the rejection of the measure would affect the interests of the landowning classes. If the Bill were rejected, and an appeal were made

to the constituencies, they might be certain that a Parliament would be returned holding views on this question similar to those of the present Parliament. Nor was that all. Whatever might be their own personal feelings or wishes, they all knew that there was a great probability that before long the constitution of the House of Commons would be considerably modified, and that, in future, it would be returned by a much more popular constituency. He therefore asked their Lordships whether it was in the interest of the landowners, as a class, to leave a burning question of this kind—a question which there was every desire at present to settle in a fair and moderate temper, and which, unless dealt with soon, would become a very dangerous one—to be dealt with by a Parliament which would, in all probability, have far less sympathy with the landlords, and far more sympathy with the tenants, than the present House of Commons had? He did not now propose to discuss the question in detail, although he thought that some of the arguments of the noble Marquess were not applicable to the actual state of things. The noble Marquess said he was afraid to accept the principle of the clause as amended, because it might, and probably would, be used as a precedent in subsequent legislation, as had occurred in the case of the Irish Land Acts. His (the Earl of Derby's) reply to that was extremely simple. It was that Irish and English legislation upon this tenant right question had always proceeded upon entirely different grounds. If this Bill followed on the lines of the Irish Act, it would be of a very different character; and, as the Government had not in any way taken that measure as a precedent, it seemed rather a far-fetched assumption to say that the principle of such legislation would necessarily be applied to other cases. He did not think anyone had described what was proposed to be given to the tenant farmers as a loan or a gift; what was to be given them was their right; the intention being only to place them in a position of equality with their landlords which it was assumed did not at present exist. Then the noble Marquess said that the principle of this Bill would be applied to tenants of town property. His (the Earl of Derby's) answer was that he was perfectly ready, if it could be shown

that there was any injustice in the system under which property in towns was held, to take that question into consideration; but, in his opinion, there was no clear analogy between the mode of tenure of town property and agricultural land. Much town property was held on leases for 999 years; and even where the term was only 99 years, it could hardly be contended that the tenant had not enjoyed the benefit of his improvements. He did not think, therefore, that considerations founded on any such analogy ought to possess any weight with their Lordships. He hoped their Lordships would reject the proposed Amendment.

LORD ELLENBOROUGH said, he would support the Amendment, because he believed the cases were not covered sufficiently by the provisions contained in the classes or sections; similar statements having on many previous occasions been alleged, but subsequently found to be futile.

EARL MANVERS said, he did not believe the tenant farmers wished for this Bill. He had recently heard the opinion expressed by tenant farmers that this was not the time for such a Bill, for they could always get farms when they wanted them, and landlords were always very glad to let them; that what they disliked principally about the Bill was its interference with freedom of contract, and that it was treating them like children to suppose they were incapable of making their own arrangements. Under these circumstances he should support the Amendment.

On Question, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Motion?"

Their Lordships divided: — Contents 48; Not-Contents 48.

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THE LORD CHANCELLOR: The numbers being equal, according to the ancient Rule of the House, the Not-Contents have it, and the Question is therefore resolved in the negative. Before putting the next Question, that of the amended Amendment, I have to observe to your Lordships that, if the votes should also be equal upon the next Division, the same result will follow in an opposite direction.

THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH: I do not understand the reason of that statement.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: I shall be very glad to explain. Assuming that

the same thing happens again, and that the numbers are equal, the ancient Rule of this House is "*semper presumitur pro negante*"—that is to say, that it passes in the negative. Consequently, as I am about to put the amended Motion, if the numbers should be equal, that Motion will be negated.

Previous to putting the Question,

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: I have inquired of the Clerk at the Table as to what would be the course of proceeding in the event—of course, only the possible event—of there being an equality of numbers on this Motion. If there should be an equality of numbers, of course the Not-Contents will have it, and then it will be my duty to put the Question—"That this House do insist on the Amendment."

On Question, "That the words ('do amend their amendment, in page 2, line 11') be inserted in the original Motion?"

Their Lordships divided:—Contents 49; Not-Contents 48: Majority 1.

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 Belper, L.
 Boyle, L. (*E. Cork and Orvery.*) [*Teller.*]
 Braye, L.
 Carlingford, L.
 Chesham, L.
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 Clifford of Chudleigh,
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 Crewe, L.
 De Manley, L.
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 Monson, L. [*Teller.*]
 Ramsay, L. (*E. Dalhousie.*)
 Reay, L.
 Ribblesdale, L.
 Rossbery, L. (*E. Rossbery.*)
 Sandhurst, L.
 Sherborne, L.
 Somerton, L. (*E. Nortonmanton.*)
 Sundridge, L. (*D. Argyle.*)
 Thurlow, L.
 Wrottesley, L.

Resolved in the affirmative, and said amendment amended accordingly.

Page 2, line 40, leave out ("three") and insert ("four").

The Commons disagree to the amendment in page 2, line 40, for the following reason:

"Because the landlord is free to enter into any terms upon which he can agree with the tenant, or may leave the tenant to carry out the drainage at his own expense; and it does not appear desirable to enable him to charge the tenant with a higher rate of interest than that provided in the Bill as passed by the Commons."

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, that the next Amendment he had to move that their Lordships should not insist upon was in Clause 4, which substituted 4 per cent for 3 per cent as the figure of the amount of interest which might be charged on the tenant for drainage work done by the landlord. The reason of the opposition of the Government to the proposal was, that the landlord might, under the clause as it now stood, elect to do the work himself, and he might do it in his own way, independently of the notice of the tenant. He was then to be at liberty to charge the tenant in one of two ways—either with a certain rate of interest, or with an annual sum, including principal and interest together; or he might leave the tenant to carry it out

at his own expense. He would ask their Lordships to consider the matter from the tenant's point of view, and take a fair account of both sides of the question. The Government believed that the present state of things was a reason, at all events, for keeping the amount of interest in these cases at a very moderate figure, and that if they went beyond that and enabled the landlord to impose a heavier charge than that provided in the Bill, as passed by the Commons, the result would be that the tenant would say—"My farm shall remain undrained, and I will not submit to this charge;" and in many cases the land would not be drained at all. The very worst that could happen to a landlord, if he did not choose to undertake the work on the terms provided in the Bill, was that the tenant would do it himself. He was not prepared to admit that drainage done by the tenant must of necessity be badly done, and under an agreement there was no reason to suppose that he would not execute the work in a reasonable and sufficient manner; and, as he had pointed out, if the charge were made too heavy, the Government were convinced it would defeat the very object of the clause.

Moved, "That this House do not insist on the Amendment in page 2, line 40, to which the Commons have disagreed."
 —(*The Lord President.*)

THE DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS said, it was he who originally proposed this Amendment; and, in doing so, he did not do it in any sense to excuse the landlord from bearing a fair portion of any charge incurred for the drainage of his land; but he moved it because it seemed to him necessary both for the advantage and convenience of the tenant and the landlord, and of the public at large. The theory that had been accepted years ago was that the cost of drainage should be repayable in from 20 to 25 years. But, judging from experience he had gathered by observation of drainage works, there was no doubt that, after 20 or 25 years, drainage work was practically wearing out. Therefore, it could hardly be justly contended that the tenant left the benefit of the drainage the farm, as was the landlord's interest portion

a corresponding portion of the improvement had become worn out. He feared that if the Amendment was disallowed, the effect would be to prevent either farmers or landlords from borrowing money for drainage purposes.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, that while supporting the view of the noble Duke opposite (the Duke of Argyll) that 4 per cent ought to be substituted for 3, he agreed in thinking that it was not worth pressing the Amendment, as, in 99 cases out of 100, an agreement would be come to between a landlord and tenant, as to what would be a reasonable price to pay as interest. He did not agree with the view of the noble Lord the President of the Council. His argument was the same as that adduced by the crofters before the Royal Commission, who said that as they had paid rent for 30 years, the land was, therefore, theirs. He (the Duke of Argyll) thought the tenant had nothing to do with the repayment of capital; all he would have to do was to provide the interest for the money the landlord laid out.

LORD ELLENBOROUGH said, he would point out that no money could be borrowed in the market at less than 4 per cent on land generally, and the prospect of doing so would not be improved under the Bill.

Motion agreed to.

Page 3, line 5, after ("agreement") insert ("in a lease or otherwise").

The Commons disagree to the amendment in page 3, line 5, for the following reason:—

"Because these words are superfluous, as the word 'agreement' includes a lease."

On the Motion of The LORD PRESIDENT, this Amendment *insisted on*.

Page 4, line 16, leave out ("four") and insert ("seven").

The Commons disagree to the amendment in page 4, line 16, for the following reason:—

"Because four years is the period provided by the Agricultural Holdings Act, 1875, and there appears to be no sufficient reason for extending the term."

On the Motion of The LORD PRESIDENT, this Amendment *not insisted on*.

Page 4, line 17, after ("tenancy") insert—

("In the ascertainment of the amount of compensation payable to the tenant in respect of manures there shall not be taken into account any larger outlay during the last year of the tenancy than the average amount of the tenant's outlay for like purposes during the three next preceding years of the tenancy, or other less number of years for which the tenancy has endured.")

The Commons disagree to the amendment in page 4, line 17, for the following reason:—

"Because it is out of harmony with the scheme of the Bill, which provides that the compensation shall depend upon the value of the improvement to the incoming tenant, to measure such compensation by an artificial standard of outlay."

Moved, "That this House do not insist on the Amendment in page 4, line 17, to which the Commons have disagreed."—(*The Lord President*.)

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON said, he had to complain that the noble Lord opposite (the Lord President of the Council) had practically accepted the Amendment already, and that it should, therefore, have been accepted, and not rejected by the Commons.

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, he greatly regretted that there should be any misconception between himself and the noble Duke opposite (the Duke of Richmond and Gordon). He should be very sorry to go back upon anything on which he had pledged himself to the House; but he distinctly recollected that he never intended to pledge the Government to the Amendment. He had only said, or intended to say, that if the Amendment were to stand at all, it should stand with a certain alteration that he had suggested. He had certainly never meant to pledge the Government to the Amendment itself.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said, he was somewhat surprised that any misunderstanding should have arisen in regard to what had been done. The Government had only assisted to put into the best possible form before it went, down to the other House, an adverse Amendment.

LORD STANLEY OF ALDERLEY hoped their Lordships would insist on their Amendment.

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON said, he quite accepted the

explanation given by his noble Friend the Lord President of the Council, and would not insist on the Amendment.

Motion agreed to.

Page 5, line 32, after ("commissioners") insert—

("But if either party shall in writing object to such appointment, then the umpire, or any successor to him, shall be appointed by the President and Council of the Institute of Surveyors.")

The Commons disagree to the amendment in page 5, line 32, for the following reason:—

"Because it is unnecessary and inconvenient to introduce a third authority for the appointment of an umpire."

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, that the next question related to the additional appeal provided for by an Amendment made in that House—namely, to the President and Council of the Institute of Surveyors. The Commons' Reason for disagreeing with that Amendment was a very cogent one—namely, that it would be inconvenient and unnecessary to introduce a third authority for the appointment of an umpire. A private body like the Institute of Surveyors was not fitted to exercise such a function. He, therefore, moved that their Lordships should not insist on their Amendment.

Moved, "That this House do not insist on the Amendment, in page 5, line 32, to which the Commons have disagreed."—(*The Lord President.*)

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, that, in his opinion, it was not very creditable to the Government that they should persist in establishing an authority which was not unbiassed, for the purpose of determining those questions. It was not, however, a question upon which it was worth while making a decided stand.

Motion agreed to.

Amendment made by the Commons to a certain Amendment made by the Lords *agreed to.*

The next Amendment *not insisted on.*

Amendment made by the Commons to a certain Amendment made by the Lords *agreed to.*

The Duke of Richmond and Gordon

Page 16, line 2, leave out ("one year") and insert ("two years") and after ("distress") insert—

("Except in the case of arrears of rent in respect of a holding to which this Act applies existing at the time of the passing of this Act, which arrears shall be recoverable by distress up to the first day of January one thousand eight hundred and eighty-five to the same extent as if this Act had not passed.")

The Commons disagree to the amendment in page 16, line 2, for the following reason:—

"Because it is undesirable that the power of distress should extend over more than one year."

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, the next point was that of the landlord's right of distress, and the question lay between one year and two years. Their Lordships would not be surprised that the House of Commons had adhered to one year, that being the period recommended by the last, and certainly the most thorough, inquiry which had ever been made into that subject by any Committee or Commission. The very able Committee presided over by Mr. Goschen had unanimously recommended that distress should be limited to one year's rent. He would, therefore, move that their Lordships should not insist on their Amendment fixing it at two years.

Moved, "That this House do not insist on the Amendment in page 16, line 2, to which the Commons have disagreed."—(*The Lord President.*)

THE MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN said, that, in his opinion, two years was in favour of the landlord, and one year in favour of the tenant.

LORD STANLEY of ALDERLEY said, that the Royal Agricultural Commission had recommended two years. The reduction of the time allowed to one year would be all against the small farmers in bad seasons, as it would not be possible to give them more time; and the present state of the law was in favour of their credit, since as long as the landlord had patience with them, the shopkeepers would give them credit.

EARL FORSTER said, that two years should be inserted, and three years should be one year the addition.

one year, just after a succession of very bad seasons, would press hardly upon many tenants, who, after a good season or two, if they were allowed a little longer time, would probably be able to go on satisfactorily in their farms.

Motion agreed to.

The next Amendment not insisted on.

Page 18, line 38, after ("that") insert ("(not being a market garden) is less than two acres in extent or").

The Commons disagree to the Amendment in page 18, line 38, for the following reason:—

"Because there appears to be no sufficient reason for excluding from the benefit of the Act tenants otherwise entitled to it, on account of the smallness of their holdings."

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL), in moving that the Amendment excluding from the operation of the Bill holdings of less than two acres should not be insisted on, said, there was a very strong feeling among the friends both of the tenants and labourers that these small holdings should not be excluded. If, in such a holding, the occupant should make improvements, he ought not to be debarred from receiving the small amount of compensation that could accrue to him under the Bill.

Moerd, "That this House do not insist on the Amendment in page 18, line 38, to which the Commons have disagreed."—(*The Lord President*.)

THE EARL OF CAMPERDOWN said, that it was at his instance the Amendment had been adopted; and he hoped their Lordships would, therefore, insist on it, for it was absolutely necessary. To include these small holdings would be contrary to the principle of the Bill, and to the explanation given of it by his noble Friend the Lord President on the night of its introduction into that House. Moreover, to bring these small holdings within the Bill would destroy, in a great measure, the valuable system of allotments. These allotments, valuable as they were to small holders, were a kind of property by no means profitable to landlords, and very objectionable indeed to agents, on account of the trouble it gave them. The rent of a great many of these holdings did not exceed 10s. a-year, and any measure

which would have the effect of destroying them would militate against the interests of the poor. The right hon. Gentleman the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster (Mr. Dodson) had suggested that many of these holdings might be made weekly holdings and in that case they would not come within the Bill; but these poor tenants would infinitely more object to having their holdings continued on weekly tenancies, than rely on any advantage that might result from their being placed under the provisions of this Bill. The present system had operated extremely well, and from the landlord's point of view it could not be of any advantage to include these holdings in the Bill, for the great expense of valuation under the Bill would render these allotments not worth retaining, and would inevitably lead to their abolition. He attached the greatest importance to the allotment system in the interest of the poor; and it was for that reason that he hoped the Amendment would be insisted on.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, he agreed with the noble Earl opposite (the Earl of Camperdown) in thinking that if the Bill were retained in the form in which it had left the Commons the allotment system was doomed, for the landlord would be under the strongest motive to escape the law expenses which would be incurred under it. To the landlord, it would possibly be a gain to abolish the allotment system; but it would result in serious injury to the interest of the poor, and he, therefore, also hoped their Lordships would insist on the Amendment.

EARL STANHOPE said, he would suggest, by way of compromise, the acceptance of the proposal made by the noble Earl opposite (the Earl of Kimberley) the other night, that holdings of one acre only should be excepted from the Bill.

THE EARL OF CAMPERDOWN said, he was prepared to accept the Amendment in the modified form proposed.

EARL BEAUCHAMP said, that, as he understood, if not amended, the Bill would be made to apply to cottage gardens, which it was not intended to touch.

THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY said, he was assured that that would not be the case. He held that the fact of market gardens being specifically mentioned

showed that the Bill was not intended to affect cottage gardens, and that nothing in the nature of gardens was to be included in it. He certainly had, as the noble Earl (Earl Stanhope) had said, referred the other night to a limit of one acre; but he had not proposed it as a compromise. There was, undoubtedly, a stronger feeling than the Government had been aware of in the House of Commons and the country in favour of the retention of the two acres' limit—a feeling so strong that this Amendment, if insisted on, would defeat one of the most important objects of the Bill.

EARL FORTESCUE said, the term "market garden" might be interpreted to exclude the cottage garden.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said, he did not think that there was any difficulty which was not sufficiently obviated in the Bill.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he thought that it would be invidious to make a distinction between one kind of holding and another, and so to exclude small holders from the benefits of the Bill. It was not possible to predict the new motions of action on the part of a landlord which such a measure as that would create.

THE DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS said, he should be quite willing and glad to do all he could for the benefit of allotment holders; but he was not sure that the Bill would do them any good.

THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH said, that, in his opinion, it would be the reverse of a benefit, if not positively injurious, to the holders of these allotments, if they were brought under the provisions of the Bill. If there was one class of persons who required protection more than another, it was the labourers who held small allotments of land.

THE EARL OF CAMPERDOWN said, he was sorry the Government could not accept his Amendment. In the course they were taking upon it, he thought they were proceeding upon a mistaken view of the interests of the poor; but he would not divide the House upon it.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said, that there was not unanimity of opinion in the other House of Parliament as to the desirability of bringing allotments within the Bill; but some of those Members who were most desirous of

seeing the allotment system extended had thought it desirable to do so.

Motion agreed to.

A Committee appointed to prepare a reason to be offered to the Commons for the Lords insisting on one of their Amendments to which the Commons have disagreed: The Committee to meet *forthwith*: Report from the Committee of the reason to be offered to the Commons; read, and *agreed to*: And a message sent to the Commons to return the said Bill, with an amendment and reason.

AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS (SCOTLAND) BILL.—(No. 217.)

(*The Lord President.*)

CONSIDERATION OF COMMONS' REASONS.

Commons reasons for disagreeing to certain of the Lords' Amendments and Commons Amendments *considered* (according to order).

Page 2, line 3, after ("improvement") insert—

("Provided that no compensation shall be claimed under this section in contravention of any specific agreement existing at the time of the passing of this Act between the parties in reference thereto.")

The Commons disagree to the Amendment in page 2, line 3, for the following reason:—

"Because it is inconsistent with the principle of the Bill, which provides that in the case of existing tenancies, where the tenant has no right to compensation under the terms of his tenancy, he shall nevertheless be entitled to compensation under this Act, and there is no reason for making a distinction in the case where compensation is excluded by the terms of the contract from the case where it is excluded by implication of law unless where the compensation is excluded for valuable consideration, which case is provided for by clause six."

Moved, "That this House do not insist on the Amendment in page 2, line 3, to which the Commons have disagreed."—(*The Lord President.*)

THE EARL OF GALLOWAY said, he would move to amend the Preamble in the same sense as the amended Preamble moved in the preceding Bill by his noble Friend (the

Amendment
the words after
("do amen
line 3.")—

The Earl of Kimberley

LORD CARLINGFORD (LORD PRESIDENT of the COUNCIL) said, that, under protest, he would acquiesce in the Amendment being carried.

On Question? *agreed to.*

Amendment amended accordingly.

The next Amendment *not insisted on.*

Page 2, line 39, after ("Act") insert—

("Where in the case of a tenancy under a lease current at the passing of this Act there is in such lease, or in any relative writing made prior to the passing hereof, an express stipulation limiting the outlay on any improvement specified in the second part of the schedule hereto, the tenant shall have no claim to compensation under this Act for any such improvement in excess of the sum provided for in such stipulation.")

"The landlord and tenant may, if they think fit, dispense with any notice under this section, and come to an agreement between themselves in the same manner and of the same validity as if such notice had been given.")

Commons Amendments to the above Amendment.

Line 2, leave out ("commencement") and insert ("passing.")

Lines 9 and 10, leave out ("in terms of the lease or otherwise.")

First Amendment *agreed to.*

Second Amendment *disagreed to.*

Page 3, line 14, after ("Act") insert—

("The last preceding provision of this section relating to a particular agreement shall apply in the case of a tenancy under a lease current at the commencement of this Act in respect of an improvement specified in the third part of the schedule hereto, specific compensation for which is not provided by any agreement in writing or custom.")

The Commons disagree to the Amendment in page 3, line 14.

Amendment *insisted on.*

The next two Amendments *not insisted on.*

Certain Amendments made by the Commons to certain of the Amendments made by the Lords *agreed to.*

Page 10, leave out Clause 29.

The Commons disagree to the omission of Clause 29.

"Because it is expedient that a power of bequest of leases should be conferred. By the law of Scotland a lease is heritable, and descends to

the heir-at-law, while the stocking descends as personally to the executors, and much inconvenience and hardship have resulted to families in consequence of the separation of the rights. Further, the heir is frequently unskilled in agriculture, and unable to perform the tenant's part of the obligations in the lease."

The Commons propose to amend the clause restored to the Bill as follows:—

(Bequest of Lease.)

"(29.) A tenant may by will, or other testamentary writing, bequeath his lease to any person (herein-after called 'the legatee'), subject to the following provisions:—

(a.) The legatee shall intimate the testamentary bequest to the landlord or his known agent within twenty-one days after the death of the tenant, unless he is prevented by some unavoidable cause from making intimation within that time, and in that event he shall make intimation as soon as possible thereafter.

(b.) Intimation to the landlord or his known agent by the legatee shall import acceptance of the lease by the legatee.

(c.) Within one month after intimation has been made to the landlord or his known agent, he may intimate to the legatee that he objects to receive him as tenant under the lease;

If the landlord or his known agent makes no such intimation within one month, the lease shall be binding on the landlord and the legatee respectively as landlord and tenant as from the date of the death of the deceased tenant.

(d.) If the landlord or his known agent intimates that he objects to receive the legatee as tenant under the lease, the legatee may present a petition to the sheriff, praying for decree declaring that he is tenant under the lease as from the date of the death of the deceased tenant, of which petition due notice shall be given to the landlord, who may enter appearance, and state his grounds of objection; and if any reasonable ground of objection is established to the satisfaction of the sheriff, he shall declare the bequest to be null and void; but otherwise he shall decree and declare in terms of the prayer of the petition.

(e.) The decision of the sheriff under such petition as aforesaid shall be final.

(f.) Pending any proceedings under this section, the legatee shall have possession of the holding, unless the sheriff shall otherwise direct on cause shown.

(g.) The provisions of this section shall apply notwithstanding a clause or stipulation in any lease excluding assignees.

(h.) If the legatee does not accept the bequest, or if the bequest is declared to be null and void as aforesaid, the lease shall descend to the heir of the tenant in the same manner as if the bequest had not been made."

Moved, "That this House do agree with the Commons in the said Amendment."—(*The Lord President.*)

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON said, he had originally moved the omission of the clause; but, as amended, he did not think it would be so objectionable.

THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH said, he thought the objection to the clause was as strong as ever. The clause was not proposed by any Member of the Government, but was forced upon them. He protested especially against Sub-section (g), which enabled leases to be assigned; and in that permission was contained the danger that unfitted persons would be the assignees. The case of the heir-at-law was a different case, for everyone knew who the heir-at-law was, and could make arrangements accordingly. He most decidedly complained of being called upon, at that period of the Session, and in that hurried manner, to consider the Amendments which had been made to the original clause. He looked upon the clause as one of the worst in the Bill. It was a direct attack on the present arrangements, and he could see no reason for it. He would propose to omit the sub-section he had referred to.

Amendment *moved*, to amend the said Amendment, by omitting sub-section (g). —(The Duke of Buccleuch.)

THE EARL OF ABERDEEN said, that in Scotland this provision would be most heartily welcomed by the tenants as a great boon.

Amendment to said Amendment *agreed to*.

Amendment made by the Commons, as amended, *agreed to*.

The last amendment to which the Commons have disagreed *not insisted on*.

A Committee appointed to prepare reasons to be offered to the Commons for the Lords disagreeing to one of the Commons amendments to the Lords amendments and insisting on one of the amendments to which the Commons have disagreed: The Committee to meet *forthwith*: Report from the Committee of the reasons to be offered to the Commons; read, and *agreed to*: And a message sent to the Commons to return the said Bill, with the amendments and reasons.

POST OFFICE (MONEY ORDERS) ACTS AMENDMENT BILL.

Brought from the Commons; read 1st; to be printed; and to be read 2nd To-morrow.—(The Lord Thurlow.) (No. 219.)

House adjourned at Nine o'clock,
till To-morrow, a quarter
past Four o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Wednesday, 22nd August, 1883.

MINUTES.] — Resolution in Committee — East India Revenue Accounts, debate adjourned.

PUBLIC BILLS — Committee — Report — Consolidated Fund (Appropriation).

Committee — Report — Third Reading — Post Office (Money Orders) Acts Amendment * [263], and passed.

Considered as amended — Third Reading — Merchant Shipping (Fishing Boats) * [268], and passed.

Withdrawn — Medical Act Amendment * [162]; Contempt of Court * [300]; Stolen Goods * [268]; Summary Jurisdiction (Repeal, &c.) * [289]; Indian Marine * [284].

PROVISIONAL ORDER BILLS.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING PROVISIONAL ORDERS (Nos. 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 2, 9) BILLS.

CONSIDERATION OF LORDS' AMENDMENTS.

Lords' Amendments *considered*.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL expressed satisfaction with the Amendments made by the Lords, the effect of which would be to retain in the hands of Parliament the power to interfere with these monopolies without raising the question of compensation.

Lords' Amendments *agreed to*.

QUESTIONS.

STREET TRAFFIC (METROPOLIS) — WHITEHALL.

MR. MACFARLANE asked the First Commissioner
was aware of
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it

to postpone the mending of streets leading to the House until Parliament had risen?

MR. SHAW-LEFEVRE: Perhaps the hon. Member will give Notice of the Question.

INDIA—CRIMINAL CODE (PROCEDURE) AMENDMENT (MR. ILBERT'S) BILL — REPORTS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.

MR. E. STANHOPE asked the Prime Minister, Whether the opinions of the Local Governments of India upon the Ilbert Bill would be laid upon the Table in dummy during the present Session, so that they might, when received, be printed and circulated during the Recess?

MR. GLADSTONE, in reply, said, he did not like to answer the Question without consulting the Indian Department; but, so far as he could judge, the request was a reasonable one.

PARLIAMENT — PUBLIC BUSINESS — PARLIAMENTARY REGISTRATION (IRELAND) BILL.

MR. PARNELL asked the Prime Minister a Question of which he had given the right hon. Gentleman private Notice—namely, What course the Government intended to pursue next Session in consequence of the rejection by the House of Lords of the Parliamentary Registration (Ireland) Bill?

MR. GLADSTONE: As to what has happened, of course it is a matter beyond my remedy; but, undoubtedly, it is a subject of very great regret indeed to Her Majesty's Government that this Bill should have failed to pass into law, as we deem it to be a Bill of decided public utility, and adapted to meet the most obvious demands of justice. With regard to the future, I cannot, of course, anticipate the exact arrangements of Business for next Session; and it is a possibility that a Bill relating to registration in Ireland might have its most important provisions included in a measure of a larger character. But, setting aside that possibility for the moment, and assuming that it will not arrive, it certainly would be our desire to re-introduce the Bill at the very commencement of the next Session, and to press it at once on the attention of Parliament.

MR. PARNELL: In reference to the reply of the right hon. Gentleman, I would wish to ask whether the Government, in the Registration Bill which it is proposed to introduce next Session, would draft that measure so that it may take effect at the revision for 1884?

MR. GLADSTONE: That is a Question of important detail, which will have the best attention of my right hon. Friend the Chief Secretary for Ireland. We will endeavour—and, undoubtedly, are endeavouring—to give early effect to any measure we propose on that subject.

PARLIAMENT — PUBLIC BUSINESS — LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD (SCOTLAND) BILL.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL asked the Prime Minister for a similar assurance in regard to the Local Government Board (Scotland) Bill?

MR. GLADSTONE: My hon. Friend will see, I am sure, that the Local Government Board (Scotland) Bill is a measure of general political expediency. The other measure, besides being a measure of general political expediency, is also, as I have said, a measure adapted to supply the obvious demands of justice.

PARLIAMENT — PUBLIC BUSINESS — MEDICAL ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

MR. DICK-PEDDIE asked, Whether it was really the intention of Her Majesty's Government to proceed, at that period of the Session, with a Bill which was certain to meet with so much opposition as the Medical Act Amendment Bill?

MR. BUCHANAN said, he thought the House was really entitled to a definite answer from the Government on the matter.

DR. LYONS said, it would be most important to have a decisive answer on this matter from Her Majesty's Government, as there were several deputations in town of distinguished gentlemen from Scotland and Ireland, who were most interested in the question, and it would be most convenient if there was definite information as to the intentions of the Government.

MR. GLADSTONE said, that hon. Members were not unnaturally anxious

for definite information in this matter. He had hoped to have been able to take the second reading of the Bill before this, and that it would have been in their power to devote a part of Thursday to deal with it. He was sorry, having regard to the great interest which the Government took in this Bill, and to the very great importance of its provisions, that that could not be done. Since last night he had no opportunity of communicating with his noble Friend the President of the Council, who conducted the measure through the House of Lords; but he felt that that being Wednesday morning, the 22nd of August, hon. Members had a right to expect what the opinion of the Government was on the present state of facts; and his opinion, and the opinion of his Colleagues, as far as he could ascertain, was that, it being impossible to take the second reading of the Bill before to-morrow, it would be quite impossible to carry it through the House this Session. With the deepest regret, therefore, he should answer that it was not in the power of the Government to carry the measure through the House this Session.

MR. CALLAN asked whether the decision of the Prime Minister with regard to the Medical Act Amendment Bill would apply to the Stolen Goods Bill which came from the House of Lords, and which had not been read a second time?

MR. GLADSTONE: I would ask the hon. Member to communicate with the Under Secretary of State for the Home Department (Mr. Hibbert) on the matter.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

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CONSOLIDATED FUND (APPROPRIATION) BILL.

(*Sir Arthur Otway, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Courtney.*)

COMMITTEE.

Bill considered in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1 (Issue of £23,734,011 out of the Consolidated Fund).

MR. HEALY said, he desired to call the attention of the Committee to the fact that a large number of people were now imprisoned in the counties of

Armagh and Monaghan upon what he believed to be false evidence.

THE CHAIRMAN said, the hon. Gentleman could have raised the question on going into the Committee; but he could not do in Committee.

MR. HEALY said, he thought he would be just as much in Order in discussing the question now as if they were in Committee of Supply. If, however, the Chairman desired, he would wait until the particular Vote which included the salary of the Attorney General for Ireland (Mr. Porter).

MR. CALLAN asked if he and his Friends would not be in Order in discussing the matter on Clause 2 of the Appropriation Bill, which included the amount for Law Prosecutions in Ireland; or whether it could not be discussed on Schedule B?

MR. PARNELL asked if it would be in Order to raise the question of the convictions at Crossmaglen upon the third reading of the Bill? If that would be orderly, perhaps it would be as well to take the discussion on the third reading.

THE CHAIRMAN said, he thought if the suggestion made by the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) were acted upon, it would, no doubt, be a great convenience to the House.

MR. HEALY said, he did not understand why he would not be in Order in calling attention to the matter on the salary of the Attorney General for Ireland (Mr. Porter).

THE CHAIRMAN was not prepared to say the hon. Gentleman would be out of Order in raising the question on the clause relating to the salary of the Attorney General for Ireland; but, at the same time, the course suggested by the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) would prove the most convenient to the House.

MR. CALLAN pointed out that on the third reading the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) would not have the right to reply to any statements made; whereas in Committee he would have that right.

MR. HEALY said, that, under the circumstances, he would raise the question on the Bill.

Bill *repealed*
to be read (

Mr. Gladstone

INDIA—EAST INDIA REVENUE ACCOUNTS—THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

COMMITTEE.

Order for Committee read.

MR. J. K. CROSS: At last, after long waiting, I have an opportunity of trying to explain to the House the financial position of our East Indian Empire, and that task is neither simple nor easy. If the Accounts to be considered comprised the Receipts from taxation only and the administration of the Revenue gathered from this source, there would be little difficulty in giving a short, clear statement of fact; but, as hon. Members know, the Indian Finance Accounts, on which I have to speak to-day, comprise not only the usual financial arrangements of a Government which directly and indirectly rules 250,000,000 people, they also include the Provincial and part of the Local Expenditure of nearly 600,000 towns and villages, they comprise great schemes of irrigation and navigation, and they have relation to the railway projects of our Indian Empire. Such being the case, I propose to state—first, the gross receipts classed under the head of Revenue, and the gross charges classed under the head of Expenditure; second, I shall try to separate from these general Accounts the receipts from taxation, and show what is the cost of the government of India to the Indian people. I shall then examine the principal items of receipt and charge, showing how they have grown or shrunk. After this, if there is time, and if the House is not wearied, I will give to hon. Members some account of the financial position and prospects of our Indian Empire.

The Accounts presented for review relate to the finances of three years—the closed Accounts of 1881-2, the Revised Estimate of 1882-3, and the Budget Estimate of 1883-4. The gross Revenue of 1881-2—the first of these years—is £73,695,806; the Expenditure from the Revenue, £71,118,079; leaving a surplus of £2,582,727 of unspent money from the Revenues of the year, besides which, in that year, the Provincial Governments spent less by £1,519,792 than the amount of their allotments—the unspent money being in all, therefore, £4,102,519; and the actual Expendi-

ture £69,593,287, against an actual Expenditure of £75,898,558 in the previous year, or a reduction of gross Expenditure of £6,305,271. The year 1881-2 was, on the whole, the most prosperous financial year which India has enjoyed; for the result I have described was accomplished, notwithstanding that £1,500,000 was laid aside for Famine Relief and Insurance; the amount spent on actual Relief being £34,849; on Protective Railways and Irrigation, £750,000; and on Reduction of Debt, £715,151. During that year the amount raised from taxation and rent under the following eight heads of Revenue—namely, Land, Salt, Stamps, Excise, Provincial Rates, Customs, Assessed Taxes, and Registration, being all, in fact, that is raised in rent and taxes by the Indian Government, was £42,210,709; or, if you consider the Land Revenue, £21,948,022, as rent, and not as tax, the amount of taxation is £20,262,687, or one rupee per head on the population of that part of British India directly under our rule. The favourable results of that year, further details of which will be found in Major Baring's Financial Statement, at paragraphs 68 and 69, induced the Government of India to relax the restrictions placed upon the Expenditure of the Local and Provincial Governments in 1879, when famine, loss by exchange, and war pressed very heavily upon India. The Supreme Government was also, during that year, able to return to the Provincial Governments £670,000, which had been withheld when these troubles threatened to upset all financial calculations. In consequence of the favourable financial position the Government were able to reduce the tax on salt by 25 per cent, and to abolish the Customs Duties on all imports, excluding liquors, leaving in the pocket of the people, including some remission of Provincial rates, no less a sum than £2,800,090, which, had these taxes been maintained, would, of course, have swelled the receipts of 1882-3.

I now come to last year, the second which I mentioned as coming under review, the year ending March, 1883. The gross Revenue is estimated, after very careful revision at £67,920,408, and the Expenditure from Revenue at £67,696,116, including the unexpected item of £1,325,496 for the Egyptian

War, and leaving a surplus of £224,292; but in this year, unlike 1881-2, the Provincial Governments have spent from their balances £1,525,400, making the total Expenditure of the country £69,221,516, as against £69,593,287 in the previous year, or a reduction of £371,771; and this Expenditure includes £1,500,000 again laid aside for Famine Relief and Insurance, £25,600 being spent on Famine Relief, £144,200 on Protective Works, and £1,330,200 on reduction of Debt. The total amount raised under the eight heads I previously mentioned as rent and taxes is £39,601,600, of which £21,700,400 comes from Land Revenue, which may be taken as rent, leaving the taxation of the year £17,901,200, or a reduction of £2,361,500 as compared with 1881-2, and costing about 14·4 annas per head on the whole population of British India under our direct rule.

I now pass to the gross estimated Revenue and Expenditure for 1883-4, as shown in the Budget Estimate. The Revenue is estimated at £67,274,000; the Expenditure from the receipts of the year £66,817,000, leaving a surplus of £457,000; but, again, as in 1882-3, the Provincial Governments propose to spend £1,499,000 from their balances, making the gross Expenditure of the year £68,316,000, which is £905,000 less than in 1882-3. Again, there is laid aside and included in the Expenditure £1,500,000 for Famine Relief and Insurance, of which only £12,500 was, in the Budget, estimated to be spent on actual relief. The amount raised from land and other taxes under the eight heads of Revenue of which I have previously spoken is £39,757,300; and if we deduct the land revenue from this amount the net taxation of the whole of British India under our direct rule will be £17,964,600, or a slight increase of £63,400, making the amount raised from the inhabitants of British India about 14½ annas per head in the year ending March, 1884. I have now put before the House the main features of gross Revenue and Expenditure for two years, and the expectation for the third. I am so anxious that they should be fully understood that I ask to be allowed to recapitulate them. Taxation has been reduced, leaving nearly £3,000,000 a-year in the pocket of the people. The Expenditure in the three years under review is, in 1881-2,

£69,593,287, being a reduction of £6,305,271; 1882-3, £69,221,516, being a reduction of £371,771; 1883-4, £68,316,300 being a reduction of £905,000. This Expenditure includes £1,645,000 for military operations in Afghanistan, and £1,325,000 for the unexpected Egyptian War, towards which £500,000, true sterling, has been contributed by England. It includes also £1,500,000 yearly for Famine Insurance and Famine Relief; and out of £4,500,000 so charged in the last three years only £73,000 has been spent on actual relief, the remainder being spent on productive works and reduction of Debt. In these three years the amounts raised in India by taxation—other than land tax—are, in 1881-2, £20,262,687, or one rupee per head; 1882-3, £17,901,200, or 14·4 annas per head; 1883-4, £17,964,600, or 14½ annas per head. Such are the main features of the Accounts which I ask the House to consider. But before I pass from this part of my subject, I may say that the final Accounts of 1882-3 appear so much better than the Estimate that the surplus of £224,000 will be £750,000; and, as I said a few days ago, the surplus of 1883-4, estimated at £457,000, will probably, should there be no famine, be £1,000,000 in addition to that sum; but no one can forecast until the rains shall be over the result of this year's Revenue. Statements are often made that we are grinding out of the people of India £70,000,000 a-year in taxation. I think Arthur Helps says that a lie only lives for a day; but it may be "the" day, meaning the day during which its currency pays. That is the principle, or, rather, the want of principle, underlying some of the articles on Indian taxation which have appeared in the public prints. I have told the House that the amount raised by the Government as rent and taxes is from £39,000,000 to £42,000,000 a-year. Yet the gross Revenue is estimated at £67,000,000 this year. There is a great difference between these sums. How does it arise? The reason is, as I told hon. Members at the beginning of my speech, that many things are included in the Revenue—*namely*,
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telegraph, and Mint (heads 12, 13, and 14), £1,670,000; receipts from the Civil Department corresponding to our Court fees and education contributions (heads 15 to 20), £1,402,000; interest on local loans, receipts in aid of superannuation, and miscellaneous credits (heads 21 to 24), £1,269,000; the receipts from adjusting entries made on account of the Army and sale of stores (head 36), £866,000; Revenue from Public Works of all kinds, both ordinary and productive, £11,473,000; amounting in all to £27,517,000; which, added to the £39,757,000 which I said was derived from rent and taxes, gives the gross Revenue of 1883-4 £67,274,000. If our Government at home owned all the land of the United Kingdom, and rented it out, calling the rent Revenue, and if the gross receipts of all the railways which pay badly, and the net receipts of those which pay well, together with the receipts of canals and waterworks, and the fees of our Law Courts, were included in our Annual Budget, we should seem to be grinding a fearful amount of taxation out of the people of this country; but it would be just as sensible to call these items taxation in England as it is to call them taxation in India.

And now, Sir, I must trouble hon. Members with some few of the dreary details of account so distressing to the House of Commons. I do not need to dwell upon them, because Mr. Waterfield, our very able Financial Secretary, has prepared an explanatory Paper which I have circulated among hon. Members, and it tells much more fully than I can by speech the details of the various items of receipt and charge coming under review. I would also draw the attention of those Members of the House who wish to obtain some general view of the financial position, without going into detail, to the Tables given at page 48 of the Financial Statement, which show the broad transactions of the three years under review, and also the heads of Revenue and Expenditure arranged in convenient groups. These Tables, with the consent of the House, will be adopted in the Finance and Revenue Accounts in future years. They present the main facts of Indian Finance in an intelligible form. There are, however, some features to which I should like to direct attention. The details of

the first year coming under review, the year 1881-2 show a remarkable bound. Though the Opium Revenue fell off by £618,000 as compared with the previous year, the receipts from taxes and Railways increased so much that the surplus of the year, estimated at £855,000, was, as I have said, £2,582,727. Salt produced more than in 1880-1 by £259,632; Excise, £292,048; Forests, £165,115; State Railways, £287,407; Guaranteed Railways, £720,826; East India Railway, £472,672. This boom of prosperity enabled the Government to propose great reductions in taxation. If the taxes had been maintained at the previous rates, the finances of last year and this year would, of course, have shown very heavy surpluses, amounting to at least £3,500,000 a-year, besides providing for Famine Insurance; but the Government of India wisely determined to go as far as possible in the direction of Free Trade. They abolished the Import Duties upon everything but liquors, and reduced the Salt Duties by 25 per cent. The advantage of this reduction is shown in the increased consumption of the article during the last year, 1882-3; for, whilst the reduction in duty is 25 per cent, the falling-off in Revenue is only 18 per cent, and the price has fallen $12\frac{3}{4}$ per cent, in Oude, and 23 per cent in Bengal. In the current year Major Baring estimates the net Salt Revenue at only the same as last year, or, indeed, at £13,000 less; but there is every reason to believe that this Estimate will be considerably surpassed. The Duty is only two rupees per maund, and this tax is really a great financial Reserve, which might be called upon should the necessities of the case unfortunately require it, a contingency which I devoutly hope may be avoided. The abolition of the Customs Duties on imports has, of course, reduced the receipts from this head; but it has brought the Indian people face to face with the cheapest means of clothing themselves. At the same time, it enables India to take her place as a great producing power. And now that all restrictions are removed, no doubt there will be a great development of her industries. The net Customs Duties are now only £1,109,000 and £1,111,000 respectively in the last two years; of which £400,000 is derived from wines, spirits, and beer, and £700,000 from the Export Duty on

rice—a tax which the Government of India is anxious to abolish, and which, had it not been necessary to begin to pay the arrears due to the Treasury for Army Pension Charges, might shortly have ceased to exist. The Estimate of the Opium Revenue is less in 1882-3 than in the previous year by nearly £600,000 net; and this year Major Baring estimates it at a further net reduction of £182,000, the price having fallen from 1,324 rupees per chest in 1881-2 to 1,222 rupees in 1882-3; while the duty on Malwa opium has been reduced to 50 rupees per chest. The production of opium varies greatly from year to year. At present the reserve is falling. Notice has been given that the sales will be reduced after August, 1883, from 4,700 to 4,450 chests a-month, and in April, 1884, to 3,800 chests a-month. Of course, it has yet to be seen whether this reduction in quantity will have much effect on the price; but usually when the quantity of any commodity offered for sale is reduced the price rises. And this, I hope, will be the case with our opium. Remarks have been made on the great variation in the cost of the collection of the Opium Revenue; but on examination it will be found that it does not vary greatly in proportion to the number of chests produced. I have had a Table made showing the cost per chest for 10 years, and it shows but little variation, though, of course, when the cultivators are paid 5 rupees per seer, it costs more than when they are paid 4½ rupees for the same quantity. The Revenue from Excise grows at a moderate rate, showing that the Blue Ribbon Army has not yet got possession of the Natives. The net increase under this head is £190,000 in 1882-3; and a further increase of £9,000 is expected in 1883-4; but this is a very moderate Estimate, and will probably be considerably exceeded, as this item depends much on general prosperity. The next item of Revenue calling for notice is that derived from Forests, which shows an increase of £19,000 in 1882-3; but, from anticipated large Expenditure on the completion of surveys, the Estimate for 1883-4 is reduced by £76,000, increased receipts being estimated at £14,200, against an increased charge of £89,800. This is, and has been, a steadily growing item, and again I must

remark on the safety of the Estimate. Forestry has become a very important Department in India, and the preservation and development of this branch is receiving much greater attention than formerly. The extent of land under this Department is now 33,000 square miles, or 21,000,000 acres, the gross receipts amounting to nearly £1,000,000 yearly, and costing about £650,000. The thorough education of young men to work this Department has engaged the careful attention of the Government of India; but there being no practical Forestry, on a large scale, available for instruction here, the students have to go to France. This Department, if well worked, should in the future be a great advantage to India, and a source of revenue to the Government. The Post Office, Telegraphs, and Mint form the next head, the net cost of which in 1882-3 was £274,731, and in 1883-4 it is estimated at £369,800; the increase being based on an anticipation that less silver will be coined this year, depriving the Mint of some £50,000 of receipts, and that an additional £85,000 will be spent on telegraph lines. The postal and telegraph business is a constantly increasing one. There are now 4,800 post offices, against 2,880 in 1872; and 7,000 letter-boxes, against 1,885 10 years ago. The telegraphs now extend to over 20,000 miles of line and 55,000 miles of wire. I ought to mention that all this has been constructed out of Revenue, and I do not know any other country of which the same can be said. The receipts of the Civil Departments show a small reduction of £78,676 in 1882-3, and a further estimated reduction of £32,100 in 1883-4. The receipts from miscellaneous sources under heads 21 to 24 are also less in 1882-3 by £338,901, and are estimated at £298,800 less this year. All these Estimates of receipt appear to be made on exceedingly cautious lines, and are likely to be exceeded. The expenses of these Departments shown under heads 18 to 26 in Abstract E of the Budget Statement, and at page 9 of Paper 268, show that tendency to increase described by the hon. Member

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and by the growing intelligence and civilization of the people, there was a natural tendency to increase."

This natural tendency to increase was shown in the Accounts for 1881-2 by an increase of £470,000, partly through increased political and marine charges, and partly through the increased cost of education and police. We know well that advance of education means heavier cost, and that higher civilization is accompanied by a growth of the police charge. The number of schools registered on the Government books has increased greatly, being in Bengal alone 15,290 in 1871, and 58,097 in 1882. There is also an increase in the new Agricultural Department, and in the cost of bringing emigrants into British Burmah. In connection with the new Agricultural Department, I ought to mention that two Native gentlemen, sent by the Government of Bengal to the Agricultural College at Cirencester, passed out this year on the completion of their course at the head of the list of students. The miscellaneous Civil Charges, shown under heads 27 to 31 in Abstract B, exhibit no material change, though Superannuations, Pensions, and Allowances show some increase. Some time since I explained to the House how the Civil Superannuation Charges had grown from a net average of £860,000 a-year in the three years ending 1874 to £1,850,000 a-year in the three years ending 1883. These charges will still grow, and it is well for hon. Members to recollect that every additional appointment to the Services in India means not only a present increase of official salary, but a future liability for pension, in addition to the salary of the official; and it means a permanent addition to the Home Charges to the extent of the pension in question in all cases where the position is filled by a European.

And I now come to the Army Expenditure of the last two years. The gross totals shown in the Accounts are £17,434,000 in 1882-3, and £16,064,000 in 1883-4. These are large sums; but they compare with £28,086,000 and £18,861,000 in the previous years, 1880-1 and 1881-2, the first of which was the heaviest year of the Afghan War. The £17,434,000 spent in 1882-3 includes the cost of the Indian Contingent in Egypt, towards which a sum of £500,000 was contributed by England. In order

to arrive at the net cost of the Army to India we must deduct this sum, and we must also deduct the receipts, which are really matters of Account, and which amount to £988,000 in 1882-3, besides £40,000 from the sale of stores, &c., returned from Egypt. Deducting these, we have the net cost to India of £15,906,000 in 1882-3, against a net cost of £15,039,000 in 1881-2, and of £23,864,000 in 1880-1. This year we expect that the net cost will be £15,198,000. I speak of the net cost because I am speaking of the burdens thrown upon the Indian Revenues in each year; and, in speaking thus, it is necessary to deduct from the Indian gross charge any English contributions towards it. But, I may be asked, what has been the real annual cost of the Indian Military Establishment, irrespective of and not including either Afghan or Egyptian War? Well, it has been in the last four years—in 1880-1, £15,794,000; in 1881-2, £16,054,000; in 1882-3, £15,121,000; and in 1883-4, £15,198,000. The House will like to know to whom these sums have been paid. Taking 1881-2 as an example, the last year of which we have the closed Accounts:—The active Force in India cost £11,316,000; payment to the War Office for active services, £505,000; other small payments in England, £23,000; Military Stores, £544,000; Transport of Troops, £416,000; Furlough Allowances, £318,000; total, £13,122,000; whilst the Pensions in India were £703,000; and in England, £2,229,000; together £2,932,000, making a grand total of £16,054,000. The cost of the Effective Forces of the Indian Army for the last four years has been—In 1880-1, £13,057,000; in 1881-2, £13,122,000; 1882-3, £12,207,008; 1883-4, £12,095,000, showing a very distinct reduction; but this reduction is, to some extent, neutralized by the continued growth of the Pension Charges. Some little time ago I described to the House how the Non-Effective Army Charges had grown from £1,930,000 a-year in 1873 to £2,850,000 a-year in the last three years, and I told the House that for a number of years they had been under-estimated by considerably over £200,000 annually. In every Estimate of the future cost of the Indian Military Service we must take account, not only of increasing charges, but also

of the arrears of over £2,000,000 which India owes to the British Treasury at this moment. I cannot, therefore, estimate the Non-Effective Charges at less than £3,100,000 per annum. Meanwhile, it is sufficient for me to say that the Military Estimates for the year are lower than any since 1876-7; and if it were not for the increase of the Non-Effective Charges they would be much more favourable. In speaking of military expenses, I may refer to the Report of the Simla Army Commission, about which a good deal of expectation has been roused by the statement that a saving of £1,250,000 had been promised if the recommendations of that Report were carried out. These recommendations, however, were by no means adopted in their entirety by the Government of India, who finally adopted a scheme by which a direct saving of £360,000 a-year was anticipated. The Commission recommended, as hon. Members know, that the Armies of Bombay and Madras should be withdrawn from the control of their respective Governments, the whole Indian Army being placed under one Commander-in-Chief, and divided into four Army Corps, each under a Lieutenant General with a complete Staff. But, after giving full consideration to the proposals of the Commission and of the Government of India, the Secretary of State in Council informed the Government of India that it had not been shown that this measure would, in itself, effect any reduction of charge or increased economy in administration. There are reasons, too, of a political character against the principle of the change recommended. The conclusion, therefore, of Her Majesty's Government is that they are unable to adopt the recommendations in face of the political objections which may be urged against the proposed changes in the constitution of the Bombay and Madras Armies, and the absence of proof of financial saving. I may say that the increased cost of superannuation, to be added to the Non-Effective Charges, and which seems to be inseparable from all Army reform, was not taken into account by the Army Commission or by the Government of India. At the same time, considerable reductions have been made. My noble Friend the Secretary of State for War, speaking as Indian Minister last year,

described those reductions, all of which have since been carried out; the result being that we have an Army slightly increased in numbers, with an ultimate saving of £200,000 a-year in India. The shortcomings of Army transport during the Afghan War showed that it was necessary for the efficiency of the Army to organize a Transport Department. This has now been done, with the result that 46,000 troops, stationed chiefly on the Frontiers, are equipped with one-half regimental transport, all in regimental charge. Of these troops 23,000 could be put into the field at once without requiring any additional carriage. For the present this transport is distributed over a larger number of corps than it will completely mobilize, in order to teach officers and men the management of transport. In addition to this, a general Transport Service is to be maintained at certain central garrisons. It is so organized as to be capable of rapid expansion in time of war. Two of these stations are depôts of instruction, to which detachments will be sent from regiments, to go through a regular course of instruction in transport duties. The regimental and dépôt transport maintained during time of peace provides for the immediate mobilization of 33,000 troops — namely, 10,000 in the Punjab, 10,000 in Bengal, 8,000 in Bombay, and 5,000 in Madras. The establishment of this service will entail no increase of cost. Those who wish to have more detailed information of military matters will do well to read the able Minute of General Wilson, which is attached to Sir Evelyn Baring's Financial Statement already presented to the House. The arrangements and efficiency of the Indian Army were fully tested in the late Egyptian Expedition, and, with the unfortunate exception of the outbreak of glanders in the 6th Bengal Cavalry, everything went forward with most perfect regularity; indeed, I have been told by those who were upon the spot that the Indian Contingent did not wait one moment for anything, and we all know how greatly all armadistinguished themselves in action.

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Mr. J. K. Cross

£29,036,000, towards which there has been provided £9,402,000 from Loans and Reduced Balances in India. In the previous three years the amount spent was £28,482,000, towards which there was provided £14,399,000 from similar sources. In the last three years £554,000 more has been spent; but £4,997,000 less has been borrowed and used from Balances. I must speak separately about these works, and I will take the Ordinary Works first. They are entirely constructed from Revenue, and comprise seven items on the Expenditure side of the Finance Accounts, 42 to 48 inclusive—namely, State Railways, Capital Account; State Railways, working expenses and maintenance; Subsidized Railways, Frontier Railways, Irrigation and Navigation, Military Works, Civil Buildings, Roads, and Services. In the three years under review, the amount spent under these heads is £20,758,210, against £18,935,806 in the previous three years, showing an increase of £1,822,404, or £607,000 per annum. I should like to explain to the House how this expenditure has arisen, because I do not agree with the criticisms of my hon. Predecessor. I do not consider this expenditure necessarily bad; indeed, if prudently carried out, I consider it the very best expenditure which any Government can undertake. It is really improvement of estate from surplus income; and if it can be accomplished without an increase of Establishments, it is all gain. The question which we ought to decide is—what is and what is not prudent expenditure? The first item, State Railways, is for Railway extension in districts where lines are generally needed, or will serve to obviate famine. The second is the working expenses and maintenance of these lines, and this is more than balanced by the corresponding entry on the Revenue side, amounting to £192,000 in 1883-4, against an Expenditure of £185,000. The third head is for land given to railways and interest paid to Subsidized Railways—that is, Railways undertaken under guarantee of interest. The fourth is for Frontier Railways, undertaken for strategic purposes, the financial advantage of which is doubtful, though sometimes they may be necessary. This is not an item of expenditure for which we are directly responsible. The fifth head is for such Irrigation and Naviga-

tion Works as will, in the opinion of the Local and Imperial Governments, develop the districts in which they are undertaken, although they may not produce net direct Revenue. The sixth item is the annual charge for the building and maintenance of Military Works, which I would gladly see reduced; and the seventh is the item which includes all the Public Buildings, Court Houses, Government Offices, Post Offices, Gaols, Schools, Dispensaries, and Warehouses for grain storage. It also includes the money spent on Roads, Ferries, Bridges, Culverts, Drainage Works, and on the improvement and making of the smaller tanks and wells. These operations are undertaken in India out of current income; and they therefore appear in the annual Accounts as one of the heaviest items of Expenditure. The direct receipts, however, from them are not inconsiderable, amounting to £772,000 in 1882-3, and to £865,000 in the Estimate for 1883-4. There is every reason to hope that these receipts will continue to increase, though we must look rather to the greater welfare of the people than to cash results as the effect of this expenditure, just as, in England, money spent on similar works is recouped to the localities spending it, in convenience rather than in cash. The difference between the plan of making these improvements in England and in India is, that here we borrow for these works, whereas in India they are constructed out of current income. The hon. Member for Mid Lincolnshire (Mr. Stanhope) seems to consider roads, railways, schools, dispensaries, tanks, and so forth, as luxuries which India cannot afford. He recommends that the money spent on these items should be laid by to meet famine when it comes; he objects to allowing the Local Governments to spend their own money; he would have them wrap up their pound in a napkin, like the timid servant in the parable. But, Sir, this policy would result in universal stagnation and paralysis. It seems to me that if ever you are to develop local self-government and local interest in India, you must let the local authorities spend their own funds on their own improvements, so long as they keep within their income and devote their expenditure to objects which have been approved by the Supreme Government. The Expenditure under the seventh head was

£3,128,000 in the year ended March, 1879. On the 22nd of May in the same year the hon. Gentleman opposite (Mr. E. Stanhope) said—

“No new works were to be undertaken, even if already sanctioned, without the special consent of the Supreme Government: a rigid investigation was to be made into the necessity for them”

—as though that investigation should not have been made before they were sanctioned—

“Establishments which were excessive were to be cut down.”—(3 *Hansard*, [246] 1063.)

As the result, it was anticipated by the Government of India that an annual saving of £750,000 would be effected. And the Accounts show that a reduction of £201,607 was made between 1878-9 and 1879-80. The Expenditure on this seventh item in 1879-80 was reduced to £2,926,112. It had been £4,298,018 in 1875-6. This year we budget £4,303,700. The hon. Gentleman now almost boasts of the reduction in 1878-9 as if it had been a desirable thing. In 1879 he deplored the necessity for it. Sir, the reduction was forced on the Indian Government by war and famine. It was not a good thing. Nay, I will go farther, and say it was a great disaster. I have made it my business to ask every prominent civilian whom I have met, who has returned from India during the last three years, what was the effect of the reductions in the Public Works Expenditure generally in 1878-9 and 1879-80; and the answer is always the same. Thousands of men usually employed on useful works had to be discharged. Every improvement was stopped, and scores of Civil Engineers sat in their offices, twiddling their thumbs, with nothing to do but to draw their salaries, and to speculate on the pension terms which would have to be offered to them to induce them to retire. The Establishments, certainly, were cut down, but at an extra cost of £369,000 for superannuation—this being the amount which had to be paid in the course of the next two years to the retired Engineers. I wish, as far as possible, to avoid contentious matter. But after the hon. Gentleman opposite has so publicly stated that in Indian finance we have cast economy to the winds, and that we are spending in India £3,500,000 more than our Predecessors, I am obliged to dwell on the facts of the case.

I now ask the House to consider the Productive Works—that is, speaking roundly, those Railways and Irrigation Works which have been constructed out of borrowed money, or under a Government guarantee of interest, which is very much the same thing, so far as the liability of Government is concerned. The total capital involved is £163,000,000. The gross receipts of 1882-3 show a decrease of £412,000 as compared with the previous year; but the Estimate for 1883-4 shows a recovery of £238,000. The decrease was caused by a falling-off of £417,000 in the net traffic receipts of the East Indian Railway. The total amount of Revenue is £10,782,000 in 1881-2, against £9,382,000 in the previous year; but it falls to £10,370,000 in the year ending March, 1883, and is put down at the very moderate Estimate of £10,608,000 for 1883-4. The current Revenue from these Productive Public Works now exceeds the charge for interest and maintenance, the profit being £454,000 in 1882-3, and £520,000 in 1883-4. These results are eminently satisfactory, especially when we recollect that these works were a charge of £1,600,000 on the Revenue in 1872, and that the rate of guarantee given on the Railway lines constructed some years ago was so high. For many years these Railways were a heavy direct charge upon the taxpayer in India. No less a sum than £24,000,000 has been paid in interest in excess of the net receipts. Some of the lines were most expensively made; and, the guarantee being 5 per cent on a very heavy cost, the Railways really for a long time had no chance against their capital accounts. They have, however, now turned the corner, and seem to be fairly on the high road to prosperity. If these Railways could have been started at 3½ per cent, the profit to the Government would be over £2,000,000 yearly. While, as a whole, the Productive Works Expenditure more than pays, the financial results of the Irrigation Works are not so good as those of the Railway Works. They are weighted with the cost of several foolish schemes, undertaken by enthusiasts long ago, without sufficient consideration.

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count stands at £20,036,024, and produces only 4 per cent on the investment, after paying current expenses; but it is, of course, difficult to estimate the indirect advantages conferred upon India by the great increase of production which irrigation has rendered possible. The Railways, I have said, are the profitable branch of the Productive Works Expenditure; and, in order to bring their position clearly before the House, I hope that I may be allowed to state a few facts concerning them. We know the results in detail to the end of 1882. The total Capital Expenditure is 143 crores of rupees, or, nominally, £143,000,000 sterling. The Receipts are £15,231,261; the Expenses are £7,580,549; the Net Profits are £7,650,712, or 5·37 per cent on the total capital employed; if we add the excess of interest paid to the Capital Account of the Railways, raising that capital to 167 crores of rupees, the Dividend now earned is about 4·6 per cent; whereas in the United Kingdom the profit last year on the total capital invested was only 4·32 per cent; and there is one very remarkable fact which is well worth noting by investors—that whereas the gross traffic on the English lines only amounts to 9 per cent on the total capital embarked on the Indian lines, it is already nearly 11 per cent. Given these figures, it is not surprising that the question of increased railway extension presses for solution. There is an extraordinary *consensus* of opinion on this point amongst all men in England who know India. There are still immense tracts of country, 10,000, 20,000, 30,000, 60,000, and in one case 160,000 square miles in extent, containing nearly 20,000,000 people, without a single railway through them—and this, too, some of the most fertile land of India, capable of great agricultural development. The Central Provinces and the neighbouring parts of Bengal might, I am assured, produce food for 20,000,000 more people than they contain. At present, at Bilaspur, wheat is about 7s. the quarter, while salt is double the Bombay price. At Nagpur, 20 years ago, rice was sold at 200 to 250 seers per rupee, a rate of 6d. per 100 lbs. The making of a trunk road doubled the price, and the approach of a railroad again more than doubled it. Can anyone doubt that the placing of a main

railway in the Central Provinces—a country the size of France, and one, too, in which there is a steady and regular rainfall of 40 to 60 inches a-year, so that real famine has never been known—can be otherwise than an immense advantage, not merely to the district itself, but to those adjacent parts of India which are subject to scarcity. It is for the House of Commons to decide whether or not the Indian Government shall be encouraged to make such arrangements as will make it certain that railways shall be made. And, looking to the fact that the cost of all material is exceedingly low, and that the making of railways is now well understood in India, I have no hesitation in telling the House that I firmly believe it to be good policy to encourage such work within reasonable limits. There are districts, too, where railway lines are needed to bring food within reach of great masses of the people when famine comes. When famine comes, if the railway is there, time and distance are annihilated; you can bring in food. But without railways, when a drought occurs, such as that which fell upon Madras, Bombay, Mysore, and Hyderabad in 1877, the people die by hundreds of thousands before the grain can reach them. You may have unlimited money, and be willing to use it; you may have vast stores of grain 500 miles away; but you cannot get the grain to the people. Carts and pack bullocks are the only means of conveyance, and when drought comes there is neither forage nor water for your beasts of burden. The introduction of railways in such cases would enable the surplus produce of these districts to find markets in good seasons; whereas at present the surplus of a good crop is often wasted or becomes food for the weevil worm. If the surplus products of good years could be fully utilized, by the completion of communications it is probable that private trade would deal with scarcity, and even with famine, more ably and more surely than Government can deal with it. In this matter of railway development India wants no help; she asks for nothing but permission to develop her own resources; and those who deny her that right incur a grave responsibility, which I have no wish to share. I should be sorry if the House, from what I have said, should

run away with the idea that nothing is being done towards railway extension in India. The State will spend this year £1,400,000, though we only borrow £2,500,000; and private enterprise, so called, that is the Southern Mahratta, Bengal Central, and Bengal and North-Western Companies, will spend, perhaps, £1,600,000, making in all £6,000,000 which will be spent on railways this year. There is also another very useful scheme proposed by the Hyderabad Government, and sanctioned by the Government of India, by which the present railway may be extended to Ohanda, opening up an extensive coal field, and connecting the South with the Central Provinces.

Another item of Account to which I have to call attention is Exchange. Sir Evelyn Baring has placed this in more simple form than it has yet been in the Financial Statement of the year. The charge is more a charge in Account than an item of Expenditure, and it is caused by our method of reckoning 10 rupees as equal to the pound sterling in the settlement of the Home Accounts. Now, the rupee, with the old average price of silver, never was worth more than 1s. 10½d., though reckoned in Account as 2s.; and at present it is only worth 1s. 7½d. Before we can really understand the nature of this item of Exchange we must dismiss from our minds the idea that there is any necessary proportional connection between the rupee and the pound sterling. I know there is a lurking fallacy in the corner of many men's minds that the rupee is one-tenth of a pound, and that the sovereign is 10 rupees, or that this ought to be so. Sir, the rupee is 165 grains of pure silver and 15 grains of alloy, minted in India, and put in circulation there as the standard coin and measure of value throughout the Indian Empire. The sovereign is 123·274 grains of gold of 22 carats, or ·916 fine, minted in England, and put in circulation here as the standard coin and measure of value throughout the United Kingdom. There is absolutely no more connection between the sovereign in England and the rupee in India than there is between butter in Bond Street and bread in Bombay. When hon. Members who do not look into these matters have mastered this simple fact they will understand this item of Account better than

they do at present. It is a disturbing element of unknown quantity and great power; and the entire separation between the standards of value of the two countries since the closing of the bi-metallic mint in France renders it especially desirable that we should not increase the sterling charges, while we are so uncertain how many rupees will be wanted to pay £1 worth of charge. In addressing the House on this subject four years ago I ventured to say that the silver question would probably not trouble us greatly till the American currency was well filled, but that, when America had absorbed as much as she required, we should have a recurrence of the disturbance. I do not venture any prophecy on this matter; but I certainly think that disturbance is not further off than it was four years ago, and I confess that it is not without anxiety that I look forward to the possible or probable stoppage of the American coinage of silver, and the effect which it certainly will have on our Exchange transactions with India. The indebtedness of India to this country, though reckoned in pounds sterling and dischargeable in rupees, is, as hon. Members know, really paid in produce, and whatever facilitates the export of that produce is an advantage to India. Low cost of carriage of grain from the interior to the seaboard is of vital interest to the Indian taxpayer, because the lower the cost of carriage between the point of production and the consuming market the greater will be the value at the place of production. In other words, a given amount of produce would discharge a greater amount of Debt.

This brings me face to face with the last part of my subject, the Indian Debt, said by some public writers to be so onerous and enormous a charge upon India. The total Debt, including every liability and guarantee on account of public works, is £229,000,000, against which we have public works, which pay good interest on £163,000,000, leaving an uncovered Debt of £66,000,000; not an excessive amount for a country of 200,000,000 people rapidly increasing exports exceed the last revenue ways have an

the wheat export, which has risen in the two months ending May 30 to 4,166,000 cwt., against 2,705,000 cwt. in the corresponding period of 1882, and 2,024,000 cwt. in 1880-1—thus proving how important a factor cheap communication is in our financial arrangements.

There are many other points on which I should like to have spoken to-day; but they hardly come within the scope of a financial speech. Before I sit down, however, I must say one word on the most regrettable event which has happened in India lately—that is, the retirement of Sir Evelyn Baring. His financial rule will long be remembered, not only for his continuous efforts to develop the policy laid down by his able Predecessor, but for the brilliant success of his own administration. In taking leave of him as our Finance Minister, I can only say how deeply we regret the parting. He leaves a clear field for his successor, who is no 'prentice hand, and in whose care we may safely leave our finances. One word more of regret. My Colleague, Sir Louis Mallet, whose name is most intimately connected with the commercial politics of the last 40 years, has, unfortunately for us, decided to withdraw those services which have in times past been so valuable to the Government of India. No one can blame him for this step. He has amply earned his rest, and, though he will be no longer with us in Office, we hope for many years to come to have the satisfaction of referring to his great experience whenever occasion may require it.

There is only one point more, one, perhaps, more political than financial; but much depends on the terms on which we live with our neighbours, and it has been the endeavour of the Government of Lord Ripon to cultivate good relations with the Ameer of Afghanistan. I may say that our relations are those of cordial concord. And we believe that in his own ability to defend his State lies our best safeguard from Frontier complications. The cordial friendship of the Ameer is far less costly than his shyness, and the Government of India have thought it right to enable him to maintain his position, even at some cost to themselves.

My task is done; I hope the explanation which I have tried to give will enable hon. Members to grasp the present financial position of our Indian Empire.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair."—(*Mr. J. K. Cross.*)

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT: While I congratulate the hon. Gentleman who has just spoken on his lucid and able speech, I cannot but say a word with regard to the contemptuous treatment which the Indian Budget has received from Her Majesty's Government. The debate has been postponed until that important Statement, affecting more than 200,000,000 people, has to be made in a House containing less than a score of Members on the Ministerial side of the House, and not half that number on the Opposition Benches. The Statement of my hon. Friend is quite worthy the attention of a full House. The administrative and judicial hierarchy of India is not generally understood in England. There has, up to the present, been a considerable distinction between the services of the "regulation" and "non-regulation" Provinces. The former are the older and earlier settled States, and embrace the Governorships of Madras and Bombay, and the Lieutenant Governorships of Bengal and of the North-West Provinces. The latter contain the Provinces of the Punjab, Burmah, Oude, the Central Provinces, and Assam. The chief civil and judicial officers of these non-regulation Provinces are styled Chief Commissioners and Judicial Commissioners, except in the Punjab, where there is a Lieutenant Governor and a Chief Court. In the regulation Provinces the superior civil and judicial appointments have only been open to the Members of the "Covenanted Services"—that is, to those who have passed the regular Indian competitive examination in this country. In the non-regulation Provinces, on the contrary, as they have been annexed and their Administration arranged more recently, the Executive and Judicial posts have been entirely in the patronage of the Governor General of India. There has been, practically, no criterion of examination. The Viceroy could appoint anyone, Native or European, he pleased. The most important office in the hierarchy of Indian Administration is, undoubtedly, the district magistrate, who, in the non-regulation Provinces, is styled Deputy Commissioner. Above him are the Commissioners, who super-

intend several districts, and above the Commissioners the Governors, Lieutenant Governors, and Chief Commissioners. But the magistrate of a district is the principal and central figure in Indian Administration. He occupies a dominant position in a district which varies in size. The average population of a British district is not far short of 1,000,000; but in many cases it exceeds 2,000,000, and in some there are more than 2,500,000. He is the representative of the British Government to all in his district. He is the chief collector of revenue. He is the highest executive officer of the district, and he has judicial functions as well. There are first and second and third classes of magistrates. There are also joint and assistant magistrates who help in his Courts with somewhat less salary. But no one can be a district magistrate who is not a magistrate of the first class and also a J.P.; and no magistrate can execute criminal jurisdiction over Europeans who is not himself a European British subject. He must also be a magistrate of the first class. The criminal jurisdiction of the magistrate is limited to sentences of three months upon Europeans and two years upon Natives, with proportionate power of imposing fines. Upon him the whole machinery of Government depends. Above the magistrate in his judicial capacity are the district and Sessions Judges, of whom there is one for each district. These are for judicial affairs, and, if they are themselves Europeans, have the power of sentencing Europeans to 12 months' imprisonment, and fines; and of sentencing Natives to longer terms of penal servitude. Above the Sessions Judges are the High Courts in the regulation, the Chief Court and Judicial Commissioners in the non-regulation Provinces. These have unlimited jurisdiction over both Natives and Europeans. Hitherto a European could not be tried and sentenced for a criminal offence by a Native magistrate or Judge, and not even by any European magistrate who was not of the first class and a J.P. There were but two exceptions. In the High Courts there are a few Native Judges; but these never sit alone, there being always European Judges present. In the Presidency towns of Madras, Bombay, and Calcutta, Native magistrates have been allowed a certain

amount of jurisdiction over Europeans. But then there is the immense security of a large British resident population, of an English Bar, and of English Judges. Before Mr. Gupta's case, I believe, there was no instance of a Native magistrate or Deputy Commissioner, and Mr. Gupta was only temporarily in charge of a district. Now, what changes does the Illbert Bill introduce? Before considering them, it is essential that the Act of Parliament of 1870 should be borne in mind. This law enabled the Viceroy to make rules for the nomination to public offices of Natives of proved merit and ability, not members of the Covenant Service. Although this was passed in 1870, no step was taken under it for 10 years. The Duke of Argyll, acting as Secretary of State for India in 1869, and writing in his official capacity, on behalf of the Government of the present Prime Minister, stated clearly what it would be well that those who have to deal with India should never forget—

"Since Europeans have generally those qualities by which they have won and still hold the Indian Empire, the tests of competitive examination are, on the whole, good tests, as between different candidates of the English race. But this principle cannot be safely relied upon as regards the Natives of India. It is notorious that in their case mere intellectual acuteness is no indication of ruling power. In vigour, in courage, and in administrative ability some of the races of India, most backward in education, are well known to be superior to other races, which intellectually are much more advanced. In a competitive examination the chances of a Bengalee would probably be superior to the chances of a Pathan or a Sikh. It would, nevertheless, be a dangerous experiment to place a successful student from the Colleges of Calcutta in command over any of the martial tribes of Upper India. It should never be forgotten, and there should never be any hesitation in laying down the principle, that it is one of our first duties towards the people of India to guard the safety of our own dominion."

Indeed, two years earlier, Lord Lawrence, whose name has been unwarrantably used by agitators in this country, was extremely cautious in dealing with the question of Native officials in India. In his Minute of August 19, 1867, while assenting to the principle that certain posts—not the highest, by any means—should be regulated the following

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dealing with independent Europeans. The Governor General—that is, Lord Lawrence—in Council expects that the local administrators will frame their proposals with due regard to the expediency of providing English officials for all districts in which European settlers or travellers abound."

Lord Northbrook and Sir Arthur Hobhouse, who are now talking so grandly about the rights of the Natives, did absolutely nothing during the years they were in Office. Lord Lytton, however, who is accused of many things by his political opponents, first moved in the direction of giving higher offices to Natives of India. In 1879 he drew up the following Rules:—1st. Each Local Government was to nominate Natives for posts within their Provinces hitherto limited to members of the Covenanted Service. Such nominees would have to pass the usual Departmental examination; except in the cases of Natives of not less than 25 years of age, if they were of proved experience or members of a profession. 2nd. These names were to be provisionally approved by the Governor General in Council. 3rd. The total number of persons thus appointed was not to exceed each year one-fifth of the number of Englishmen annually appointed. The first division of these nominees—that is, those without experience in a profession and under 25 years of age—could not be confirmed in their appointments until two years of satisfactory service had been reported by the Local Government and a Departmental examination had been passed. 4th. The Governor General might transfer them from one Province to another; and they might be dismissed by the Local Governments, with the Governor General's sanction. The Native officials appointed under these Rules since 1879 are styled members of "the new Native Statutory Service." Mr. Ilbert would repeal the words which confine the power of criminal jurisdiction over Europeans to magistrates who are themselves European British subjects. He proposes to give the power and criminal jurisdiction to four classes, who have not hitherto enjoyed it, provided they are magistrates of the first class and Justices of the Peace:—(a.) To Indian Natives in the Covenanted Service. Of these, there are at present nine. (b.) To the members of the Statutory Native Service just referred to. (c.) To Native Assistant Commissioners in non-regulation Provinces.

(d.) To Native Cantonment magistrates; and also to all Native district magistrates and Sessions Judges. The really important head under which Natives in any numbers will be admissible to high Executive and Judicial offices is the second. In time they might, as members of the Indian Civil Service, amount to a sixth of the Official Service of India. How, and in what way, has this Bill been introduced? At a time when there was no call for it, nor any necessity. It is enough, especially in Oriental countries, to propose grave legislative changes when they are imperative. The immediate effect of this Bill may be small—that is, so far as concerns the number of those Natives who will at once get the power, though, none the less, great hardships may be inflicted upon those Europeans, especially in out-of-the-way districts, who may come under the jurisdiction of a Native magistrate or Assistant Commissioner. Could a Native magistrate be left in charge of a disaffected district in the case of a rising? Suppose that only half-a-dozen Native district magistrates obtained under this Bill the supreme executive power and the large judicial powers which they would have over their respective districts. In the tea-growing regions of Assam, or in some of the more turbulent portions of the North-West, where the few Whites are scattered and isolated among hundreds of thousands of Natives, what infinite mischief might be done by an ignorant or a prejudiced Native magistrate? European enterprize and capital would be driven out of vast districts which it is now developing. As was said lately by an eminent statesman—

"The men who are now enriching trade by the cultivation of tea, coffee, indigo, and cinchona, by the manufacture of jute, the working of mines, and the construction of railroads, are not the equals, but the superiors of the races benefited by their capital."

This capital is entirely British. There can be no doubt about the effect produced by this Bill, be it just or unjust. It has stimulated race antagonism to an extent without parallel since the evil days of the Mutiny. The European population have risen against it with a unanimous and fervid opposition of unprecedented determination. The lower class of Hindoos, especially in Bengal, have been stirred up to a counter agita-

tion of dangerous intensity. If the Bill be the insignificant measure some of its supporters represent, I would ask, was it wise, was it statesmanlike, with so little excuse, and for objects so slight, to apply the torch to such combustible material? Lord Ripon and his Advisers have stirred up a fever in India, which, at best, it will take years of prudence and calm to allay. What adequate reason can be given for the menacing convulsion his policy has fomented? We in England can barely imagine the strength of the indignation which these proposals have aroused among our countrymen throughout the length and breadth of India. Enthusiastic meetings have been held in every town, in every district. Resolutions have been passed against it and protests signed by thousands. Out of the 50,000 European civilians in India, probably not one-fiftieth part have failed to pronounce their resolute opposition to it. And it has been no mechanical or perfunctory agitation that this Bill has aroused. It is the determined, bitter, unanimous resistance of the whole British community—that is, of the enterprising, civilizing, and progressive influence in India. The Volunteers, who number some 10,000 men, have actually threatened to return their arms if this Bill be passed. Even the Army, the very basis and symbol of our power, is deeply moved by the prospect. In several stations it has been difficult to restrain the soldiers from taking part in the meetings held to protest against the Bill. The British soldier, face to face with millions of an alien people, feels instinctively that which Ministers seem incapable of grasping. He realizes that anything which weakens British prestige in the East inflicts a perilous blow upon the British power. Nor is the official class—that vast body of highly educated, experienced, faithful, and high-minded men, who conduct the administration of India with the greatest credit to themselves and the most real benefit to the Native population—less hostile to the measure. Excepting a few high-placed officials, who belong to Lord Ripon's little clique of sentimentalists and academical Radicals, the immense mass of official opinion has pronounced against the Bill. I suppose not less than nine out of every 10 officials who have had the opportunity of declaring their

views upon Mr. Ilbert's proposals have given an adverse opinion. Their Reports have been withheld from the knowledge of the country as long as possible; but they must soon be known. The misrepresentation of the debate in the Indian Council by a telegram from India, paid for with public money, is a painful and novel experience in our public life. The attempted concealment in this case and in others of like gravity is poor policy on the part of the Ministry. The Lieutenant Governor of Bengal has spoken out most unmistakably against the Bill. He is but the type of thousands. The High Court of that Province has issued as able, as fair, and as convincing a document as was ever penned. The Prime Minister yesterday ridiculed the feelings of the English in India. Hon. Gentlemen opposite condemn the opinion of their own countrymen. They pass by with easy self-satisfaction the well-weighted judgments of these real experts in Indian affairs, of these men who thoroughly know that vast country, its history, its passions, its dangers, facts about which sentimentalist crotcheteers in England are as ignorant as events have proved them to be about Ireland, about Zululand, about all their foreign and imperial policy. The English in India they describe with glib assurance as a prejudiced caste, whose knowledge and experience are not to be held in comparison with their own fantastic theories and their destructive humanitarianism. It would be just as fair to speak of the prejudice of physicians in a delicate case of disease, or of the prejudice of lawyers in a recondite question of law, or of the unreliability of merchants in a great question of trade, as to stigmatize, as hon. Gentlemen opposite have done, the men by whose system and administrative capacity and valour we rule India. The independent and permanent Executive and judicial functionaries throughout India are infinitely more trustworthy than the Viceroy's Council, most of whom are mere nominees of the Viceroy himself, men often chosen because their general views coincide with his, and because they are likely to vote as he wishes the fact that of the Ilbert it have Ripon

Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett

What does Lord Ripon himself know about India? Probably less than Mr. Lal Mohun Ghose knows about England. Mr. Ilbert himself is a young barrister of some ability, whose brains were crammed with theoretical knowledge, and with philosophical abstractions and dreamy speculations—a very poor preparation, indeed, for the art of government, and generally implying a proportionate ignorance of men and things. This measure was wholly uncalled for. There was no demand among the Natives. There is no assertion of any denial or miscarriage of justice under the present system. It is true that since the introduction of the Bill the Baboos of Bengal have stirred up an agitation in its support. But even they do not allege that justice is not impartially administered at present. The Report from the High Court of Bengal, a body of most eminent and learned judicial functionaries of the highest character and the widest experience, is conclusive upon this point. Sir Richard Garth, the Chief Justice, is a man whose great talents and probity of character inspire universal respect; and the Report upon this Bill, drawn up by him and by his Colleagues, is a model of clear and powerful reasoning. Its tone is moderate and judicial; but its arguments are irresistible. Native suitors infinitely prefer to go before English Judges. The poorer class especially seek the White magistrate. They know that neither fear, nor favour, nor presents, can pervert his decision. Those who seek justice undefiled invariably seek the Court presided over by an European. Moreover, the decisions of an European Judge are accepted with contentment even by those who lose. The bearing of Native litigants towards magistrates of their own colour is very different. They believe his judgment to be affected by some influence extraneous to the suit. They complain and they appeal. Often do Native disputants, in remote districts where there is no White magistrate, refer their differences to the arbitration of any European trader or resident rather than go to their own Courts. These are facts which anyone who knows India can confirm. Well, then, what is the excuse for this proposed change? It does not consist in any failure of justice, or in any practical grievance felt by the Native population. It is based on the desire to remove

anomalies. It is a straining after an impossible equality of races and position which can never be attained so long as the British flag flies over India, and an English Administration governs the country. Once begin to base your Indian legislation and policy on the removal of anomalies, and you enter upon a course fatal to your dominion in India, fatal to the prosperity and wealth of these Kingdoms. The removal of anomalies, indeed! As Sir James Stephen well says, if this be your principle the greatest anomaly of all is the presence of Englishmen in India at all. Will the right hon. Gentleman and his Viceroy prepare to drive his countrymen, bag and baggage, out of the country they have rescued from war, from tyranny, and cruel devastation? That is the only logical and practical outcome of the argument as to anomalies. As the Judges of Bengal state in their most convincing Report—

“The anomaly involved in the present state of the law is merely one instance of a state of things on which the entire structure of Indian society depends.”

This Bill does not extinguish anomalies. It only brings them out in clearer relief. Do you allow Native officers to lead your troops? Do you allow Native soldiers to man your artillery? Would you appoint a Native Viceroy of the Queen? Dare you give a Native Judge power of life and death over English men and women? The advocates of this Bill overlook one striking anomaly which it promotes. It denies to the British non-official residents in Hindostan, many of them men of the highest ability and the most cultured education, the power of acting as magistrates or Judges. Yet it would confer the power of fine and imprisonment over British men and women upon Natives who know little or nothing of European ideas and habits. This prating about anomalies is idle and unfruitful, save of mischief. It can only lead to the undermining of the base upon which your beneficent rule in India must rest. Now, Sir, I ask the question of the Government—Are they prepared to give up India under any circumstances, or on any plea, or at any time? The right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister stated on July 27—

“If we are endeavouring to make the resources of India auxiliary only to the greatness of England . . . then we ought to walk out of India, and the sooner we do so the better.”

These are vague and dangerous words. Let us not deal with theories. Let us keep to facts. Do not let the torch of vacillation, and of hypothetical conditions, under which India may or may not be abandoned, be applied to India as it has been to Ireland, and with like disastrous results. We do govern well. British rule has conferred vast and inestimable benefits upon India and her myriad and heterogeneous population. We can prove those blessings—the priceless boons of order and peace, of rapid communication, of a better morality, of education, of impartial justice. Our rule will bear scrutiny. It will stand the closest comparison with that of any other conquering race the world has ever known. But there is another side to the picture, and that is the question of the interests of this country. Few realize what the possession of India means to these Islands. There is a volume of trade amounting to over £50,000,000 every year, which is rapidly increasing—a field for British enterprise practically boundless. There is employment, profitable to themselves and beneficial to the country in which their energies are devoted, for thousands of active and enterprising Britons. Have you realized what the loss of India would mean to the people of this country, your own people, your flesh and blood, whom you are bound to consider first and foremost? Are our markets so many, is our trade so flourishing, are other nations so fond of receiving our products, that we can treat with indifference anything that weakens our hold upon India? What would the working classes of this country say to your sham philanthropy if they realized what the loss of India would mean to them? Is the wage fund so abundant, is labour so highly paid, that our artisans and labourers can lightly put up with a diminution of their weekly wage by a sum of from 5s. to 10s. for every able-bodied man? That is what the loss of India would mean. I speak not of honour and power and high repute, of Imperial grandeur and *prestige*. These, we know, are antiquated delusions in which our foolish and wicked fathers believed. The wise men of the present prefer surrender, humiliation, and insult. Anarchy is the latest specific for the reformation of mankind. With India goes the commerce of the

East, which is now poured into the lap of Britain—the trade of China and Japan, of the Indo-Chinese Peninsula, of the Islands of the Archipelago, of Persia, Arabia, and Egypt; and even that of our Australian Colonies would be at the mercy of a Foreign Power that held India. If a Liberal Cabinet do not appreciate the value of that with which they are tampering, at least the great despotism of the North knows what it is worth, and so Russia spends millions in sapping up to our Frontiers, hoping for a rich harvest in your day of trouble. Now, in view of the immense, the inestimable, importance of India to England, I affirm that the determination of British statesmen should be to maintain the authority and power of Britain unimpaired. I believe that, though but a humble Member of this House, I speak the mind of the great Conservative Party on this subject, and, more than that, the mind of the great bulk of the English people. It is no Party question. It is the life of the nation, the greatness of the Empire, the prosperity of our race, that are at stake. It is due to the greatness of the interests involved that there should be no doubt or qualification in this matter. A familiar collection of crocheteers and anarchists were gathered together at Willis's Rooms a fortnight ago. The well-known names, the friends of every country but their own, that hounded on Russia in 1876 and 1877, that have since composed the Afghan, the Transvaal, and Zulu Committees, that have pressed upon the Ministry the anarchization of Ireland, are now banded together to support Lord Ripon in his destructive policy. Misfortune makes strange bed-fellows. I was interested to notice the conjunction of those fallen stars, the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Birmingham (Mr. John Bright), and the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Bradford (Mr. W. E. Forster). The right hon. Member for Bradford referred to my interest in this question with somewhat of a cheap sneer. I was not aware that the administrative success of the right hon. Gentleman had been so conspicuous as to justify his treating me in that manner. There was an encomium on the Member for Bradford (Mr. W. E. Forster) in the House of Commons.

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his present *protégés*—a learned Baboo pundit—wrote of the official character of that hon. Member in Bengal—

“While he ruled this Province with a rod of iron he was the *cactus grandiflorus* of English despotism; but when he transmigrated to the House of Commons they exposed his *cul bono* in all its naked deformity.”

What a spectacle for gods and men! This trio of anarchists, led by the Baboo Lal Mohun Ghose. Never shall vague and mischievous rhetoric and pseudophilanthropy shake the pillars of our Indian Empire. Never shall the pernicious humanitarianism of the clique that filled Willis's Rooms on Monday last break up that glorious heritage of power. Under no circumstances will “we walk out of India.” The buttresses of English power in India are adamant, and so they shall remain. That is the resolve of the British people. It may, however, be said—“We concede much of what you say. But the way to strengthen our hold in India is to win the affection of the Natives, and to conciliate them to our rule. You must give them these privileges they ask for, and they will be loyal subjects of the Queen.” Now, I dispute this proposition. You must give India good government. She has it to a degree that she has never had before we conquered the country, and to a degree she never could enjoy under the rule of any Native race or dynasty. India must have liberty, she must have justice, impartially administered. Both she enjoys. Equality with the dominant race is impracticable. It is impossible, unless we are prepared to march out of India sooner or later. India was won by the superior qualities of Englishmen in arms, in statecraft, in commerce, in administration. India can only be kept under the British flag by the maintenance of that undoubted superiority. Do you think that for generations, for centuries, the same qualities that make the English people the Imperial, the civilizing race of the world, can be given to the Hindoo? Can you make him courageous instead of timid, honest instead of a believer in prevarication, incorruptible instead of a regular taker and giver of bribes? Can you eradicate the ingrained vices of Oriental peoples, which thousands of years of steady habit and degradation have made part of the Eastern charac-

ter? Can you give to the Hindoo Judge more than a faint conception of our English thoughts, habits, motives, and life? Why, the relations that exist between the sexes in Europe are to an Oriental incomprehensible. He regards women as little better than animals. Are English women to be subjected to trial before a Hindoo Judge? Equality! Why, the name is preposterous in India. When gentlemen, like Mr. Lal Mohun Ghose, come here and prate about the rights of man and the equality of Native and European, they conveniently suppress the tremendous inequalities which their own civilization is based upon, and which he and his compatriots cherish as their dearest heritage. They say nothing about their insuperable barriers of caste. They are very quiet about the fact that Natives enjoy privileges in Courts of Justice which are not granted to Europeans. The wife of the highest English official may be called upon to give evidence in open Court. Many Native women—and not only they, but Hindoo men of certain rank—are exempted from any such responsibility. These are anomalies which the Bengali Baboo, who clamours for the right of criminal jurisdiction over Englishmen, would not like to see removed. Why, even in the Northbrook Club, it is notorious that the Native members of different castes and creeds regard each other with scant pleasure. And this in England, where such prejudices might be supposed to be, at least, in abeyance. This craving after an impossible equality is the curse of every people where it has taken root. It is based on the worst qualities of our human nature—selfish, self-asserting egotism. It has ruined France, and, if it be encouraged in India, it will be the parent of revolution and anarchy. Liberty is the sacred right of mankind, equality is the dream of theorists and the idol of anarchists. You, whose fatal counsels and still more fatal mismanagement have convulsed Ireland with sedition and ruin, appeal to Ireland as your justification for the agitation you are now fomenting in India. Has your policy in Ireland been so successful that you can call it to witness in the case of India? You found the Irish people prosperous and orderly. Where is the gratitude and the love which you fondly expected from the Irish people? You have roused a Frankenstein mon-

ster which will overwhelm you. The Liberal Party in Ireland is gone. Mal- low and Monaghan are the answers of the revolution to its short-sighted Ministers. And so, if your advice is not followed, and if the Baboo agitators are not given their way, we are to "have another Ireland in India, with 250,000,000 instead of 8,000,000." And this from you after the lessons of the past three years. Blind leaders of the blind, what strange fatality put such a self-convicting metaphor as that in your mouths? An ounce of courageous statesmanship is worth all the high-flown sentiments and humanitarian platitudes in the world. "Justice and Equity!" Those twin shadows of delusion in the ingenious eloquence of the Prime Minister will, no doubt, once more be trotted forth to do duty in the sacred cause of the Baboos of Bengal. Justice and Equity! How often have those words in the most impressive tones of the right hon. Gentleman, and with all his wealth of gesture and of elaboration, been given as the plea for some fresh onslaught on the loyal subjects, or on the Imperial interests of England? In those words Ireland was convulsed and demoralized. The Irish Land Act and the Coercion Bills were both defended by this formula. Under that plea the Transvaal surrender took place, and thousands of our Native allies were given over to spoliation and to death. Zululand is their latest victim; and many a British Colonist has cursed the day on which false sentiment usurped the place of statesmanship, and a sickly cosmopolitan humanitarianism supplanted that ancient patriotism which is now but an obsolete and ridiculed tradition. It was in the name of "justice and equity" that you would have swept away the solemn recognition of the Almighty by Members of this House. Now, you would undermine the very foundations on which our splendid and beneficent Empire in Hindostan rests, for the same misleading and fatal shibboleth. Oh, Sir, is there no justice for the interests of England? Can no equity be found for the claims of the Empire of Britain? Can the Prime Minister of England never feel some of that "deep emotion" which stirs him to eloquent protest on behalf of a French Company, when the influence and power of England are at stake, when the rights and the lives and the future of the English

race largely hang upon his decision? We won India by the superior qualities of the English race. We can only keep India by preserving that superiority. The Native has found the acknowledgment of that superiority no hardship hitherto. He has never known any sort of rule but a crushing tyranny, rarely redeemed by good administration. He has been accustomed to look up to the White rulers as blessed visitors, who give him order and prosperity, and show him an example of honour and gallantry and purity which he admires if he does not imitate. It is not by force alone that British rule in India is maintained. The 60,000 British bayonets that garrison that vast country are but a drop among the teeming myriads by whom they are surrounded. It is the repute, the *prestige*, the innate sense of superiority that makes that little band of soldiers and administrators respected and obeyed by the masses around them. They have been convinced by the past history of their relations with Englishmen that the courage of the English race is indomitable; that their tenacity is unyielding; that though they may be repulsed once, or twice, or thrice, yet will they return to the struggle, with unabating resolve, till resistance is vanquished. This feeling must be maintained. But if this mischievous measure become law a dangerous blow will be struck at the popular idea of British superiority. The Native who sees an Englishman tried and sentenced by one of his own race will soon lose the natural respect which at present is felt for an Englishman, and will begin a course of encroachment which can only end in trouble and mutiny. The Oriental mind mistakes concession for fear. It cannot comprehend the high-flown motives which lead, for instance, to the surrender in the Transvaal, or to the scuttling out of Afghanistan. As a Native said insolently to an English official a few months back—"You will soon have another Afghanistan, and we will be the Afghans"—that is, we will drive you out of India. This shows the injurious effect of our retreat from Candahar. Already a great change has taken place in the demeanour of the Natives in relation to the English. The Natives begin to speak of the English as a race of cowards.

matter to our smug Radicals at home. But it is a very serious thing indeed for Europeans living almost alone in a distant Province, among thousands of alien, ignorant, and excitable people. Those who have not forgotten the awful deeds of the Mutiny, when massacre and horrible outrages were the lot of hundreds of English women, cannot but feel indignant at the recklessness that is fomenting a like danger now. Insults to Europeans have trebled since the introduction of this Bill, and there have been several cases of grave outrages upon English women. But who is it demand these new rights? The better class of Natives do not want them. The manlier and more virile races do not care for them. A very remarkable proof of this appeared in a recent issue of *The Pioneer* of Allahabad. In a letter signed "Mahomed Noor Khan, Pensioner, late Rassaldar, 7th Bengal Cavalry," the writer asserts, as the result of 26 years' experience, that cases, civil or military, are more impartially tried by Europeans than by Natives. He proceeds thus—

"With the exception of the obese and feeble Bengalees, who would be found utterly incapable of defending their country should an emergency arise, no other race in India would hail the passing of a measure which, instead of improving the condition of the people, would simply entail disasters and misfortunes, unheard of and unprecedented, on this unhappy land. And if the Government be desirous of completely ruining the country, it cannot do so better, or sooner, than by passing this obnoxious Bill. My object in addressing you is that no heed should be paid to these clamorous Baboos; that the Bill, already a source of discord and ill-feeling, may be consigned to the flames; and that the Government of the country may be carried on upon the same principles as heretofore."

Of all Eastern products, the Bengali Baboo is the most unpromising and the most unlovely. He has a supple character, and a glib tongue. He is master of smooth phrases and specious arguments. Of solid and generous qualities he is devoid. These are the men who hope to make a good thing out of the agitation, that are inflaming the minds of the populace against English rule. Macaulay draws a good picture of the Bengali of 100 years ago. His modern descendant is not more manly, but he is more mischievous. He has learned the vices and the cant of our civilization, but not its virtues. Is it kindness to the

people whose cause you think you are defending? Supposing the Bengali got his way, and drove the English out of India, what would be his fate? How long could he hold his own? Not for 12 months. As before, so then, the stouter and braver races of the North and West would soon make him regret the loss of British protection, and of British liberty. The Sikh, the Mahratta, the Pathan, the Ghoorka, the Afghan, would ride roughshod over the soft Bengali. If he fancies himself now chastened with whips he would soon experience the scorpions of Oriental conquest and despotism. These are just the class who, if they get power, would misuse it, who would "take it out of the Whites," as one of them boasted not long ago he meant to do. My argument has hitherto been mainly based on the weakening of British authority throughout India, which this change would tend to bring about. But there is a very practical danger to the European settlers and merchants. The characteristic vice of Eastern legislation is perjury. The subornation of witnesses is not altogether unknown in England; but it is a fine art in Hindostan. Troops of false witnesses can be hired for a few rupees, ready to swear anything or everything. In the case of Natives, this often equalizes itself. If the prosecutor comes into Court with 50 false witnesses, and the defendant meets his charge with 50 rebutting perjurers, a balance can be struck. Everyone who has experience of India knows the prevalence of this false swearing. But Europeans in remote corners of India, especially in Assam and the tea-growing districts, where they are far from European communities and surrounded by swarms of an alien population, will be peculiarly helpless if tried before a Native magistrate. They would be overborne by the stream of lying witnesses; the magistrate might easily be prejudiced against them. He would not understand the English feeling or mode of life. An English artizan or clerk, for example, an engine-driver or warehouseman, would be quite at the mercy of his enemies in a distant Province. He could not afford to employ an English lawyer, or, if he could, there would be none within reach. That the Europeans in the Mofussil, and especially in outlying districts, feel this danger acutely the vehemence and unanimity of the pro-

tests against the Ilbert Bill prove conclusively. No one can read the determined and almost desperate opposition of the whole European community to this change in the law without feeling that to them it is a matter of life and death. Many, indeed, openly say they cannot stay in the country. Will those friends of India who are trying to render life for their countrymen impossible in that country make a computation of the loss to their Indian clients if British capital be withdrawn from India? It is with no vainglorious self-righteousness that Englishmen may point, as a sufficient vindication of their Empire in Hindostan, to the matchless benefits which their supremacy has conferred upon the inhabitants of that vast and heterogeneous country. The history of the world can show no parallel to the rule of Britain over India. There 250,000,000 of people of many races and hostile creeds, of ancient origin and chequered history, enjoy the benefits of a regular and beneficent Administration. These myriads of people, alien in blood and religion, in language and manners, yet enjoy, under the British flag, blessings to which, in the long history of their past, their forefathers have been strangers. For a century they have had peace instead of desolating struggles, security instead of wars and invasions, in which the conquerors pillaged, massacred, and oppressed the vanquished. They have had order and law; not the occasional tranquillity of a rigid and unbending despotism, but the regular order of a civilized Power, guided by principles of justice, and administered in the main by just and honourable men. They have lived under, not the capricious edicts of tyrants, but the well-considered provisions of an established code of laws. Commerce, which was limited by the hostility of rival States and by the difficulties of intercommunication, has been marvellously developed by the union of all India under one civilizing Power, and by the promotion of those wonderful means of communication with which science has furnished man. Ten thousand miles of railways already exist in India. The time of journey from Bombay to Calcutta is not a tenth of what it used to be. Before the end of this century it is probable that the length of railways will have been trebled. What this means as an active agent in develop-

ing the wealth of Hindostan, in preventing the scourge of famine, in promoting the general comfort of the people, the most ignorant can form some estimate. The education of that vast Continent is progressing. The humblest student of the history of this most interesting country cannot but wonder at the change which a few generations of British power have wrought. He will behold a land not long since swept over by hostile and remorseless hordes as with a besom of destruction, downtrodden and oppressed and despoiled, now in the peaceful enjoyment of order and good administration. He will see hundreds of thousands of acres of fertile soil recovered from desert jungles, that owed their growth to the terror of wild beasts or of hostile incursions. He will see everywhere law, and even progress, instead of capricious tyranny and stagnating corruption. All this he will find; and seeing it, the Englishman of this generation, if he be true to his country and to his race, to his great ancestors, whose courage and skill, whose resolution and statesmanship, have won this splendid country for him, and have conferred such priceless advantages upon its people, will make it his first duty and his highest pride to hand down that matchless heritage of beneficent power unweakened—nay, more strong and more secure—to those that come after him.

Mr. ARTHUR ARNOLD, in rising to move—

“That, in the interests of India and of the United Kingdom, it is desirable that India should not bear the charge of the Consular and Agency expenditure on the Persian Gulf, and upon the Tigris and Euphrates, and that the concerns of British trade and commerce in Western Asia should be in the hands of officers more completely responsible to the Home Government.”

said, he was one of the very small number of Members present when the House was counted out on the occasion to which the hon. Member for Eye (Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett) had referred. He regretted the occurrence, as he believed nothing could more strengthen the policy of Lord Ripon than a discussion in that House on Mr. Ilbert's Bill. Passing from that subject, however he wished to express his opinion
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ment, as

Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett

than the germ of a suggestion which would be in the course of another year largely developed. He alluded, of course, to that part of the speech in which his hon. Friend referred to public works and the development of railways in India. He desired to call his attention to a practical question connected with his Amendment. It related to the increase and the stability of British trade in the Persian Gulf and on the Rivers Tigris and Euphrates. At present that region afforded the best promise of an increase of British interests with regard to trade. It was, however, quite an anomalous state of things that our Consuls and Representatives at Bagdad, Muscat, Bushire, and other places in that region should be paid out of Indian funds. The reason why the anomaly existed was that, to a certain extent, it was not an anomaly before the construction of the Suez Canal, because no part of the earth had been so affected by that construction. In 1860, before the construction of the Suez Canal, the amount of tonnage in the Persian Gulf did not exceed 3,000. Last year it was 60,000, and there was no increase comparable to that in any other part of the world. He believed there was a small Steamship Company, acting under a Firman granted by the Porte, plying on the Tigris from the Persian Gulf to Bagdad. This Company was at present in receipt of a subsidy from the Government of India for carrying Her Majesty's mails on the Tigris and Euphrates; and the vessels had been violently laid hands on by the Porte, prevented from discharging cargo or mails, and compelled to go some hundreds of miles to Bushire. He was disposed to think that this high-handed conduct on the part of the Porte was due to the fact that Her Majesty's Government was not properly and directly represented as it should be in those places. Consequent upon the opening of the Suez Canal and the abridgment of the distance from this country, these regions had become more important than ever in the interests of England; and it was a monstrous abuse of our power that we should impose these charges upon India, and in the highest degree short-sighted in the interests of this country not to have officials there directly responsible to Her Majesty's Government. He hoped that next year the India Office would agree to the appoint-

ment of a Select Committee to consider the agricultural condition of India in connection with the Report of the Famine Commission. He concluded by moving his Amendment, not intending to press it, but hoping that some satisfactory statement on the subject would be made by the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

Amendment proposed,

To leave out the word "That" to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "in the interests of India and of the United Kingdom, it is desirable that India should not bear the charge of the Consular and Agency expenditure on the Persian Gulf, and upon the Tigris and Euphrates, and that the concerns of British trade and commerce in Western Asia should be in the hands of officers more completely responsible to the Home Government,"—(Mr. Arthur Arnold.)

—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question."

Mr. E. STANHOPE, without wishing to enter into the collateral question raised by the hon. Member for Salford (Mr. Arnold), observed that in 1879-80 a Special Committee inquired into the incidence of these charges between India and England; and his impression was that the Committee were of opinion that, on the whole, the existing arrangement was the best. He had listened, in common with everybody in the House, with great interest to the able and lucid Statement of the Under Secretary of State, and was only sorry he had not had an opportunity of making it earlier in the Session. He should like to point out the new position in which they stood in regard to Indian matters in consequence of the New Rules of Procedure. Hitherto it had been possible to bring Indian questions forward on going into Committee of Supply; but now they could only bring on Motions germane to the Votes. Thus there was hardly an opportunity during the Session of raising Indian questions, except on the Indian Financial Statement, or when a private Member was successful in the ballot. The result, he was afraid, would be—possibly even next year—that those who desired to speak on the condition of our Indian Empire would be forced to take the occasion of the Address in reply to the Queen's Speech, unless the Government afforded them some better opportunity earlier in the Session than at

present. In listening to the Under Secretary's speech he could not help thinking that the hon. Gentleman was a good deal overshadowed by the discussion which took place on the question of the reduction of the Indian Expenditure, because a great part of that speech was taken up in apologizing for certain items, and in pointing out that, after all, they were being gradually reduced, and that with regard to others he hoped the Expenditure would be increased. He did not think it necessary to point out the fallacy of comparing one year's Expenditure with another's by simply contrasting the gross Expenditure. He had endeavoured to prove the other day, when he brought forward a Motion which was accepted by the House, that the Expenditure now was £3,500,000 larger than in 1880; and he was not aware that any attempt had been made to controvert that proposition. The only reply of the Under Secretary of State for India was that, although this might be true, the Expenditure of the present Government was upon good objects; that of the late upon wicked objects. He did not know that the Liberal Party had a monopoly for doing good in India. But that had nothing whatever to do with the question. The argument would be quite germane if they were discussing whether the Afghan War were just or unjust; but now that they were endeavouring to compare the ordinary Expenditure of one year with that of another, it was trifling with the question to drag in extraordinary Expenditure of that kind, and so leading people away from examining into whether the ordinary expenditure had been increased or decreased. He assumed, as a matter of fact, that the ordinary Expenditure had been increased by £3,500,000; and when the hon. Gentleman said that the reductions which took place in 1879-80 were not to the advantage of India—of which he made a very considerable point—he would like to ask the hon. Gentleman what caused those reductions? In the first place, the Government for the time being examined very carefully into the condition of financial affairs in India, and came to the conclusion that it was right that a considerable reduction of Indian Expenditure should take place. They made proposals to Parliament to that effect; and how were they met? The Prime Minister stood up in that House and told

them his objection to those reductions, which were now said not to be to the advantage of India, was that they were inadequate; and he urged the House not only to accept the reductions then proposed, but to reduce the Expenditure of India by no less than £4,000,000 in addition. With regard to the item of Public Works, the Under Secretary spoke as if the Government had made a new discovery that Public Works were a good thing for India; but Lord Salisbury, during the time he was at the India Office, had probably done more for the development of Public Works in India than any previous Secretary of State. He (Mr. Stanhope) desired most heartily that Public Works should be pushed forward as the finances of India could afford and the material condition of the country would justify, but not to push them on in advance of the material condition of the people. He contended that they ought to maintain a fixed policy, to say what amount it would be justifiable to spend over a reasonable series of years, and not to allow that amount to be exceeded by the pressure which came from all quarters. When the hon. Gentleman pointed out to them that the Effective Charge for the Army in India had been reduced during the present year, he stated that he (Mr. Stanhope) was heartily glad to hear it. But he was exceedingly sorry to hear that, although the Government had undoubtedly taken steps which had the effect at present of reducing the Effective Charges for the Government in India, they had also taken the very decisive step of rejecting all the proposals for the reduction of Army Expenditure made in the Report of the Simla Commission. The House had been unfortunately kept in the dark as to what those proposals were, and he protested against the action of the Government in that respect. The time had come when Papers giving full information ought to be before the House. It was all very well to say that the Correspondence was not complete; but no Indian Correspondence ever was complete. He feared it was too late now to make any remarks upon those proposals with the hope of inducing the Government to regretted that he called upon in that position he considered a misfortune.

Mr. E. Stanhope

finance should be called away from India just as he had begun to thoroughly understand the finance of that country. Happily, Major Baring was able to leave the finance of India in a sound position. He (Mr. Stanhope) also regretted that Sir Louis Mallet was no longer able, on account of ill-health, to continue at the India Office; he could only hope that that gentleman would long be spared to serve his country in other ways. Reference had been made to the relations with Afghanistan. He did not desire to dwell upon that matter; but he hoped the Government were going to produce Papers in regard to it. They all knew perfectly well there had been recent negotiations with the Ameer of Afghanistan. The Ameer had expressed a desire to visit India; but for what purpose they were not told. Now, apparently, the journey had been abandoned. The hon. Gentleman the Member for Eye (Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett), in an able and instructive speech, had introduced the question of the Ilbert Bill. Although the matter had been very little mentioned in the House, it was one of the deepest importance to all those who took an interest in the affairs of India. There were some hon. Members who were in the habit of alleging that the fears of the Anglo-Indians on this subject were exaggerated. It ought to be remembered that the people who were in the best position to judge were those who had had experience of India by living among the population, and who knew the difficulties with which the Anglo-Indians had to contend. There were many who thought that the Anglo-Indians had established most conclusively that the privileges it was now proposed to take away from the Europeans were the important safeguards against the real danger. Who was it who held that opinion? The Judges of the High Court of Calcutta held that opinion. They were well qualified to form an impartial opinion on the subject. After quoting the speech of Sir Stuart Bayley in the debate of March 9, in which he pointed out the dangers to which it was stated the Europeans in India would be subject, they said—

“The Judges concur in the views here expressed; and they consider that the dangers thus described in the case of planters and manufacturers would be even greater in the case of persons in a humbler position in life, railway employees, artificers, and the like. These men

are continually brought into contact with Natives in ways which may easily give rise to misunderstandings and ill-will. Should an accusation be brought against them, they labour under great disadvantages; they are often isolated from other Europeans; they generally have but an imperfect acquaintance with the vernacular languages; they are unable to retain the costly services of European advocates; and they might, in some circumstances, find it impossible to secure the assistance even of Native practitioners. It is easy to see how the grossest injustice might easily be inflicted in such cases by an officer who from any cause fails fully to realize the position of the accused. It is, at any rate, certain that Europeans of this class would feel an entire want of confidence in any but an European tribunal. On the whole, after making every allowance for temporary excitement and agitation, it is, the Judges think, impossible to doubt that European residents in the Mofussil do really consider themselves to be, and in fact are, in a position which justifies them in regarding this privilege of being tried by an European, on whose independence and impartiality they can fully rely, as one of very real importance to them.”

That opinion so held by the Judges was the opinion which up to this time had been held by all authorities on the subject of the Government of India. He would venture to quote again a remark which was made on the subject by Lord Lawrence. Writing in 1867, Lord Lawrence said, in regard to the re-admission of Natives to the Civil Service—

“In arriving at this decision the Government of India has not overlooked the circumstance that Natives entrusted with administrative duties have a difficulty in dealing with independent Europeans. The Governor General in Council expects that the local Administration will frame their proposals with due regard to the expediency of providing English officials for all districts in which European settlers or travellers abound.”

That was the opinion of Lord Lawrence; but it did not appear to be the opinion of the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Birmingham (Mr. John Bright), who had spoken of the opposition to this Bill in most contemptuous terms. The right hon. Gentleman had said that all the opposition came from the lawyers, not hesitating to attribute the meanest motives to his political opponents; and he added that the reason why the Judges objected to it was that a Native was recently appointed as Acting Chief Justice at Calcutta. A more impertinent insinuation he (Mr. Stanhope) never heard of; and if it had not come from a person in the position of the right hon. Gentleman he would not have noticed it. The right hon. Gentleman would be

very much surprised to hear that all those Judges and all those Civil servants were just as much devoted to India as he was, and that they were just as anxious that the relations between Europeans and Natives should be improved—and, what was more, they had laboured during a long and trying career in India to effect that object. He should not be surprised that many of those gentlemen should be deeply hurt by that observation of the right hon. Gentleman. The fact was, the opposition to the Bill did not come from the lawyers. It was quite true that the legal element was as much opposed to the Bill as the Civil servants, nine-tenths of whom, both in India and England, were opposed to it. ["No!"] He said that deliberately; and, what was more, there were many Natives opposed to it. It was, in short, a case of experience against sentiment. Was experience to go for nothing? Those most opposed to the Bill had spent their lives in India; they had experience of what Native Judges could and could not do; and what they said ought to be weighed by the Government before anything was done. Not one single Local Government in India was in favour of the Bill, as it had been introduced, and the two principal Governments concerned—those of Bengal and Assam—were opposed to it in every form, and desired to have it withdrawn. Now, what were the grounds for the Bill? None whatever had been alleged. No one had seriously ventured to put forward the idea that there was any real inconvenience which required a remedy. On that subject the Judges were entitled to express a very strong opinion, and they told us not only that there was no inconvenience now, but that there was in the immediate future no prospect of any, and they went on to say that the course of legislation since 1793 had been invariably against the policy of the measure. They also pointed out that it was contrary to the settlement of 1872. The deliberative compromise then arrived at was that there should remain on the Statute Book this special privilege of Europeans in India. He had not been able to discover in all the papers he had read any reason for the proposal, except the one broad ground that it was desirable to abolish all race distinctions in India. The answer to that was that it

was impossible to do so. Race distinctions necessarily arose in consequence of our position as a Governing Body, and if they were to be got rid of Natives would have to give up far more of them than Europeans. He would like to read a short passage from a speech of Sir James Stephen, who was a great authority. Sir James Stephen said—

"In countries situated as most European countries are, it is, no doubt, desirable that there should be no personal laws; but in India it is otherwise. Personal as opposed to territorial laws prevail here on all sorts of subjects, and their maintenance is claimed with the utmost pertinacity by those who are subject to them. The Mahomedan has his personal law, the Hindoo has his personal law. Native women, who, according to the custom of the country, ought not to appear in Court, are excused from appearing in Court. Natives of rank and influence enjoy, in many cases, privileges which stand on precisely the same principle; and are English people to be told that, while it is their duty to respect all these laws scrupulously, they are to claim nothing for themselves? That while English Courts are to respect, and even enforce, a variety of laws which are thoroughly repugnant to all the strong convictions of Englishmen, Englishmen who settle in this country are to surrender privileges to which, rightly or otherwise, they attach the highest possible importance? I can see no sound or reason for such a contention. I think there is no country in the world, and no race of men in the world, from whom a claim for absolute identity of law for persons of all races and all habits comes with so bad a grace as from the Natives of this country, filled, as it is, with every distinction which race, caste, and religion can create, and passionately tenacious as are its inhabitants of such distinctions."

Some contended that the opposition to the Bill was contrary to the policy of the Act of 1833, which laid it down that no Native, by reason of race, religion, and so on, should be disqualified. But could anyone say it was possible to carry out that principle in every case? [Sir GEORGE CAMPBELL: Hear, hear!] Was the hon. Gentleman who cheered prepared to appoint a Native Governor General of India? Did he think that within any reasonable distance of time Natives could be so appointed? Lord Ripon was anxious to shift the responsibility from himself, for he said—

"The great change which has taken place in regard to this question from an administrative point of view has been that made by Lord Lytton's Govern-

and he was Lytton's rule," came for this mea-

Mr. E. Stanhope

did more for the admission of the Natives into the Public Service than most Governors General, and a great deal more than Lord Ripon by this Bill could possibly effect. Lord Lytton, in accordance with an Act passed in 1870, when the present Prime Minister was at the head of the Government, framed Rules for the larger admission of Natives into the Public Service. There was no suggestion from the opponents of the Bill that the Natives should be kept out of the offices then thrown open to them. What they said was that when appointed they ought not to be given a new position for which there was no necessity and no justification. His own opinion was that the chief importance of the Bill was derived from the fact that it followed so close upon the heels of the Local Government scheme. That scheme, whether good or bad, was an honest attempt to associate Europeans and Natives in the government of the country, and the experiment was about to be tried by Lord Ripon in all parts of the country and under all possible conditions. The first essential to the success of that scheme was that the Natives and Europeans should meet on the new Board on an equal footing; and at the next moment, when race feeling should be allayed by every means, and when everyone wished to see this Local Government scheme tested fairly, this bomb-shell was thrown in. By so doing they introduced at once race feeling of the most vitally dangerous character; and he was afraid they would find the result would be that a state of affairs had been brought about by which, without conferring any boon on the Natives, they would be taking a course offensive to the Europeans and dangerous to the success of the experiment they were about to try. The Natives believed that we were taking a step which was gradually to lead to the abolition of English and European rule. The Native Press throughout India were endeavouring to teach the people that a new era was about to dawn, and that this Bill was the introduction of a new system, for which they could not be too soon prepared. He should say that he read this morning the language of the Prime Minister yesterday with intense regret. Anything more indiscreet than the sort of language in which he spoke of the Bill as if it were only a step to-

wards a wider policy without limitation as to time, it would be impossible to imagine. Holding the opinion of the Duke of Argyll, and always remembering that our rule rested on the recognition of the fact that we were the stronger, the policy recently adopted was, in his opinion, most unfortunate. There were two ways of ruling a great Empire like India, which included a great number of Europeans and a great number of Native races. One was to raise the Natives to the level of the Europeans, and the other was to bring the Europeans down to the level of the Natives. In the old Roman Empire the former course was always followed. They were doing exactly the reverse; they were levelling down to the Natives. They were taking away privileges which had for a long time been enjoyed by Englishmen, and they were to confer no benefit on the Natives. It would achieve no practical object, and he therefore ventured to enter a protest against it, on the ground that it appeared to him to be full of danger. But he did not yet despair. The reason why he had not brought forward before a specific Motion on the subject was simply this. Now that Lord Ripon had received the opinions of all the Local Governments of India we could not doubt they would have weight with him. There was no one who would deny that those opinions ought to be conclusive. Could they conceive that a measure ought to be passed which not one Local Government said ought to pass, and that it ought to be pressed upon an unwilling European population? He fully admitted the difficulty in which Lord Ripon was placed; but he hoped that even at this hour prudent counsels might so far prevail, and that Lord Ripon would not be carried away by the encouragement he had received from certain Radical Clubs in England; but, looking to the truest interests of India in the future, he would endeavour to avert a danger that must be great, and must increase with agitation in India.

MR. W. FOWLER said, he should not follow the hon. Member who had just spoken on the question of the Ilbert Bill. He (Mr. Fowler) was disposed to think that it would be found that there had been much exaggeration in the minds of the opponents of this mea-

sure, and he was entirely satisfied with the explanations given by the Prime Minister so recently. He desired to confine his remarks to the question of Public Works—a question second to none in its importance. It divided itself into two portions, first, as to works made out of Revenue; and, secondly, as to works constructed by means of borrowed money. As to the former, he never could understand why works which would here be made by means of borrowed money should in India be made out of Revenue. He remembered discussing the matter with Mr. Grant Duff as long ago as 1873, and the only reply he got was that the Government dared not trust itself, or its officers, to increase borrowings. That seemed to him a very poor answer. It might fairly be said that a Government which could not trust itself to select what works were fit to be made was not fit to govern a great Empire. At that moment it appeared, from the paper he held in his hand, that India paid £7,000,000 every year out of Revenue for works most of which would be paid out of borrowed capital at home. The salt tax was almost £6,000,000; so that, in fact, they taxed the people's salt in order to make these works. Then, again, they derived a large revenue from opium—a revenue much disapproved of by many of them. And yet they continued paying for works out of Revenue, as if their taxation were of the most satisfactory kind possible. It was said that the burden of taxation was not heavy in India. That might be so; but so long as they had a salt tax, and a revenue from opium, he should regard with aversion the paying for Public Works out of Revenue. Had India a Parliament it would not be done; and the only explanation of the present position was that she had no Parliament. He would now pass on to the second head—namely, Works paid for out of Borrowed Money. The position of India was certainly very peculiar economically. She had, in fact, enormous surplus produce, but she was deficient in markets. She could not get her wheat to the coast, except at great expense. Where there were no railways, every 20 miles carriage by carts added 1s. a-quarter to the cost of the wheat. So, as had been explained already that day, a great harvest might

be a calamity to the people, because the prices of grain fell heavily, and the cultivator could not sell his surplus at a price sufficient to enable him to pay his taxes or rent. Over great areas there was no railway, and, therefore, no market. The opening of a line from Bhopal to Gwalior, for instance, would, he was assured, bring down 200,000 tons of additional wheat to the ports every year. It was impossible, when considering this matter, not to be struck with the contrast between India and America. In India they had 250,000,000 of people, and 10,000 miles of railways. In America they had 50,000,000 of people, and 100,000 miles of railways. America, in about 40 years, had made 100,000 miles; and India, in about 25 years, had made 10,000 miles. So the resources of America had been developed to an infinitely greater extent than the resources of India. He should like to mention one or two American facts. In Canada the export of wheat had risen from nothing to 5,000,000 bushels a-year since railways had been established there. From Illinois the export of wheat had doubled under the development of the railway system, and the same progress had taken place in Missouri and Nebraska; and in Missouri very little was done before the railways came, though they had much water carriage in that State. The American experience was well summed up by Mr. E. Atkinson, an eminent authority. In 1880, he said—

"In all these great achievements in human progress—in the production or leading forth of the wealth of the mines, the forests, and the soil—it has been the railroad that has made all other inventions worth applying; that has caused abundance to rule where famine might have been."

The importance of this question was evident from the amount of wheat they imported. In the year ending the 31st of this month, they would have imported from all quarters about 20,000,000 quarters of wheat; and he was assured that they could procure the whole of this amount from India, if she only possessed adequate means of transport. It appeared from Sir Peter Baring's cost of 60 miles of coast—
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per quarter per 100 miles, while in India it amounted to nearly 1s. He had no doubt that India would prove to be one great source of supply of wheat in the future, if not the greatest; and he wished to observe that the wheat trade from the Persian Gulf was growing rapidly, and India needed every facility in order to enable her to compete with this important rival. Many improvements might be suggested as to the management of Indian railways. He thought there should be less of Government interference in details; and he thought that Native labour might be more largely used with a most economical result. And Government might do other things. It might encourage the use of good seed; it might promote the establishment of warehouses and of agricultural banks; and it might do much to extend a knowledge of agriculture amongst the people. Two questions arose as they considered this subject—Why were not railways made faster, and why were they not made cheaper? One great objection also arose, and that was as to borrowing money. It was, however, absurd to foresee any real danger in this direction, when they had just heard that the total uncovered Debt of India was only £60,000,000 sterling, and that the railways paid more than 4 per cent on the whole outlay upon them, including the loss of interest incurred in the early days before the traffic had been developed, and when so much money was wasted in construction. But in 1878-9 a Committee of that House resolved that the Government of India ought not to borrow more than £2,500,000 for the purpose of making Public Works. To impose such a limit was, in his opinion, most unbusiness-like. The amount required at any one time must depend on the circumstances of the period. He could understand what hon. Members opposite called "a policy;" but he could not understand "a limit" of money. He was for a policy of the prudent extension of works, without a hard-and-fast line as to the amount to be expended in any one year. Were their railway system really developed, the benefits to India and to England would be great. As to the former, he believed that the land revenues would increase rapidly; and with the improved condition of the people there would be an increased revenue from stamps, and an increased

demand for salt. To quote the words of Mr. Juland Danvers, in his last Report on Indian Railways—

"In 1860 not 1 cwt. of wheat had been exported from India; last year, 9,379,236 cwts. were consigned to the United Kingdom."

—Now 19,000,000 cwts. were exported—

"In fact, the indirect are greater than the direct gains, though not measurable with the same exactitude, and to railways is greatly due the extended trade, the increased revenue, the success of the great fiscal reforms which have of late been effected, and the improved condition of the people."

But the people of England would also derive benefit. In the first place, the demand for rails and engines would be of great service to some of their industries. Far more important, however, was the consideration that in taking wheat from India they were dealing with a country with which they had true freedom of trade—a country which took our goods in return free of duty, and not, as in the case of America, a country which imposed on them a heavy duty. So an extension of this trade with India would probably cause a great demand for the produce of their looms. Therefore, for every reason, he asked the House to insist on a consideration of this question, and to refuse to lay down a limit as to the power of the Government to borrow. Those who refused to assist the people of India in the development of their country incurred a great responsibility; and, alike in the interests of England and of India, he asked the House to encourage the Government of India in the great work of extending the means of transport throughout the country.

LORD GEORGE HAMILTON said, he was somewhat dismayed by the speech of the hon. Member (Mr. W. Fowler); because, if it meant anything, it meant the reduction of taxation and unlimited borrowing powers. If that policy were carried out, in a short number of years they would have to impose a great deal more taxation than at present. Not very long ago he saw in a journal with which he believed the hon. Gentleman was connected—*The Economist*—that half the railways in America paid no dividends at all. These Companies had been promoted by enormous grants of land. There was no comparison at all between the United States and India. In America they had

the largest and most fertile territory in the world, in which Europeans could live in comfort all the year round. In India the conditions were exactly opposite. What his hon. Friend the Member for Mid Lincolnshire (Mr. Stanhope) and those who sat on his side of the House advocated in reference to Public Works was that that policy should be continuous. When he was in Office the Government had to deal with Indian finance during a period of great pressure. The present Under Secretary had to deal with a period of great prosperity; and, therefore, what they had said was that, while continuing to spend money on Public Works, the Government should spend a little less money than usual during a period of prosperity, in order that they might be able to spend a little more than usual during a period of pressure. It was a great misfortune that this Financial Statement had been made the second Order of the Day at a Morning Sitting on the last Wednesday of the Session. Private Members had been induced to consent to a curtailment of their privileges in order that more time might be given to the discussion of important Public Business, and this was the practical result. In one part of the speech of the Under Secretary of State for India he entirely concurred—namely, that in which the hon. Gentleman regretted the loss India would sustain of the services of Sir Edward Malet and Sir Evelyn Baring. He could not, however, agree with that portion of the speech which related to the question of exchange. No doubt, the value of gold and silver, like that of other commodities, depended on the law of supply and demand; but it should be borne in mind that the gold was the standard by which the price of silver was calculated. Now, he heard that there was a reasonable prospect of a great discovery of gold in South Africa, and if that occurred, the increased supply of gold would indirectly appreciate silver, and they would once more see it back at something like the figure at which it stood three or four years ago. The hon. Member for Eye (Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett) had introduced the burning question of the Ilbert Bill, and had brought out the obvious objections to that proposal. He would add a few words to his hon. Friend's remonstrances. The right hon. Gentleman the

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Member for Birmingham (Mr. John Bright) outside the House, and the right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister inside the House, had contrived to entirely misunderstand what would be the practical effect of this Bill, and also the nature of the objections to it. The measure was introduced on a false plea. It was said to be intended to remedy an administrative difficulty; but it was clear that difficulty did not now exist. If the Bill passed into law it would certainly raise an administrative difficulty of a most serious character. The right hon. Member for Birmingham assumed that all the Native Civil servants who under the provisions of the Bill, would have criminal jurisdiction over Europeans, were civilians who had undergone a certain course of training in this country. But that was not the case, and in future years the greater bulk of those who would have to administer the Criminal Law would be Natives who never left India at all. What was the objection which lay at the root of the agitation of Europeans against the Bill? It was that they were especially anxious to have false charges made against them. He had seen a remarkable letter from a respected planter in Assam, in which he said—

"The dishonesty of the smaller Native officials in Assam is appalling. It is well known to our officers. False witnesses can be had in any number at every Court. They hang around, sitting under the trees, and can be got to swear and learn their cases beautifully at four annas."

Under these circumstances, was it too much to ask that Europeans should have continued to them the right which they had enjoyed from time immemorial of being tried by men who could speak their language, understand their customs, and appreciate their motives? Last night the Prime Minister likened this Bill to the abolition of slavery; but there could not have been presented a more preposterous simile, because, in this case, the inherent rights of Europeans were to be taken from them without any compensation, whereas, in the abolition of slavery, compensation was given to those who had deprived the negroes of the inherent right of liberty and of apprehension unduly excite passed, and jured evide

prisoned, would not there be an uproar from one end of India to the other, which would make it impossible to proceed with the various schemes for establishing local self-government in India? The idea of establishing local self-governing institutions in India was based on the assumption not only that all Natives were equal, but that Europeans and all Natives were equal. In his opinion, their government of India was strong as long as it confined itself to the discharge of paternal and autocratic power, protecting the large masses of the people from the predatory instincts of a small warlike minority; but it would become weak the moment they instituted local self-government, because the Western idea of self-government was based on the fact that the people of a community were equal, and more or less homogeneous in race, which the people of India certainly were not. A Native Member of Lord Ripon's Council had said that his head, under the dictates of prudence, was in favour of the Bill, but his heart was against it. Such sentiments he (Lord George Hamilton) believed were held by most of the intelligent Natives. The difficulties in the way of this Bill were so many and so great that he hoped the Government would either withdraw it altogether, or that they would modify its provisions in a way that would sooth the apprehensions of Europeans. The Viceroy had a majority in his Council, and the Government had a majority in the House of Commons; and if they cared to make an unwise use of that majority for the purpose of passing into law a Bill which would do more to create race prejudices than any measure which for many years past had been mentioned in connection with India, upon their heads, and upon their heads alone, the responsibility would rest.

MR. SAMUEL SMITH expressed his satisfaction at the excellent and cheering statement of the Under Secretary of State, and congratulated the Government on the remarkable improvement that had taken place in the finance of India in the last few years. He believed nothing would give more satisfaction to the commercial classes of this country than the prospect of an extension of the means of communication with India. There were no two countries in the world capable of a greater increase of

mutual trade than the United Kingdom on the one hand and India on the other. India produced everything we wanted, and we supplied everything India wanted. But this country wanted, above all things, an outlet for her manufactures; and just as we developed the resources of India should we find a market for our commodities. This country always suffered from an over-supply of capital, and India was crying out for capital, and there was needed a bridge to bring the two things together. The great barrier interposed of late years had been the excessive fluctuations in the value of silver. Since 1871 silver had fallen 20 per cent in relation to the value of gold; and the result was that capitalists who had invested money in silver-paying securities had got such a fright that they were not likely to do so again. Where was the inducement to English capitalists to lay out their money? The only inducement they could have was to pay the interest in gold, as the English capitalist would no longer consent to invest his money in countries where the interest was paid in silver. There was no relation between the currencies of the two countries, as there was an incessant see-saw going on. It seemed to him not at all unlikely that they would have another catastrophe in the course of the next few years that would still further reduce the value of silver in relation to gold, and almost put an end to the flow of capital from this rich to that poor country. It was possible that in 10 or 20 years there would be another drop in silver equal to that which had taken place; and he should not be surprised to see the rupee ultimately standing at 1s. instead of 1s. 7d., as it was now, through the unfortunate action of Europe in regard to silver. So long as the present state of things existed it would be hardly possible to devise any means by which the capital of England could be offered in large quantities to India. It was not necessary to submit to this state of things, which was mainly caused by the aversion of our financial classes to the bi-metallic system which France, the United States, and probably Germany would re-establish if this country would join them. He would wish to have a larger opportunity of discussing this matter, which lay at the very foundation of the welfare of India and the

future development of that country; but he would not now do anything more than express the hope that the Government next year would appoint a Royal Commission to inquire into the monetary question, especially in reference to India, and do what nearly the whole of our Indian officials believed in, and give an opportunity of proving to the world that it was quite possible to restore the monetary connection between gold and silver, and thereby pave the way for the future development of the resources of India.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL moved the adjournment of the debate.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Debate be now adjourned."
—(Sir George Campbell.)

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, he hoped the House would agree with the proposal of the hon. Gentleman, and that they would do so without unnecessary delay. The Government supported this Motion in order to enable the House to make progress with three of the Orders of the Day. Those Orders were the consideration of the Lords' Amendments to the Patents Bill, Committee on the Post Office (Money Order) Acts Amendment Bill, and consideration of the Merchant Shipping (Fishing Boats) Bill as amended, and he would undertake not to prolong discussion after a quarter to 6 o'clock. It was proposed to resume the debate on the Indian Financial Statement to-morrow, when the House would meet at 3 o'clock; and after the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill and one or two other Orders had been disposed of, it was proposed to continue the debate on the Indian Financial Statement. He trusted, therefore, that the House would assent to adjourn the debate.

MR. ONSLOW said, that although he did not wish to throw any obstacle in the way of the Motion, he thought it was necessary to draw attention to the extraordinary conduct of the Government in treating a debate upon Indian affairs in this manner. He should like to know the opinion of the Postmaster General upon the subject. The right hon. Gentleman had often protested against the careless treatment which India received at the hands of Parliament; but he feared that since he became a Minister his ideas had somewhat changed. He should like to hear from

the noble Marquess what Bills besides the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill he proposed to take to-morrow, and at what hour the discussion on the Indian Financial Statement was likely to be resumed, as many hon. Members had remained in town at great personal inconvenience in order to take part in it. He entered his protest against what he called a political scandal—namely, that the Indian Financial Statement should be taken on the last Wednesday afternoon in the Session, and then postponed to make way for possibly less important matters.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE BALFOUR said, he hoped that the debate would be resumed to-morrow in ample time for Members who so desired to take part in it.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR said, he felt bound also to make what protest he could against the extraordinary conduct of the Government in this matter. They appeared to consider that the interests of India were sufficiently looked after if the Indian Financial Statement were taken on the last Wednesday of the Session, not as the first Order, so as to secure the whole day for its discussion, but as the second Order; and then, after some three hours' debate upon the fate of an Empire containing more than 200,000,000 of human beings, the House was told that it must make way for Bills of far less importance. The Lords' Amendments to the Patents Bill, which they were asked to consider, and which extended to seven pages, had not been obtainable in the Vote Office longer than an hour. He should, therefore, divide the House against the adjournment of the debate.

MR. J. K. CROSS said, he trusted the hon. Member would not pursue such a course, which would only be wasting the time of the House. It was really important that the Bills referred to by his noble Friend should be taken, and on the following day the debate on India could be resumed.

MR. BIGGAR said, the reason given for the adjournment of the debate was a very poor one indeed. He should support his hon. Division.

The Ho

MR. S. I thought th

Mr. Samuel Smith

sion being challenged, he directed the Noes to stand up in their places.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR: On a question of Order, Mr. Speaker. [*Loud cries of "Order!"*]

MR. SPEAKER: I have to call on the "Noes" to rise in their places.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR (seated, and with his hat on): We are not supporting a dilatory Motion, Mr. Speaker. [*Cries of "Order!"*]

MR. SPEAKER: I have to call on the "Noes" to rise in their places.

MR. HEALY (seated, and with his hat on): On a point of Order, Mr. Speaker, we are not supporting a dilatory Motion. The Rule says any person — [*Loud cries of "Order!"*] We are perfectly in Order. I ask, Mr. Speaker — [*Cries of "Order!"*] We are perfectly in Order. Gentlemen who do not know anything about it might hold their tongues. The Rule, as I understand it, says that when a Motion is made for dilatory purposes, those who are in favour of it must rise in their places. Consequently, it is not permissible in this case. Perhaps, Mr. Speaker, you will read the Rule?

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR: I ask that the Rule be read.

MR. SPEAKER: I will read the Standing Order, and I think that the hon. Members will at once see that the construction which they put upon the Rule is incorrect. The Standing Order is in these terms—

"That, after the House has entered upon the Orders of the Day or Notices of Motion, when, after the House has been cleared for a Division, upon a Motion for the Adjournment of the Debate, or of the House during any Debate, or that the Chairman of a Committee do report Progress, or do leave the Chair, the decision of Mr. Speaker, or the Chairman of a Committee, that the Ayes or Noes have it is challenged, Mr. Speaker or the Chairman may, after the lapse of two minutes, as indicated by the sand glass, call upon the Members challenging it to rise in their places."

I must call upon the "Noes" to rise in their places.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR: I rise — [*Loud cries of "Order!"*]

MR. SPEAKER: Surely the hon. Member, after hearing the Standing Order—

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR: I rise, Sir, to apologize for contesting a ruling which I now see to be right.

MR. SPEAKER: I have to call upon the "Noes" to rise in their places.

Eight Members only having stood up, Mr. Speaker declared the Ayes had it. Debate adjourned till To-morrow.

PATENTS FOR INVENTIONS BILL.

(Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Solicitor General, Mr. John Holms.)

[BILL 261.] CONSIDERATION OF LORDS' AMENDMENTS.

Order for consideration of Lords' Amendments read.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN, in moving that the Lords' Amendments to this Bill be considered, said, he wished to explain that the whole of them had been assented to by the Government. They were either verbal Amendments or Amendments suggested in the progress of the Bill, and would not take very long to deal with.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Lords' Amendments be now considered."—(Mr. Chamberlain.)

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR said, that, notwithstanding the statement of the right hon. Gentleman, he must say that he had endeavoured in vain to understand the Lords' Amendments to this Bill, and by way of drawing the attention of the country to the manner in which its Business was being conducted, he should divide the House upon the Motion.

Question put.

The House divided:—Ayes 81; Noes 16: Majority 65.—(Div. List, No. 314.)

The Clerk then proceeded to read the Amendments, when—

MR. HEALY rose to a point of Order. He wished to know whether the Question should not be put after each Amendment, as it was impossible for the House to understand what they were agreeing to when the Amendments were put *en bloc*?

MR. SPEAKER said, the Amendments were being put in the usual manner, and if any hon. Member objected he had a perfect right to do so.

MR. HEALY said, that if that were the case he should on the next Amendment call out "No."

The Clerk having read three other Amendments,

MR. HEALY again rose, and said that, as a matter of Order, he wished to know whether the Question ought not to have

been put after each of those three Amendments, so that if any hon. Member wished to object to it he might have had an opportunity of doing so?

MR. SPEAKER: If the hon. Member objects to what is being done, he has only to rise in his place and give expression to his objection.

Lords' Amendments as far as Amendment in page 16, line 28, *considered*, and *agreed to*.

It being a quarter of an hour before Six of the clock, Further Consideration, as amended, stood adjourned till *To-morrow*.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS AMENDMENT BILL [Lords].—[BILL 273.]

SECOND READING.

Order for Second Reading read.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a second time."—(*Mr. Hibbert.*)

MR. ONSLOW protested against these measures being proceeded with after a quarter to 6 o'clock, after the promise of the noble Marquess (the Marquess of Hartington).

LORD RICHARD GROSVENOR said, the noble Marquess's promise extended to only three measures which would not be proceeded with after a quarter to 6 o'clock, and these had been disposed of.

MR. ONSLOW objected to the Bill being taken now.

Second Reading *deferred till To-morrow*.

PUBLIC HEALTH (DAIRIES, &c.) BILL [Lords].—[BILL 280.]

(*Mr. Dodson.*)

SECOND READING.

Order for Second Reading read.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a second time."—(*Mr. Hibbert.*)

MR. WARTON: I object.

MR. HIBBERT appealed to the hon. and learned Member to withdraw his opposition, as the Bill was likely to be productive of much good.

MR. WARTON: But I do object.

Second Reading *deferred till To-morrow*.

Mr. Healy

UNION OFFICERS' SUPERANNUATION (IRELAND) BILL.—[BILL 132.]

(*Mr. Herbert Gladstone, Mr. Trevelyan, Mr. Attorney General for Ireland.*)

COMMITTEE.

Order for Committee read.

MR. O'KELLY said, he hoped that the Bill would be discharged, as there was no possibility of passing it this Session.

MR. CALLAN said, that he, on the contrary, hoped that it would be kept on the Paper, and passed if possible.

MR. HERBERT GLADSTONE said, the Bill was put down for to-morrow.

Committee *deferred till To-morrow*.

NATIONAL DEBT BILL.—[BILL 287.]

(*The Chairman of Ways and Means, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Courtney.*)

CONSIDERATION OF LORDS' AMENDMENTS.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (MR. CHILDERS) said, that this Bill had come back from the Lords with a merely technical Amendment; and he trusted, therefore, that the House would allow it to be considered.

MR. O'KELLY: I object.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (MR. CHILDERS) appealed to the hon. Member to withdraw his objection and to allow the Bill to be proceeded with.

MR. O'KELLY: I object, I object.

Lords' Amendments to be considered *To-morrow*, and to be *printed*. [Bill 304.]

House adjourned at five minutes before Six o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS,

Thursday, 23rd August, 1893.

MINUTES.]—SELECT COMMITTEE.—*Report*—Harbour Accommodation * [No. 222].

PUBLIC BILLS.—*West Riding—Consolidated Fund* (Appropriation).

Second Reading—Office (Mr. (219).

Committee—*Discharge* Fr

Third Reading—Bankruptcy * (211); Corrupt Practices (Suspension of Elections) * (198); Medals * (208); Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland) * (205); Public Works Loans * (209); Labourers (Ireland) * (183); Municipal Corporations (Borough Constables) * (214), and *passed*.

MERCHANT SHIPPING (FISHING BOATS) BILL.

(*The Lord Thurlow.*)

CONSIDERATION OF COMMONS' AMENDMENTS.

Order of the Day for the Consideration of Commons' Amendments read.

Moved, "That the Commons' Amendments to this Bill be now considered."—(*The Lord Thurlow.*)

VISCOUNT SIDMOUTH asked whether there were any regulations in the Bill as to the inspection of fishing boats?

LORD THURLOW said, that that question had been very carefully considered, and there were very minute regulations upon that point.

Motion agreed to; Commons' Amendments *considered*, and *agreed to*.

POST OFFICE (MONEY ORDERS) ACTS AMENDMENT BILL.—(No. 219.)

(*The Lord Thurlow.*)

SECOND READING.

Order of the Day for the Second Reading read.

LORD THURLOW, in moving that the Bill be now read the second time, said, that the object of the Bill was to extend the use of postal orders to the Colonies. It was intended that the commanding officers of vessels serving abroad should be authorized to issue these postal orders to the men serving under them, in order that they might be able to transmit readily their wages to their friends. Under the Post Office Money Orders Act, 1880, the Post Office had no power to deviate from the prescribed amount for which orders were made, and under this Bill the Postmaster General took power to deviate in the amount of postal orders within the limits of 1s. and £1.

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^a."—(*The Lord Thurlow.*)

Motion agreed to; Bill read 2^a accordingly; Committee *negatived*; and Bill to be read 3^a *To-morrow*.

OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE PARLIAMENTS, AND OFFICE OF THE GENTLEMAN USHER OF THE BLACK ROD.

Moved, "That the Second Report from the Select Committee be considered."—(*The Earl of Redesdale.*)

THE EARL OF CAMPERDOWN said, he must express his satisfaction with the selection that had been made for the Office of Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod. He had no doubt that the gallant Officer who had been appointed might be relied on to bear in mind their Lordships' recommendation as to filling up vacancies in the Office with old soldiers and sailors.

Motion agreed to.

Second Report *considered* (according to order), and *agreed to*.

METROPOLITAN IMPROVEMENTS— STATUE OF THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON.

QUESTION. OBSERVATIONS.

LORD STRATHEDEN AND CAMPBELL, in rising to ask Her Majesty's Government, What course it is intended to adopt with reference to the equestrian statue of the late Duke of Wellington, said: My Lords, I have put this Notice on the Paper not only with a view to ascertain the mode in which Her Majesty's Government propose to deal with the equestrian statue of the late Duke of Wellington, but to indicate the course which I think may recommend itself to this House and to the public. I have long intended to offer some remarks upon the question, and am not impelled to do so by the correspondence in the journals it has recently elicited, although that correspondence is entitled to attention from your Lordships. The whole change by which the statue has been displaced seems to me erroneous. With no authority from Parliament, a large and intricate derangement has occurred. The Green Park, which concerns the masses of the people, has been seriously limited. Constitution Hill, which is associated with a memorable era, has been wantonly encroached upon. The ordinary passenger on foot, who comes on the right hand side from Kensington to London, when he reaches Hyde Park Corner is exposed to the necessity of

walking among carriages about 300 yards, or else of crossing Piccadilly. Last of all, the statue of the late Duke of Wellington has been removed from a site which, if at first it led to hesitation and to criticism, has during many years enjoyed the favourable suffrage of the millions who habitually looked up to it. There was another and a stronger ground for leaving it inviolate. The late Duke of Wellington was known to value, known to approve, and known to be tenacious of it. This circumstance is rendered clear by a passage in the recent *Life of Bishop Wilberforce*, which bears upon it. I have myself particularly ascertained it during the present year from a well-known member of society whose name I will not mention, but who had uncommon access to the late Duke of Wellington. The statement does not, therefore, merely rest upon a general impression or a general tradition. Now, the principle might safely be advanced that such men as the late Duke of Wellington are better qualified than others to detect the point from which their statues may convey a useful lesson to posterity. The choice of a position was the very matter to which his eye had been habitually directed. But, putting that aside, to hold his wishes sacred would be no exaggerated tribute, if any tribute was desirable. Should critics still maintain that such a want on his part was imaginary, the true answer will burst to many lips—as a great poet has supplied it—

"O reason not the need, the basest beggar
Is in the meanest things superfluous;
Allow to nature but what nature needs,
Man's life is cheap as beast's."

However, I will only add a word as to the course which may be taken to approximate as far as possible to an instruction so authoritative, and to reduce to the lowest point the wanton deviation from it. The figure may be placed upon the arches in line with Apsley House, which are not yet enveloped in the ruin the Board of Works has fancifully organized. In the artistic world this counsel has been urged already. There is one decisive reason in its favour. The locality of Hyde Park Corner for many years has concentrated the memorials of the late Duke of Wellington, such as Apsley House, the statue of Achilles, the statue which engages us. That concentration ought not to be tam-

pered with. It is the reward and the attraction of innumerable travellers. We must remember that, although we are familiar with it London does not belong only to ourselves, but to the world, the Colonies, the Empire. We ought not to disturb a scene which has become the property of Europe, India, or Australia. But if we only think of what is near the concentration I allude to keeps the Duke of Wellington more vividly before us, and thus retards, at least, the period of national decline, which the Board of Works, no doubt, would joyfully accelerate. I put the Question on the Paper.

VISCOUNT SIDMOUTH said, he ventured to ask the Government to take into consideration the fact that the statue, ugly as it was, was from a portrait of the Duke and the horse he rode, and therefore, was of great historical value. If it were destroyed, it could never be replaced. Although it was impossible that any horse could have had such a head, still it was taken from the celebrated "Copenhagen."

THE EARL OF ELLENBOROUGH said, that if the statue were destroyed it would give general dissatisfaction, and would be regrettable, because it had been viewed with some satisfaction by the Duke himself, who being free from personal vanity, in his characteristic manner, said that "it would do as well as anything else;" and he trusted the Government would have it replaced in its former position as far as was practicable.

THE EARL OF MILLTOWN asked whether the Government would consider the expediency of replacing the statue on the arch? That would save great expense; and he thought that many people would be glad to find an old friend back very much as they had been accustomed to see him.

LORD THURLOW begged to inform the noble Lord, in reply to his Question, that the Committee to whom the Financial Commissioner of Works referred the subject, had unanimously expressed the opinion that the statue should be recast, that a smaller statue more or less of the same character should be made, and that it should be erected on the site where it now stood. Her Majesty's Government would submit a Vote to Parliament early next Session on that subject, and until that time no action of a kind on the matter would be taken.

Lord Stratheden and Campbell

the Government. He thought, perhaps, that reply might be satisfactory to the noble Lord opposite who had joined in the discussion. He was afraid that he could not hold out any hope that the statue would be replaced on the arch.

THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH said, he regretted extremely the decision which had been come to, and thought it was a great mistake. To break up the statue was a very barbarous idea. There was no doubt that it was not a wonderful work of art; but let those who complained of it on that score look at the equestrian statues in Trafalgar Square and the City. As a portrait of the Duke and his horse the statue was excellent, and he did not think it could be repeated and made so good. Everything about it was good except the feathers in the cocked hat, which could easily be removed. There were other parts of the country which would be glad to have the statue, and why not let them have the opportunity of accepting it? An artistic horse was not necessarily like a real horse; generally it was not. He believed that the public would be disappointed if the statue were destroyed, and an imaginary man and an imaginary horse, highly artistic, perhaps, in character, were put in its place.

EARL FORTESCUE said, he thought that the statue, with all its demerits, which, in his opinion, were much exaggerated, presented a *bonâ fide* portrait of the man and the horse; and it would be well to pause before incurring a great waste of public money and substitute another statue with a very doubtful prospect of effecting any real improvement.

THE EARL OF REDESDALE (CHAIRMAN of COMMITTEES) said, there was no doubt the statue was identified in a great degree with the Duke himself, who took an interest in its execution and also in the likeness of the horse. It might not be a perfect work; but who could guarantee that any new work would be perfect or good?

EARL GRANVILLE said, he considered that the First Commissioner of Works had followed the most sensible course in regard to that matter. He had taken the advice of some of the most recognized good judges on the question—architects, painters, sculptors, and gentlemen who had devoted all their lives to such subjects, and he had also put

on the Committee the nearest Representative of the Great Duke himself. Those Gentlemen had come to an unanimous decision, and he was surprised that their Lordships should seek to override it. Whatever might be the opinion of some individual critics, he thought it would be very inadvisable to insist on that statue being replaced where it was before. The Great Duke's feelings had been referred to. Now he understood from high authority that when the Duke was appealed to on the matter, his answer was that he did not wish the statue to go up there, but being up there, there would be something ridiculous in taking it down. That action having, however, been taken, it would surely add to the ridiculous, which ought to be wholly disconnected from the Duke's name, if that statue were to be put up again in the same place.

MALTA—THE MALTESE NOBILITY— COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGE.

MOTION FOR AN ADDRESS.

VISCOUNT SIDMOUTH, who had given Notice that he would ask the noble Earl the Secretary of State for the Colonies, if he will place on the Table the last Report of the Committee of the Maltese Nobility on the claims of certain members of that body, said, that the noble Earl was not now in his place; but he understood that there would be no objection to the production of that Report.

Address for, "Last Report of the Committee of the Maltese Nobility on the claims of certain members of that body,"—(*The Viscount Sidmouth*),—*agreed to*.

House adjourned during pleasure; and resumed by The Earl of Cork and Orrery.

AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS (ENGLAND)

BILL.

Returned from the Commons with the amendment made by the Lords to which the Commons had disagreed and on which the Lords have insisted *agreed to*; and with the further amendment made by the Lords *disagreed to*, with a reason for such disagreement: The said reason to be printed, and to be considered *To-morrow*. (No. 220.)

AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS (SCOTLAND)

BILL.

Returned from the Commons with the amendment made by the Lords to which the Com-

mons had disagreed and on which the Lords have insisted *agreed to*; with the amendment made by the Commons to an amendment made by the Lords to which the Lords have disagreed *not insisted on*; with the amendment made by the Lords to an amendment made by the Commons to the Lords amendments *agreed to*; and with the further amendment made by the Lords *disagreed to*, with a reason for such disagreement: The said reason to be *printed*, and to be considered *To-morrow*. (No. 221.)

CONSOLIDATED FUND (APPROPRIATION)
BILL.

Read 1^a; and to be read 2^a *To-morrow*: (The Earl Granville); and Standing Order No. XXXV. to be considered *To-morrow* in order to its being dispensed with.

House adjourned at Twelve o'clock,
till *To-morrow*, half past
Three o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Thursday, 23rd August, 1883.

The House met at Three of the clock.

MINUTES.]—NEW MEMBER SWORN—Nicholas Lynch, esquire, for the County of Sligo.

PUBLIC BILLS—*Second Reading*—Committee—*Report*—Considered as amended—*Third Reading*—Factories and Workshops Amendment * [273], and *passed*.

Third Reading—Consolidated Fund (Appropriation), and *passed*.

Withdrawn—Public Health (Dairies, &c.) * [280]; Union Officers Superannuation (Ireland) * [132]; High Court of Justice (Continuous Sittings) * [233].

PRIVATE BUSINESS.

MILFORD DOCKS BILL.

CONSIDERATION OF LORDS' AMENDMENTS.

Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That, in the case of the Milford Docks Bill, Standing Order 246 be suspended, and that the Lords' Amendments to the Bill be now taken into Consideration."—(*Sir Charles Forster.*)

MR. CALLAN said, some documents had been placed in his hands within the last quarter of an hour which were really of a startling nature, and he thought that, under the circumstances disclosed in those documents, the House ought not to consent to suspend the Standing Order. Standing Order 246

provided that when Amendments made by the House of Lords to any Private Bill were to be considered, one clear days' Notice thereof should be given. Now, that was a very wise provision because it allowed the parties concerned time to prepare their respective cases. He would not have risen to oppose the present Motion were it not for a statutory Declaration which had been made by a celebrated officer in the Army. [Captain AYLMER: Oh, oh!] Notwithstanding the interruption of the hon. and gallant Member for Maidstone, he maintained that, unlike the hon. and gallant Member himself, Lieutenant Colonel Hope was a celebrated officer in the Army, and did not belong to the Militia. Lieutenant Colonel Hope had earned the Victoria Cross, and his words, therefore, were in his (Mr. Callan's) opinion worthy of great respect. The statutory Declaration to which he referred was as follows:—

"I, Lieutenant Colonel William Hope, V.C. of the Army and Navy Club, Pall Mall, in the City of Westminster, do solemnly and sincerely declare that I have read the Petition of Samuel Lake to the House of Lords, praying for a investigation into the charges brought by him against the officials of the Milford Docks Company, and into the effect of the provisions of the Bill now pending. I have also read two 'Statements' circulated by the promoters of the Bill in reply to the said Petition, and I do solemnly and sincerely declare that, as my name is mentioned by both sides, I consider it my duty to come forward and declare that almost every one of the allegations in the said Petition is true to my personal knowledge."

That was a clear and specific statement made by a Lieutenant Colonel in the British Army, holding the Victoria Cross. Lieutenant Colonel Hope went on to say:—

"I also declare that complete legal evidence exists to prove the said allegations. I also declare that the 'Statements' of the promoters are almost, without exception, wholly untrue, often to the knowledge of the promoters and their solicitor, even when appearing to be supported by documents mendaciously alluded to."

Such was the Declaration made in regard to a Bill for which the House of Commons were asked at the end of the Session to suspend a Standing Order.

"And that the 'Statements' also contain matters of the nature of a *suppressio veri* or a *suggestio falsi*. I further solemnly and sincerely declare that I consider it my clear and paramount duty to Her Majesty the Queen to make this Declaration for the purpose of endeavouring to prevent the Royal Assent being

asked to the Milford Docks Bill in its present form. And I make this solemn Declaration, conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of the Statutory Declarations Act, 1835."

That was a very important statement; and now he (Mr. Callan) would read to the House a Statement which he would not have read had it not been substantiated by that Declaration of the holder of the Victoria Cross. The Statement was presented to the House of Lords, and was as follows:—

"The most humble Petition of Samuel Lake, late of No. 1, Victoria Street, in the City of Westminster, in the county of Middlesex, and of Milford Haven, in the county of Pembroke, and of Felixstowe, in the county of Suffolk, late a contractor for public works, railway lessee, and landed proprietor, and now a bankrupt, sheweth—

"1. That a Bill is now pending in your Right Honourable House intitled the 'Milford Docks Bill.'

"2. That your Petitioner was, among other things, contractor for the Milford Docks by deed under seal.

"3. That the present Bill is promoted for the purpose of covering and consecrating a series of forgeries, frauds, perjuries, and malversations, and that it is against public policy and public morality that it should become law.

"4. That your Petitioner undertakes to prove by documentary evidence and oral testimony:—

"A. That the funds authorized by Parliament to be raised have been diverted from the works of the Company.

"B. That the sum of £5,000 was paid by the previous contractor to the promoters.

"C. That only £12,000 of the ordinary shares was subscribed for by the public, upon which one of the Directors, Mr. Frederick Pope, a man of straw, subscribed for £120,000, upon which he never paid one shilling."

That was a grave allegation, and he (Mr. Callan) did not think the House would be inclined to suspend one of its Standing Orders in favour of a Bill against which such an allegation was made, and supported, as it was, on the oath of an eminent officer of Her Majesty's Army.

"D. That upon the strength of this fraudulent subscription the Directors procured a false affidavit to be made before a Justice, and issued debentures."

Did the Directors make such an affidavit, and did they issue debentures? If they did, they certainly committed fraud, forgery, and perjury.

"E. That they then paid about £100,000 to Mr. Appleby, the previous contractor, for work not worth more than £50,000 at the contract prices.

"F. That they then procured to be made forged progress sections and drawings show-

ing much more work than had actually been done.

"G. That the work at the entrance having utterly collapsed, your Petitioner was then called in to remedy it, with the promise of cash payments as follows:—In preference shares at 85, equal to £27,000 in cash; cash from Great Western Railway, £50,000; cash from Great Eastern Steamship Company, £3,000.

"H. That the statement as to the Great Western Company's subscription and the Great Eastern Steamship Company's was false and untrue."

Would any Member of the House get up in his place and state, of his own knowledge, that the Great Western were prepared to pay £50,000, and that the Great Eastern Steamship Company was prepared to pay £3,000? If not, he thought the House would scout this attempt to suspend a Standing Order in favour of a Bill promoted under such circumstances as were disclosed in these Declarations.

"I. That the Company has not yet paid one farthing for the land and foreshore upon which the Docks stand, and of which your Petitioner has a lease for 999 years."

And then there was a charge made against a Public Company. He did not know whether any of the Directors of that Company were present or not; in fact, he did not know who they were; he did not see the statements to which he had called attention until a quarter of an hour ago. [Captain AYLMER: Hear, hear!] The statements, however, were very important in his eyes, because they were supported by the affidavit of a holder of the Victoria Cross, a Lieutenant Colonel in the Regular Army, and not in the Militia; and it was to the latter, he understood, the hon. and gallant Member for Maidstone (Captain Aylmer belonged. The Petition of Lake went on—

"K. That they owe large sums of money as compensation to the landowners and occupiers whose frontage they have cut off.

"L. That they have issued £96,000 of forged debentures.

"M. That a series of Petitions to wind up the Company have been presented to the Court of Chancery."

If so, why should this House step in to interfere between litigants in the Court of Chancery? It would be well that the House should leave the settlement of the matters to the Court of Chancery.

"N. That the Directors procured an affidavit from the late Chairman, Sir E. J. Reed, K.C.B., M.P., to the effect that the Company was perfectly solvent and had funds to the extent of a

quarter of a million sterling, when at that time, as it now turns out, the balance at their bankers was £1 17s. 6d., upon the faith of which affidavit the said Petitions were ordered to stand over."

That was a startling statement; and it was certainly not for the House of Commons to inquire whether it was true or false. The matter was one to be gone into by the Court of Chancery, and not by the House. It was then stated—

"O. That a similar affidavit was made in support of an action of ejectment which the Directors brought against me, and upon which Mr. Justice Pearson granted a decree.

"P. That when the issue of the forged debentures was discovered and denounced by me, the broker who had been instrumental in issuing them, and who is now a Director of the Company and promoter of the present Bill, applied *ex parte* to the Court of Chancery and got himself appointed Receiver."

There were a number of other statements made in the Petition with which he (Mr. Callan) would not weary the House by reading. He thought he had quoted sufficient to show that the House ought not to accede to the present Motion. In the first place, he would ask, as a point of Order, whether this Motion, being objected to, it must not be put off until to-morrow? If that were so, he would not proceed further.

MR. SPEAKER said, he would call the attention of the hon. Gentleman (Mr. Callan) to Standing Order 224, which said—"Except due notice thereof shall have been given." Notice had been given in the House, and, therefore, the present proceedings were quite regular.

CAPTAIN AYLMER said, he was not astonished at the speech of the hon. Gentleman (Mr. Callan) when he said that he had only had the documents from which he had quoted in his possession for a quarter of an hour. It was only necessary to say that this Bill was brought forward on the suspension of the Standing Orders in both Houses of Parliament because the bankrupt contractor left the works in such a state that if Parliament did not come to the rescue they would be washed away during the coming winter. The Standing Orders were suspended when the Bill came before the Committee of the House of Commons, and in the House of Lords the only opposition to the Bill came from the trustees of the bankrupt contractor. At the contractor's instigation, and in order that any claim that he might have under this Bill might be re-

spected, clauses were brought up in the House of Lords which this House was now asked to approve of. Lord Milltown opposed the third reading of the Bill in the other House upon the ground of the allegations of Mr. Lake and Lieutenant Colonel Hope, though he said he would not sully the ears of the House by reading them. Lord Redesdale said there were no grounds to object to the further progress of the Bill, and, therefore, he called upon Lord Milltown to withdraw his opposition. Lord Milltown acceded to the request, and the Bill was read a third time. The object of the hon. Member (Mr. Callan) was that the Standing Order should not be suspended, in order that the Bill should be thrown out. The Bill had passed its third reading in both Houses, and was now only opposed, on the Amendments introduced by the House of Lords, by a Gentleman who was not satisfied were certain clauses inserted. The objection to the Bill was such that the House ought not to be asked to pass it for one moment.

Question put, and agreed to.

Lord Amendments agreed to.

QUESTIONS.

NAVY—H.M.S. "IRIS."

MR. GOURLEY asked the Secretary to the Admiralty, if he will be good enough to inform the House whether the structural strength of the Ocean Cruiser "Iris," in framing, main, and shell plating, is more or less than that of vessels of similar size, and classed 100 A 1 in the Merchant Service, say of the White Star Line; and, if it be correct that her coal endurance is only equal to seven days in ordinary weather, whereas merchant ships of similar size and greater speed possess a coal endurance of over thirty days besides cargo?

SIR THOMAS BRASSEY: Sir, in answering my hon. Friend's Question, it is important to explain that the displacement of the *Iris* is 3,700 tons, while that of the White Star Line is from 7,000 to 10,000 tons. Comparing the *Iris* with a merchant 100 A 1 and frames and are further structure in

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Iris is a double ship from the keel to the upper deck, heavily bulkheaded, and framed to suit these conditions. That the *Iris* is a strong ship was proved conclusively by the small damage sustained when ashore at Port Augusta. The *Iris* has a bunker capacity for 39 days at full speed of 18 knots. Merchant steamers of similar speed but twice the size have coal capacity for seven to ten days. The long coal endurance referred to it in the Question is associated with much lower speed.

EGYPT—THE CHOLERA.

MR. D. GRANT asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether his attention has been drawn to the facts that France has voted a sum of money and Germany has decided to send a scientific commission to Egypt to study and report upon the special conditions of the outbreak of cholera in that Country; and, whether the Report from our own medical officers which is to be laid upon the Table of the House is of the ordinary character, or will it have some elements of scientific investigation and precision so as to be of value in our knowledge of the disease?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: Yes, Sir; the facts are as stated by my hon. Friend. Dr. Hunter has already full instructions to report, for the information of the Sanitary Department of the Local Government Board, on the character and origin of the disease; and, considering the importance of the subject, I have forwarded a copy of the hon. Member's Question to him.

CIVIL SERVANTS OF THE CROWN— ENGAGEMENT IN OTHER EMPLOY- MENTS.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL asked Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, If he can now state the result of his consideration of the Question of general rules regarding the acceptance of paid employments outside their office duties by public servants already remunerated by salary, which gives the State a claim to their whole powers, and that in respect not only to Treasury Officers, but to all Civil Servants, and to Judicial Functionaries, such as the County Court Judge in county Durham, who was alleged to have accepted a paid office in connection with a Committee of Mines and Mineowners in the same county?

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (Mr. CHILDERS): Sir, in reply to my hon. Friend, I have to say that Her Majesty's Government have had this subject under their consideration, but that it involves far greater difficulties than at first sight I anticipated when I replied to my hon. Friend's former Question, and that we have not yet arrived at any decision covering the whole of the Public Service. I had not heard of the case of the County Court Judge in the County of Durham; but I have ascertained from the Lord Chancellor that he is making inquiries on the subject.

WEST INDIES—STIPENDIARY MAGIS- TRATES IN GRENADA.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, with reference to his statement that the Colonial Office disapproved of such a practice as that of the stipendiary magistrate in Grenada, who was himself a planter and employer of indentured labour, Whether the Secretary of State has issued any general rules to Crown Colonies prohibiting stipendiary magistrates, and other officers charged with the protection of Coolies and labourers, from engaging in private occupations which render them interested parties in questions between employers and labourers; and, whether there are any general rules restraining public servants receiving salaries entitling the State to their full powers from engaging in private employments for gain?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: Sir, before issuing any general Rules regulating this matter, the Secretary of State has thought well to inquire by Circular as to how many instances of the kind exist, and the circumstances under which the few cases may have arisen. But I do not withdraw anything from what I said the other day—that the Colonial Office strongly disapprove of magistrates being concerned in any way within their districts with the employment of Coolies and labourers. In reply to the second Question, I will read the 76th of the Colonial Regulations, which runs as follows:—

"All salaried public officers are prohibited from engaging in trade, or connecting themselves with any commercial undertaking without leave from the Governor, approved by the

Secretary of State. As a general rule this prohibition will be made absolute in the case of officers whose remuneration is fixed on the assumption that their whole time is at the disposal of the Government."

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL: Has the hon. Gentleman reason to suppose that Rule is really acted upon?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: Yes, Sir; I apprehend it is.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT—THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.

MR. J. G. TALBOT asked the Vice President of the Council, Whether the paragraph which has appeared in the public journals is correct, to the effect that the London School Board have, in the course of the present year, entered into contracts for ten new schools, and for the enlargement of twenty-two existing schools, at a total outlay of £123,462; and, whether the Education Department, before sanctioning such an outlay, have taken means to satisfy themselves that so large an addition to the schools buildings of the Metropolis is really required, and that no undue competition with existing schools will be thereby sanctioned?

MR. MUNDELLA: Sir, in reply to an inquiry which I have made of the London School Board, I have received the following Statement:—

"The contracts accepted by the Board during the current year, are as follows—Sanctioned by Education Department to August 22, 1883. Eight new schools, accommodation 7,263, amount of tenders £81,661; 11 enlargements, accommodation 3,920, amount of tenders £38,441; total—accommodation 111,183, amount of tenders £120,102."

My answer to the second part of the Question is in the affirmative in every particular. After the School Board has made its proposal, Her Majesty's Inspectors and the Department satisfy themselves, in every case, that the accommodation is required. They are bound to do this under Section 10 of the Act of 1873. I must remind the hon. Member that, apart from the large existing deficiency of accommodation within the Metropolis, the growth of population alone necessitates additional provision for 10,000 children every year. The Census for 1881 showed an increase of population of 600,000 over that of 1871. Of course, the normal increase becomes larger every year.

Mr. Evelyn Ashley

ROYAL IRISH CONSTABULARY—PENSIONS.

MR. SMALL asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland Whether a head constable in the Irish Constabulary who joined before 10th August 1866, and has now served thirty years, of which five years were in the rank of head constable, is entitled on retirement to receive a pension of £91 per annum?

MR. TREVELYAN: Yes, Sir, a head constable retiring under such circumstances would be entitled to the pension stated.

ROYAL IRISH CONSTABULARY—ALLOWANCES TO INVALIDED CONSTABLES.

MR. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland Whether it is the fact that sub-constable Peter Caulfield, of Drumcondra, county Dublin, has been invalided since November 1881, on account of injuries received on duty; whether he is returned unfit for further services by the Medical Board since the 14th March 1883; and whether it is intended to discharge him on the yearly allowance to which he would be entitled under the new Constabulary Act, or under the Act in force when he joined?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, the sub-constable named became non-effective from a fall received, when on duty, in November, 1881. The Medical Board before whom he appeared three times were very doubtful of his case, and thought that, with judicious treatment, he might recover. However, he was returned unfit for further service in March last. His pension was not fixed pending the passing of the new Act, and in the meantime, he became seriously ill and was sent for treatment to Steeven's Hospital, where he still remains. It is proposed to pension him under the new Act. The matter needs inquiry, and will get it.

POOR LAW (ENGLAND AND WALES)—KENSINGTON POOR RATES.

MR. HEALY asked the President of the Local Government Board, How the Parochial Rates made by the Kensington Poor Trustees on the 14th of April last, for the six months ending October next, can be consistently regarded as

outstanding (as set forth in their final notice of warrant of distress); and, if payment is required to be immediately enforced, why such enforcement cannot be resorted to without summoning and issuing such a notice, when they possess the alternative power of distraining, which could be notified at such date without expense, as pursued in the case of all Rates and Taxes whatsoever other than Parochial, viz. Gas, Water, Queen's, &c.?

MR. GEORGE RUSSELL: Sir, parochial rates are made prospectively, and the rates become due as soon as they are made and legally demanded. The rates made by the parochial authority of Kensington in April last are for the purpose of defraying the expenditure during the half-year from the 26th March last; and in order to meet the demands of the Guardians, the Police Commissioners, and other charges, it is essential that the rates should be collected promptly. Before distraining on the goods of a ratepayer for parochial rates, the Statute requires that a warrant of distress should be issued, and this warrant can only be granted after the person in default has been summoned to show cause why the amount has not been paid. The parochial authorities have not, therefore, the alternative of distraining without previous summons. Neither is there any such power with regard to gas and water rates.

POST OFFICE (IRELAND)—THE MAGHERA POSTMISTRESS.

MR. HEALY asked the Postmaster General, Whether it is the fact that the appointment of postmaster in Maghera, county Derry, has been, or is about to be, granted to a leading member of the Local Liberal Association, or to any person entirely ignorant of Post Office duties, in preference to the young lady who managed the office during the illness of the late postmistress; whether the lady in question is quite competent to discharge the duties of the office satisfactorily, and that she had done so for a considerable period; whether she served an apprenticeship of five years in Draperstown to Post Office work; and, will he kindly state upon what principles the appointment will be granted?

MR. FAWCETT: The nomination to the vacant sub-post-office at Maghera rests with the Treasury, and the vacancy was reported to the Treasury yesterday. Three applications in favour of three different persons have reached me—one from the lady to whom the hon. Member refers—and have all been forwarded to the Treasury.

MR. HEALY: When the right hon. Gentleman says the appointment rests with the Treasury, does he mean that the Treasury makes the appointment on the recommendation of the local Member of Parliament, who, in the case of Derry, would be the Attorney General for Ireland?

MR. FAWCETT: The matter rests with the Treasury. I have nothing to do with it.

MR. HEALY: To-morrow I will ask the Secretary to the Treasury a Question on the subject.

MR. COURTNEY: I have nothing to do with these appointments.

MR. HEALY: Then I will ask the noble Lord opposite (Lord Richard Grosvenor).

ROYAL IRISH CONSTABULARY—CASE OF SUB-CONSTABLE PRIOR.

MR. BIGGAR asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether, in the latter end of June last, Sub-Constable Prior was fined £5 at Belfast Petty Sessions for an assault on a man named Offeair; and, whether Prior still continues in the service?

MR. TREVELYAN: The constable was fined, but lodged an appeal, and entered into recognizances to appear. Pending the hearing of the appeal at the September Sessions no action can be taken in the case.

ROYAL IRISH CONSTABULARY— POLICE FORCE AT GLIN, CO. LIMERICK.

MR. O'BRIEN asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether it is the case that the police force in the town of Glin, county Limerick, is left in charge of an acting-constable named O'Brien; and, whether it is usual to give so important a charge to a policeman of inferior rank?

MR. TREVELYAN: I am informed that it is usual, when a constable is not available, to place an acting constable in charge of small outposts such as Glin;

and that acting constable O'Brien, a senior man in his rank who will very soon be promoted, was selected as having good local knowledge, and being otherwise well fitted for the post.

THE MAGISTRACY (IRELAND)—
KILDARE INFIRMARY.

Mr. O'BRIEN asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether the decision of the cesspayers, refusing to renew the presentment for the Kildare Infirmary, was overridden by the votes of magistrates, four of whom were Governors of the Infirmary; whether their votes were legal; and, whether there is any authority empowered to institute an independent inquiry into charges touching the management of the Infirmary?

Mr. TREVELYAN: Sir, I stated, in reply to a former Question, how the majority which carried the presentment was composed as regards magistrates and cesspayers. Four of the magistrates who voted in the majority were Governors of the Infirmary. I am not prepared to say whether or not their votes were legal. It is not a question for the Executive to decide. I am advised that it is open to any cesspayer, who may think the votes illegal, to question their validity in the ordinary course of law, either before the going Judge of Assize, or by application to the High Court of Justice. As regards the concluding paragraph of the Question, the Local Government Board have power to examine into the administration of a county infirmary supported by Grand Jury presentment. They have not been applied to to exercise that power in this case.

HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE (IRELAND)—
—SITTINGS OF THE PROBATE AND
MATRIMONIAL DIVISION.

Mr. O'BRIEN asked Mr. Attorney General for Ireland, During how many full days Judge Warren, of the Probate and Matrimonial Division, conducted business in Court within the last twelve months; in how many cases were appeals taken from his decisions; and, in how many of these cases were his decisions upheld.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, the officers of the Court were at present absent, and he was not able to procure a Return

of the number of days on which the Court sat during the past 12 months. He could undertake to say, however, that there were no arrears. Of the appeals made, the decisions of the Judge were upheld in the four cases tried.

Mr. O'BRIEN: Can the right hon. and learned Gentleman state the number of days the Judge sat?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, he could not.

MADAGASCAR—THE FRENCH AT
TAMATAVE—CASE OF THE REV. M.
SHAW.

SIR JOHN HAY asked Mr. Attorney General, Whether there is any power of authority to try a prisoner of war in acts done before his capture by the who make him prisoner, unless detected as a spy and out of uniform; and whether Mr. Shaw, now prisoner large on board a French man of war Tamatave, is a prisoner of war as accused of being a spy?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (SIR HENRY JAMES): Sir, I think the right hon. and gallant Gentleman is under some misapprehension as to the extent of the right of trial exercised by the military tribunals of an army occupying foreign territory for the purposes of war. Under such circumstances, the military tribunals of the occupying army claim jurisdiction to try the inhabitants of the country for any military offence—that is, an offence committed by them against the army itself. I do not think that it would be either convenient or expedient for me to attempt to define the offences which are of such a character as to justify the military tribunals in exercising their jurisdiction; but I certainly can say that such a power is not confined to the instance given by the right hon. and gallant Gentleman in the Question he has put to me.

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW HARBOURS—
ACTION OF THE GOVERNMENT.

Mr. DIXON-HARTLAND asked the President of the Board of Trade, Whether it be the intention of Her Majesty's present Advisers to postpone the construction of all new harbours, especially harbours of refuge, on the coasts of Great Britain and Ireland until the completion of the new harbour works at Dover?

Mr. Trevelyan

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, this Question had been put down under misapprehension. He was not aware of any harbours the Government were constructing at the present time; and, consequently, there could be no postponement.

ARREARS OF RENT (IRELAND) ACT, 1882—THE COLLECTOR GENERAL OF RATES, DUBLIN.

MR. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether the Law Officers have yet decided, with regard to the prosecution of the Collector General for Dublin; and, when he expects to announce the decision of the Lord Lieutenant with reference to the Collector's retention in office?

MR. TREVELYAN: The first paragraph of this Question I have already answered. With regard to the second, the matter is still before His Excellency, who has not yet decided upon it.

MR. HEALY asked whether it was not now two months since this Question was originally put on the Paper; and why was it that the Government, who could so readily proceed against an Irish Member, took such a long time to make up their minds?

MR. TREVELYAN said, he doubted whether the Question was put on the Paper two months ago; but if the hon. Member was sure upon the subject it must have been so. The matter was not in the hands of the Executive first, but in the hands of the Land Commission. It had only come before the Executive for decision within the last seven or eight days, and it was not yet decided upon.

MR. HEALY: May I ask the right hon. Gentleman whether the telegraph is now in working operation between London and Cork?

MR. TREVELYAN said, the Lord Lieutenant, as far as he knew, might have only just received the Papers, and to decide upon the retention of a public servant—he would not say a high servant, but any public servant—was a matter that could not be done off-hand, especially at a distance from the town where that public servant resided.

MR. HEALY said, he should repeat the Question to-morrow.

THE MAGISTRACY (IRELAND)—MR. CLIFFORD LLOYD.

MR. KENNY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If it is a fact that Mr. Clifford Lloyd has been re-appointed Special Resident Magistrate for a period of nine months?

MR. TREVELYAN: Mr. Clifford Lloyd has not been re-appointed, as he has never resigned. I may state, however, that the authority for the employment of Special Resident Magistrates will expire on the 30th of September next.

MR. KENNY: Am I to understand from the right hon. Gentleman's answer that Mr. Clifford Lloyd's appointment will not be continued after that date?

MR. TREVELYAN: The only answer I can give to that is, that up to the 30th September the Special Resident Magistrates will be continued in their position.

VACCINATION—CASE OF E. A. HENNING.

MR. HOPWOOD asked the President of the Local Government Board, If he will inquire into the case of a child named Emily Agnes Henning, of 273, Mayall Road, Herne Hill, aged four months, who was vaccinated on the 25th July, was, within three days, attacked with symptoms of blood poisoning, and died in great suffering on August 15th; whether he is aware that the certificate of death stated the cause to be Erysipelas P. Convulsions S. without mentioning vaccination; and, whether he will cause an inquiry into the circumstances satisfactory to the parents?

MR. GEORGE RUSSELL: Sir, the child was vaccinated on the 25th of July by Mr. Niall, who is not a public vaccinator, and was not attacked with symptoms of blood poisoning within three days after vaccination. The vaccination ran its normal course, and the result on the eighth day after vaccination was regarded as satisfactory by the medical man who had vaccinated the child. One of the vesicles, however, became broken through the rubbing of a piece of muslin, and following on this occurrence a blush of the nature of erysipelas appeared on the arm. This was on the ninth, and not the third day after vaccination. This subsequently spread, and the child died three weeks after vaccination. Having regard to the history

of the case, and to the date when the inflammatory bluish first appeared, it would seem that death resulted from the absorption of some septic matter by the surface of the broken vesicle, and not from the vaccination itself, which, apart from the accident to the vesicle, was running its normal course. Under these circumstances, the primary, and secondary causes of death are, in the Board's opinion, correctly stated in the certificate; and the Board see no sufficient reason for further inquiry.

NATIONAL EDUCATION (IRELAND)—
THE BOARD SCHOOL BOOKS.

MR. BIGGAR asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether an official Letter read by certain inspectors of the Board of National Education to teachers, threatening them with the cancelling of all results fees if they presumed to use any books, stationery, or requisites other than those on the Board's sale stock-list, was signed by Mr. John E. Sheridan, now acknowledged as the author of an English grammar on same list; whether Mr. Sheridan takes part in the selection of books for sale to schools; and, whether any work on English grammar has been marked "objected to" in his office, before being submitted to the Commissioners?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, the Commissioners of National Education inform me that they presume that the first paragraph of this Question refers to a Circular issued in July, 1881, by their order, and signed by their joint Secretaries, Messrs. Newell and Sheridan, directing Inspectors to caution teachers against using objectionable books in their schools, and threatening the cancelling of results fees whenever such warning should be disregarded. With regard to the second and third paragraphs of the Question, the selection of books is made by the Commissioners themselves, and not by either of their Secretaries; and Mr. Sheridan has not marked any books "objected to," except such as had already been condemned by the Board.

MR. BIGGAR asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether, within the past four years, any teachers of national schools have been censured or otherwise punished for using in their schools plain stationery copybooks, or written exercise books,

not sold at the Commissioners' store Dublin; and, whether Her Majesty Government would approve of or sanction such proceedings on the part of the Commissioners or their representatives, especially in cases where it could be proved that the article condemned was superior to that which could be got from the Board at the same price?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, I am informed by the Commissioners of National Education that the rule to which the Question refers is as follows:—

"Teachers are strictly prohibited from using in their schools any books, &c., not expressly sanctioned by the Board, and from making any profit from the sale of requisites to the pupils."

Some teachers persistently violated the rule, and were warned or censured.

year ago the application of the second part of the rule was modified, and the prohibition from making pecuniary profits by the sale of requisites to pupils applies (except in flagrant cases of abuse) only to the books or other requisites issued from the Board's stores. Me blank exercise books, such as are mentioned in the Question, need not be submitted for approval by the Board.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR asked whether a similar kind of supervision was exercised over schools in England; was not a fact that the matter was left entirely in the hands of the local authorities?

MR. TREVELYAN said, he was satisfied that in England, as elsewhere teachers were not allowed to make an inordinate profit out of stationery supplied to their school children.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR: The point wished to direct attention to is this. In England there is practically free trade in the supply of books, whereas in Ireland there is practically a monopoly.

POST OFFICE (TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT)—LEAVE.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR asked the Postmaster General, What is the number of clerks in the Telegraph Department of the Belfast Post Office with less than nine years' service who are allowed three weeks' annual leave, and the number with over nine and not exceeding thirteen years' service who, though performing the same duties, are only granted a fortnight's annual holiday; also the number of clerks in the

Mr. George Russell

Postal Department of the same Office with service not exceeding thirteen years who are granted one month's annual leave; and if there is a single instance of a clerk with long service and good conduct having been transferred from any provincial office to the Telegraph Department of the Liverpool, Manchester, or Glasgow Post Offices, being called upon to perform night duty, and only allowed a fortnight's annual holiday; and, whether in Irish offices, such as Dublin and Belfast, where the duties are precisely the same as in the offices referred to, officials are treated differently in this respect?

MR. FAWCETT: The first of the two Questions put by the hon. Member is a repetition of one that was addressed to me at the beginning of last month. I then explained that the reason for some of the telegraphists in the Belfast Post Office having three weeks' leave, while the rest have a fortnight, was that at Belfast some officers had received, through an error, longer leave than was given at other post offices. As soon as the mistake was discovered new entrants into the Belfast Post Office were put in the same position with regard to leave as those employed elsewhere. It was not, however, thought expedient to withdraw the longer leave from those who had previously enjoyed it. I also stated that in consequence of the postal duties being much more harassing than those of the telegraphists, some of those employed on the postal side have more than a fortnight's leave. With regard to the hon. Member's second Question, I have not been able, during the short interval which has elapsed since Notice of it was given, to collect the required information from the post offices of Liverpool, Manchester, and Glasgow; but I may say generally that the Post Office servants in those cities are not treated exceptionally in the matter of leave, and that throughout the United Kingdom, wherever the circumstances are similar, similar treatment is extended to all.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR asked whether the right hon. Gentleman would take notice of a case of distinct unfairness if it were brought before him?

MR. FAWCETT said, if the hon. Gentleman would direct his attention to a particular case, he would most gladly have it investigated.

THE PARKS (METROPOLIS)—THE REGENT'S PARK.

MR. HOPWOOD asked the First Commissioner of Works, Whether the boundaries of the inclosures in Regent's Park are precisely defined in the map accompanying the Report of Her Majesty's Woods and Forests laid before Parliament in 1841; and, whether it is the case that in one instance at least an encroachment has been made beyond that defined boundary upon the limits of the Park there declared to be open?

MR. COURTNEY: Sir, I have looked at the map of 1841; it is obviously very rough, and could not be supposed to contain any precise definition of boundaries. I am informed that there have been no encroachments beyond the boundaries at that time assigned, and delimited to the villa leaseholders.

MR. DILLWYN asked the First Commissioner of Works, Whether it is the case that the Office of Works had, for thirty years past, the control of the inclosures within Regent's Park which were not leasehold, but let on yearly tenancy to the residents in the villas, and also had, for the same period, received the rents of the same; and, whether it is the case that, notwithstanding, the Commissioners of Woods and Forests have now assumed the control, and will in future receive the rents of these Inclosures; and, if so, by virtue of what authority?

MR. SHAW LEFEVRE: Sir, it is quite true that up to a year ago the rents of the inclosures referred to by the hon. Member were received by the Office of Works; but a claim was made by the Commissioners of Woods and Forests that they were part of the revenues of the Crown, and on the matter being referred to the Law Officers, it was held by them that under the Act which constituted the Office of Works, these inclosures not being legally a part of the Park, their rents should, in future, be paid to the Commissioners of Woods.

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT—OUTDOOR CLERKS.

MR. ANDERSON asked the Secretary to the Treasury, Whether, in view of the changes which are now being carried out at the Customs Outports, consequent on the introduction of the new warehousing system, the clerks who may be made

redundant will have the opportunity afforded them of retiral on the usual abolition terms, in lieu of being compelled to accept of inferior work, or of being made liable to removal to other ports; whether the senior clerks who are near their maximum of salary, and who may be compelled, or who may elect to retire, will be allowed the full retiring allowance of forty-three-sixtieths on their maximum; and, whether the junior clerks affected by the changes will be allowed the alternative offer of a transference to the Outdoor Department, retiral from the service on the abolition terms, or equivalent clerical employment in other Departments?

MR. COURTNEY: Sir, clerks who, on reasonable grounds, decline the outdoor service, and for whom appropriate duties cannot be found at their own or other ports, will be allowed to retire on abolition terms. These terms will not, however, in any case exceed two-thirds of their salaries. That limit was imposed by Statute, and could not be exceeded in the case of the London clerks. In dealing with each case due regard will be had to the health of the officer and other circumstances; but, speaking generally, the men will continue to perform the same class of work as before, and, for the most part, in the same place.

DUCHY OF LANCASTER ACT—THE SOUTHPORT FORESHORE.

MR. CHEETHAM asked the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, with regard to the Crown property of the Southport foreshore, which in April last the Duchy agreed to sell, to the extent of 9,000 acres, to the Lords of the Manor for £15,000, whether he is aware that the latter are now asking for 1,286 acres alone no less a sum than £25,000 from the Southport Corporation; and, whether he is able to hold out any prospect of the good offices he has undertaken to use in this matter resulting in the acquisition by the people of Southport, at a fair and reasonable price, of the 4,000 acres of foreshore conterminous with the Borough, the possession of which they regard as of vital consequence to the development of a favourite marine resort of the Lancashire manufacturing population?

MR. DODSON: Sir, until this morning I had had no official information on the subject. On the 29th of June last,

a comprehensive letter was addressed the Corporation from the Duchy Office to which there has been no reply; and apparently the matter has been very much taken out of my hands by the Corporation negotiating directly with the landowners. This morning I have received a letter from the solicitors of the landowners stating that, in response to an application from the Corporation they had offered to sell the whole of the foreshore opposite the town proper, an area of about 2,600 acres, for 2s. 6d. per acre for recreation and sanitary purposes only, and that they are also prepared to sell a further area of 1,286 acres, which comprises, besides the foreshore, some very valuable building land with a frontage to the shore of 90 yards, for the sum of £25,000, practically without any restrictions as to its use. I understand that no reply has yet been received to these offers.

MR. CHEETHAM asked if it was a fact that that which was proper speaking foreshore could not be turned to any profitable account unless an Act of Parliament were obtained to sanction the appropriation?

MR. DODSON: Sir, no part of the foreshore can be diverted from its present uses to the injury of the public without the previous consent of Parliament. I understand the landowner made the offer of 2,600 acres at 2s. 6d. per acre, leaving it open to the Corporation to take the whole or any part of it.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT (IRELAND)—THE GRAND JURY PANELS, 1882-3.

MR. CALLAN asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland Whether, in view of the measure promised for the establishment of County Government in Ireland founded on representative principles, he will have any objection to procure and lay upon the Table of the House a Copy of the Grand Jury Panels for the Spring and Summer Assizes, 1882 and 1883, and a Return showing the amount of property for which each grand juror appears rated for the relief of the poor, and liable for the payment of county cess; and a similar Return as to the property of one hundred of the largest cesspayers in the order of rating whose names do not appear on the Grand Jury Panels?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, I will offer no objection on the part of the Government

Mr. Anderson

to the Returns of which the hon. Member has given Notice for to-day. The Returns which the hon. Member asks about will impose a good deal of labour on secretaries to grand juries and clerks of unions; but the Returns will be of interest and value.

THE MAGISTRACY (IRELAND)—THE MAYOR OF WEXFORD.

MR. SMALL asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether his attention has been drawn to the fact that at a court of petty sessions held in the borough of Wexford on last Wednesday, a magistrate prevented the mayor of the borough from taking the chair, and stated that legal opinion had been obtained that the mayor was not entitled to take the chair; whether such opinion was obtained at the instance or cost of the Crown; and, if so, whether he will lay such opinion and the case sent to counsel upon the Table; whether his attention has been drawn to the fact that the Crown prosecutor told the mayor that his conduct was indecent; and, whether the Crown intends to take notice of such language addressed by a Crown official, in open court, to a magistrate?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, the legal opinion referred to was, I believe, one given in the year 1876 to the then Mayor of Wexford by the Law Adviser to the Castle. No other opinion was, so far as I am aware, given or obtained. I cannot undertake to produce either case or opinion, as it has never been the practice to do so. The Crown Prosecutor stated that it would be indecent for the Mayor to be examined as a witness, as he professed his intention of being, and, at the same time, ask questions at the trial. The Resident Magistrate remarked that such a course would not be in good taste, which, I think, is a better expression than indecent. The Mayor refrained from taking the course which had been objected to. I do not think it necessary to take further notice of the matter.

IRELAND—THE NATIONAL LEAGUE—INFLAMMATORY SPEECHES.

COLONEL KING-HARMAN asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether his attention has

been called to the violent language which has been used at some of the recent meetings of the National League; and, whether he can give the House any assurance that a continuance of speeches of a disloyal and menacing nature will not be permitted during the Recess?

MR. SEXTON said, before the right hon. Gentleman answered that Question he wished to ask Mr. Speaker whether there was not a Standing Order, No. 154, which declared that no Member was allowed to put a Question as to a matter of opinion; and whether the epithets "violence," "disloyal and menacing" did not come under that Rule?

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot say it appears to me to be a Question which is out of Order; yet, as it may be matter involving controversy, I think the epithets "violence," "disloyal and menacing" might well be struck out.

MR. HEALY wished to ask whether the attention of the right hon. Gentleman had been called to the following language, which appeared in an English provincial newspaper, *The Gloucester Journal*:—

"Ireland is rapidly going to the dogs. Her political fortunes are directed by a hypocrite, who is also a blood-guilty tyrant and a conspirator against the honour of the country. This hateful and atrocious Gladstone, who 'twere flattery to call a rascal, has associated with him in the Government incompetent nobodies, who, partly through ignorance and partly through malice, are betraying every British interest. About the only conspirator with any brains is a fellow named Chamberlain, who makes screws or something at Birmingham, and who has been in league with the Irish rebels, and incited them to get up murderous outrages as an excuse for robbing landlords by an iniquitous system of spoliation. The people of the country are afflicted with a great dementia which prevents them from realizing the odious character of their political Leaders and the imminent perils into which these pernicious adventurers have brought our beloved country. The populace, lulled into false security, are looking forward to peace and prosperity; but a very different period is being prepared for us by the strangest of philosophers and geniuses that were ever allowed to touch the helm of affairs."

MR. HARRINGTON said, that before the Chief Secretary answered the hon. and gallant Member for the County of Dublin (Colonel King-Harman), he desired to ask him whether his attention had been called to the following language of the hon. and gallant Member himself in the report of a meeting in the Rotunda on February 10—

"He could look back with pride, and even sympathy, to those who in the days of old carried the flag of rebellion in Ireland."

["Order!"]

MR. SPEAKER: It appears to me that the Question now being put, as well as the Question already put by the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy), has no bearing on the Question of the hon. and gallant Member.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR said, he would like to ask the right hon. Gentleman a Question which would have a distinct bearing on the Question of the hon. and gallant Member. He wished to ask the Chief Secretary whether, if in his reply he adopted the adjectives used by the hon. and gallant Member, he would state the particular meetings at which this language was spoken, and also name the speeches in which violent and disloyal language was used?

MR. TREVELYAN: Well, Sir, my reply will not raise, I think, any of the points referred to in recent Questions. I can only say, in reference to the Question of the hon. and gallant Member, that it is not convenient to make general announcements of the course the Government will adopt in a hypothetical case, and the latter part of the Question is hypothetical. The probable action of the Executive in future may be gathered from observation of its action in the past.

ROYAL IRISH CONSTABULARY— COUNTY INSPECTOR PENNINGTON.

MR. HARRINGTON asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether, on the 12th of July, an Orangetriumphal arch was erected across the main street in the town of Omagh; whether this arch was suspended from one of the windows of Mr. Pennington, County Inspector of Royal Irish Constabulary; and, if such conduct is approved of; and, if not, what course he intends to take to mark his disapproval?

MR. TREVELYAN: A rope, with some Orange emblems attached, was hung across the road on the 12th of July at Omagh. One end of it was suspended from a waterpipe outside a house in which the County Inspector had temporary lodgings, but which was not in his occupation, and from which he has since removed to a house of his own. The rope was put up after the County

Inspector had left the house in the morning, and he knew nothing about it.

MR. HARRINGTON asked whether was a fact that the rope was suspended by four men who were admitted by the servants of the County Inspector, and who passed through his house for that purpose?

[No answer was given to this Question.]

SPAIN — EXPULSION OF CERTAIN CUBAN REFUGEES FROM GIBRALTAR—THE CORRESPONDENCE.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR (for MR. O'KELLY) asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether he will have made a correct translation of the Letter from the Governor of Cadiz to the Spanish Consul at Gibraltar, which appears at the head of page 66 in the "Correspondence respecting the expulsion of certain Cuban Refugees from Gibraltar," presented to both Houses of Parliament in December 1882; and whether he will issue the corrected translation as an additional Paper?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: This Question should have been asked of the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, by whom the Correspondence in question was laid on the Table of the House. If the hon. Member will refer to page 50 of the same Blue Book he will find a better translation of the letter to which he refers. I will, however, communicate with my hon. Friend the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies on the subject.

SOUTH AFRICA—TRANSVAAL— MAPOCH'S AND MAMPORI'S TRIBES

MR. W. E. FORSTER asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies Whether any, and, if so, what, answer has been received to the inquiry which he stated, on the 2nd of this month, had been sent to the British Resident in the Transvaal, with regard to the statement since confirmed, that Mapoch's and Mampori's Tribes have been broken up, and their people indentured to the Boer farmers; and, whether he can inform the House whether any, and, if so, what action the Government has taken in the matter?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: Sir, stated in the debate on the Transvaal Vote the telegraphic answer we had received as to this; but I will repeat

Mr. Harrington

in more detail." The British Resident said—

"The following seems to be the outline of the action contemplated by the Transvaal Government:—(1) The general principle is dispersal of the tribe; (2) indentures are to be for three years."

I may here interpolate that a later telegram says that they are to be for five years—

"Families are not to be separated. The general conditions of the indentures are to be similar to those under which the tribe of Masseleroen were distributed by the Transvaal Provincial Government during the English occupancy; (3) at the termination of the indentures those who have conducted themselves well, and may wish it, will be located at such place, or places, as may be decided on by the Government at the time being. With these exceptions, the prisoners of war will now be dealt with generally in accordance with the principles of the legislation for Natives during the time of English occupancy, and the Volksraad is now considering the general subject. Mapoch and Mampori have arrived here at Pretoria, and are in prison. They will be tried by the High Court."

We immediately sent a telegram expressing our views; but as they are embodied in the despatch dated the 18th of August, which followed, I will only give the substance of the despatch. After expressing satisfaction at learning that the Chiefs are to be tried by the High Court, and not by the Kriegersaad, the despatch proceeds to protest against the long indentures of five years, and urges that they should only be made for one year in the first instance. It refers to the despatches of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach in 1879, with reference to the case of the indenturing at Cape Town of Natives taken in the Frontier wars as embodying equally the views of Her Majesty's present Government. It then proceeds to notice the justification put forward by the Transvaal Government that their course is only based on Sir Theophilus Shepstone's action in the case of the Masseleroen Tribe. It points out that if that action had been reported home at the time it certainly would have been disavowed by the Home Government. It then proceeds to quote the words of the Volksraad condemning the British action in this Masseleroen case as equally and even more condemnatory of their own proposed action. This despatch is to be communicated to the Transvaal Government.

Mr. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT asked, whether the Boers would be able, at

their will, to flog those indentured Natives as they had been in the habit of flogging all the Natives within their Borders?

Mr. EVELYN ASHLEY: No, Sir. As I understand they will be ostensibly under indenture; and so long as the tribes are dispersed no particular locality is selected.

Mr. W. E. FORSTER asked, whether it was from any terms in the despatch or any information that the hon. Gentleman used the word "voluntary." Were they to understand that these Natives, who were indentured, were to choose the persons to whom they would be indentured?

Mr. EVELYN ASHLEY: Yes, Sir; because the justification is that the Transvaal base their action upon our action in the Masseleroen case, in which event the Natives were allowed to choose their own employers.

Mr. W. E. FORSTER: Will the hon. Gentleman take steps to ascertain, as quickly as possible, whether the indenturing is voluntary or not?

Mr. EVELYN ASHLEY: Yes, Sir; I will.

SOUTH AFRICA—BECHUANALAND.

Mr. W. E. FORSTER asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, Whether, as the Session is about to close, he can give the House any information as to the present position of the Bechuana Chiefs and people who have been despoiled of their lands?

Mr. EVELYN ASHLEY: We have received very little information lately respecting the state of things in Bechuanaland. In Stellaland and Mankoroane's country there seems a lull and no movement. He apparently retains all his cultivated and ploughing lands, and it is only his veldt or hunting ground that is occupied by the intruders. To the North, however, in Montsioa's country, there appears to be a stir in the way of an advance on Moshette and his Boer allies. The following is what we have received through the Cape from Mr. Bethell, who resides with Montsioa:—

"Telegram, Bethell, Baselong Agent, Molapo, dated July 16, received July 27—Montsioa now desires me to inform His Excellency that he and his allies have written to the freebooters of the so-called Land of Goshen, ordering them to leave his country, and that they have, as I anticipated in my second telegram to His Excellency from Kimberley, retired upon the

Transvaal Border, and are some within and some without that State."

The High Commissioner, on receipt of this, telegraphed as follows to Pretoria :—

"Information has reached us that hostilities are about to be renewed between Montsiosa and the freebooters established in the so-called Land of Goshen. I hope that you will impress on the Transvaal Government the duty of maintaining the neutrality of its territory, and of preventing persons from using the Transvaal as a base from which to renew hostile operations."

MR. W. E. FORSTER asked at what time the telegram reached the Cape?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY said, it was received on the 27th of July.

MR. W. E. FORSTER said, that, having been received at the Cape on the 27th of July, the information came here by letter. Could not his hon. Friend secure that important telegrams should be sent home by telegraph from the Cape, instead of taking three or four weeks to come?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY replied, that to send telegrams on all occasions would be very expensive. The telegram to which attention had been drawn was not a message asking for instructions. The Governor of the Colony was instructed to telegraph all news which he thought important.

MR. W. E. FORSTER said, his reason for asking the Question was because the statement of his hon. Friend was that the position "is" so and so; whereas the position really "was" so and so a month ago.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT asked whether the hon. Gentleman had received any confirmation of the reported advance of Mankoroane at the head of 2,000 men?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY said, that he had given the House all the information he could.

PRISONS BOARD (IRELAND) — DR. MINCHIN.

COLONEL KING-HARMAN asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether he is aware of the reasons which have caused the General Prisons Board (Ireland) to refuse the ordinary leave of absence to Dr. Humphrey Minchin; and, whether he is aware that the Prisons Board is endeavouring to oblige Dr. Minchin to perform duties which are regarded by him as in excess of those to which he was appointed?

Mr. Evelyn Ashley

MR. TREVELYAN, in reply, said, he was aware that the reason for the refusal had reference to a difference of opinion that had arisen between the General Prisons Board and Dr. Minchin as to the extent of his duties, and the substitute to be provided in his absence. The legal Question involved was at the moment before the Law Officers of the Crown.

COLONEL KING-HARMAN asked this was the sole reason?

MR. TREVELYAN said, it was not quite certain. He believed it had reference to the duties which the substitute might be required to perform in his absence.

COLONEL KING-HARMAN said, he assumed that leave had been deferred and not refused.

MR. TREVELYAN said, it had not been refused definitely. Until this point had been cleared up the matter could not be settled. He rather thought had been cleared up.

THE SUEZ CANAL—REPRINTS OF PAPERS.

MR. FRESHFIELD asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs If he can explain how it happened that in reprinting the Papers relating to the Suez Canal, under the Order of the House of the 16th July last, the Convention between the Khedive of Egypt and M. Ferdinand de Lesseps of the 23rd April, 1869, which was one of the documents comprised among the Papers ordered to be reprinted, was excluded from the Papers actually returned, and laid upon the Table of the House; whether the Convention so omitted contained an article in French to the subjoined effect:—Art. 3. By consent of both parties it is understood that the Company has no other object but the working, management, and development of the Maritime Canal. It therefore returns to the common rights, and renounces every exceptional faculty or special privilege; whether, by subsequent article in the same Convention, the Company cedes to the Khedive lands dependent on the Canal, and other properties; and whether, in consideration of these arrangements, the Khedive paid to the Company the sum of thirty millions of francs in the manner set forth, the receipt of which was acknowledged under the hand of M. Ferdinand de Lesseps?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: Sir, the Paper referred to was not laid by the Foreign Office as a Command Paper, but was a reprint, ordered by the House, of a portion of Parliamentary Paper C. 1,416 of 1876, in accordance with an undertaking given on the 13th of July by the Chancellor of the Exchequer that he would cause to be reprinted the documents he had quoted in reply to the right hon. Gentleman the Member for North Devon. The Convention of April 23, 1869, is in the original Blue Book, of which I placed 10 copies in the Library of the House.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, that there was an Order of the House that the Paper relating to the Suez Canal, "Egypt, No. 6, 1876," presented on the 17th February, 1876, should be reprinted. He wished to ask the Speaker whether, in response to an Order of that kind, a Public Department was entitled to furnish a portion of those Papers only?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE said, that he was not responsible for the omission of the Paper in question. The information which he had given was information which he had obtained, out of respect to the hon. Member, from the Authorities of the House. He was responsible only for the original Papers which were laid on the Table.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (Mr. CHILDERS) said, that if anyone was responsible for the printing of the Papers he was. He was asked some time ago by the right hon. Gentleman the Member for North Devon upon what documents a certain statement was founded, and he quoted the documents in question. He was then asked whether the Government would consent to reprint those particular Papers which formed part of a Blue Book, and he assented. No formal Motion was made on the subject, and the Clerks at the Table took down what passed with a view to the reprint of the Papers he had named. The particular Papers which the Government were asked to reprint were accordingly reprinted, and he had thus fulfilled his pledge. It was well understood at the time that it would not be convenient to reprint the whole Blue Book, as this would have involved delay.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked whether it was not a breach of Privilege,

when a Return was ordered to be made by the House, to make what was practically a falsified Return? He maintained that the present Return deserved that epithet, because the full Papers were not given.

MR. SPEAKER: The point is not strictly one of Order. The Question of the hon. Gentleman I cannot possibly answer without an examination of the Papers, and I have not examined them. Whether the Order of the House has been obeyed fully or not is a matter for the consideration of the House.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF: Is not a Question of this kind a Question of Privilege?

MR. SPEAKER said, it was a question of fact if the Order of the House had been obeyed, and was for the House to consider.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF gave Notice that he should draw attention to the matter on the Motion for the Third Reading of the Appropriation Bill.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR asked whether the statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer did not disclose a very gross irregularity—namely, that without Motion made, and simply on a note taken by the Clerk at the Table, certain Papers had been printed, and distributed as Parliamentary Papers?

MR. SPEAKER said, that the Question was not one for the Chair to determine. If the House should think that a Member had not acted as he ought towards it, the matter could be made the subject of a Motion.

MR. FRESHFIELD asked how it was that a Return, which purported to be a Return of the Papers marked "Egypt, No. 6, 1876," did not contain all the Papers in that Blue Book.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (Mr. CHILDERS) said, he was very sorry if he was supposed to have done anything irregular. All he had to do in the matter was to see that his promise that certain Papers should be reprinted was carried out, and that he had done. Having named some particular Papers in his reply to a Question, he was asked whether they might be reprinted, and he replied that he would have no objection, if they were worth reprinting, and he undertook to see that this was done. He had nothing to do with the words of the Motion ordering the reprint.

Mr. FRESHFIELD said, that the Return which had been made was not in accordance with the Order of the House. Did the right hon. Gentleman intend to complete the Return? He asked that Question, because he knew that great inconvenience had resulted in consequence of the non-appearance of all the Papers. Everyone was most anxious to know what the real facts were. [*Cries of "Order!"*]

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (Mr. CHILDERS) said, he must repeat that he was not responsible for the Motion for the reprint. All he was responsible for was seeing that the Papers he quoted from were reprinted, and that had been done. He had no objection whatever to the rest of the Papers being reprinted, nor, so far as he was aware, had anyone else; and the only question which arose at the time was the delay which would be occasioned if the whole were reprinted.

MR. FRESHFIELD: The document omitted is a Convention of the utmost importance, by which M. de Lesseps renounced exclusive rights in the Isthmus of Suez. [*Cries of "Order!"*]

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF: I wish to ask whether, considering the document that was suppressed was one — [*Cries of "Order!"*]

MR. SPEAKER, interposing, observed that the hon. Member was now referring to a matter of controversy.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF: I would ask whether the right hon. Gentleman will reprint the whole of those Papers, including the Convention tending to show that M. de Lesseps had no exclusive monopoly?

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (Mr. CHILDERS): The hon. Member imports into his Question a matter of controversy on which I say nothing; but I shall arrange with my noble Friend that the whole of the Papers shall be reprinted.

MINES REGULATION ACTS—EXPLOSIONS IN MINES.

SIR EARDLEY WILMOT (for Mr. TATTON EGERTON) asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, Whether his attention has been called to the Gelli Colliery explosion, and whether he is aware that on September 11th 1882 a similar explosion took place, due

to the use of naked lights, in which loss of life took place, and whether he has read the report of Mr. Wales (mining inspector), page 241, with the strong recommendation it gives; whether his attention has been called to Mr. Bell's report of the compressed lime cartridges, showing they possess all the advantages of gunpowder with absolute absence of danger; and, whether, next Session, with the Report of the Royal Commission on Mining Accidents before him, he will legislate to forbid the use of naked lights, gunpowder, or other spark-producing compounds?

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT, in reply, said, the Report of this particular accident had not yet reached him. With reference to the part of the Question relating to the use of naked lights, he had for a long time been pressing upon Inspectors of Mines the desirability of enforcing as they had the power to enforce the use of closed lamps wherever they might open lamps unsafe. He did not believe that fresh legislation was necessary. The Inspectors had power to insist upon arbitration, and the result of such recent arbitrations had been to compel the use of closed lamps. Unfortunately, the principal opposition to the use of such lamps came from the miners themselves, in whose interests the precaution was taken. The other day an indignant deputation of miners from South Wales waited upon him and remonstrated against being compelled to use closed lamps. He told them that, on the evidence before him, it was necessary for the safety of their lives to insist on the rule requiring the use of closed lamps. He believed that the instructions he had given to the Inspectors would have the effect of enforcing the use of closed lamps without recourse to further legislation. He could give no opinion about the use of lime cartridges, as he was not sufficiently well acquainted with their character.

INDIA—NATIVE CIVIL SERVANTS.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL asked the Under Sec., whether he can state the number of Native Civil Servants of the Government of India, and whether they are reserved for the use of the Government of India, or whether they are reserved for the use of the Government of India, or whether they are reserved for the use of the Government of India.

and ability," (as provided by the Statute) who have proved these qualities by action in the public service; and, whether most of the Natives so appointed to the Civil Service under Lord Lytton's rules are young gentlemen selected by pure patronage, with no other proved merit and ability than assurances that they are promising or well-connected young men?

MR. J. K. CROSS: Natives of India appointed to the Civil Service under the Statutory Rules—framed in exercise of the powers given by 33 *Fict.*, c. 3, s. 6—are nominated by the Local Governments subject to the approval of the Governor General in Council. The appointments being entirely in the hands of the Local Governments, the Secretary of State is not informed as to the particular qualifications of the gentlemen who are from time to time appointed. Every appointment is in the first instance provisional, the nominee being on probation for at least two years. No one is finally admitted into the service until the Local Government has reported to the Government of India that he has acquitted himself satisfactorily during his term of probation, and has passed all the prescribed examinations. The Rules also provide that no one can be nominated for employment if more than 25 years of age, except on grounds of merit and ability proved in the service of Government, or in the practice of a profession, clearly indicating that men of proved merit and ability can be appointed.

In answer to a further Question by MR. MACFARLANE,

MR. J. K. CROSS: It certainly is not intended to invest anyone with jurisdiction over Europeans who has not a perfect knowledge of the English language.

MR. MACFARLANE asked the Under Secretary of State for India whether it was the new measure, or the Act of 1833, which laid down the position that a knowledge of the English language should be a necessary qualification?

MR. J. K. CROSS: The new offices about to be conferred will depend upon the will of the Viceroy, who would never think of appointing, in any circumstances, anyone who did not understand English.

TUNIS—THE BOMBARDMENT OF SFAX.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether any compensation has as yet been given by the French Government to British subjects who suffered damage to their persons or property by the bombardment of Sfax?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: The latest information received on this subject by the Foreign Office is to the effect that Her Majesty's Agents and Consul General in Tunis had arranged with the French Resident for the payment of compensation to British subjects in accordance with the assessment made by the Sfax Indemnity Commission. The actual payment has, however, not yet been reported.

POST OFFICE—THE PARCEL POST—RURAL LETTER CARRIERS.

MR. WADDY asked the Postmaster General, Whether he has come to any decision with regard to allowing rural letter carriers to continue to carry, as they did before the introduction of the Parcel Post, small parcels of medicine; and, if he will consider whether any arrangements can be made to allow parcels to be collected in the rural districts from persons who reside at a distance from a Post Office?

MR. FAWCETT: Sir, so many applications have reached me from different parts of the country in favour of rural letter carriers being allowed to carry, as they did before the introduction of the Parcel Post, light packets of medicine, that I am glad to state that I have been able to decide to grant permission for the continuance of the practice, and instructions to this effect will be given immediately. I should regret extremely if this permission should be in any way abused by sending as packets of medicine articles which are not medicine, because it would then be necessary to withdraw the permission. With regard to the second Question of my hon. and learned Friend, I am aware that the non-collection by rural letter carriers on their round of parcels for the post has caused inconvenience to many persons in the rural districts who happen to live at a considerable distance from any post office. The chief reason for the prohibition is the fear that the

collection of parcels might cause the letter carriers to be overburdened, and might also lead to a delay in the delivery of letters. Within the last few days I have, with the assistance of some of the most experienced practical officers of the Department, been carefully considering the point; and I shall be very glad if it is found possible to meet the inconvenience complained of without incurring the risk of the letter carriers being overburdened, or the mails being delayed.

ANNAM—THE FRENCH INVASION.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether the French have taken the capital of Annam; and, whether he can give any other information as to the progress of the French invasion in Annam?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: Sir, the Foreign Office have no intelligence of the capture of the capital of Annam by the French; and, as the House has already been informed, they have no special information as to the progress of the French invasion.

NAVY—OFFICERS OF THE ROYAL MARINES.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked the Secretary to the Admiralty, Whether Officers of the Royal Marine Light Infantry, who have not succeeded in the competition for the Royal Marine Artillery, have been drafted into the latter corps over the heads of candidates who have succeeded in the competition; and, whether steps will be taken to remedy the hardship thus inflicted on those who have obtained their appointment to the Royal Marine Artillery by passing successfully the competitive standard established for that corps?

SIR THOMAS BRASSEY: Of the nine probationary lieutenants of the Royal Marine Artillery who presented themselves for the final examination this year only one passed—Mr. L. E. Gordon, of seniority 1st of September, 1881. It being necessary to provide officers for the Marine Artillery, the Admiralty appointed a Committee to consider whether any of the candidates who had passed through the College during the last three years, but failed to reach the standard for the Artillery, might

be admitted with advantage to the Service. Five officers have been appointed on the recommendation of the Committee. The seniority of two of them is the 1st of September, 1880; and, therefore they could not have been placed below Mr. Gordon, who sustains some slight disadvantage owing to a measure considered necessary for the public interest.

DUCHY OF LANCASTER ACT—THE SOUTHPORT FORESHORE.

MR. CHEETHAM asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether memorials have been addressed to him by upwards of one hundred Municipal Corporations and Local Governing Bodies including Manchester, Birmingham, Derby, Salford, Brighton, Huddersfield and other places, deprecating, in the public interest, the sale to private persons of the property of the Crown in the Southport foreshore; and, whether, in view of these manifestations of public opinion, Her Majesty's Government will undertake that no such alienation of the rights possessed by the Crown in foreshores and other lands shall in future be sanctioned without an opportunity being afforded to this House of expressing its judgment thereon?

MR. DODSON: Sir, at my right hon. Friend's request, I will answer this Question. We have received a considerable number of Memorials; but they all appear to have been based upon some misapprehension of the facts of the case. The Memorialists do not seem to have been aware that the title of the Duchy to the foreshore in question was disputed by the persons to whom the Duchy has sold its interest. Moreover, they seem not to be aware that the rights of the public over the foreshore remain unaffected by any change of ownership, and that they cannot be interfered with without the consent of Parliament previously obtained.

PARLIAMENT—PRIVATE BILL LEGISLATION.

MR. STEVENSON asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether he will take into consideration during the recess the necessity of amending the Rules of the House so as to give increased facilities for the consideration of Bills of great public importance which are in charge of private Members, either by the selection

tion of such Bills by a vote of the House, or otherwise, so that the Bills thus selected shall have precedence of other Bills in the hands of private Members?

MR. GLADSTONE: Sir, my hon. Friend has drawn the attention of the House, by this Question, to a matter which is of very great importance, but of a difficulty, perhaps, equal to its importance. It is, I think, a suggestion that some organization and machinery should be provided by which a preference may be established in favour of particular measures deemed to be urgent among the measures in the hands of independent Members, and, of course, more or less to the prejudice of other measures in the hands of independent Members. That is a subject of great importance and considerable delicacy, and one in regard to which it is obvious that there ought to be no habitual interference by the Executive Government. Whether the Executive Government ought to take the initiative in making the recommendation I do not know; it is a matter on which I do not give a positive opinion. There is much to be said in favour of the view suggested by my hon. Friend. I believe the practice of Foreign Legislatures is to some considerable extent in support of that view; and it is a matter which the Government will endeavour to consider, though I cannot absolutely—such are the difficulties that surround the question—give a positive answer as to the results.

MR. PARNELL asked the right hon. Gentleman whether he was aware that under the proposal of the hon. Member in all probability no Irish Bill would ever have an opportunity of being brought forward?

MR. NEWDEGATE asked whether the right hon. Gentleman contemplated, as the Representative of the Government, that the selection of the Bills should be committed to the House itself or reserved to the Government?

MR. GLADSTONE: The one thing I have said which is clear—and there are many things I have said which are not clear—about the matter is that the Government ought to have nothing to do with it in the event of a selection being established. I will also say, in answer to the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell), that he seems to think there is some positive plan in view. There is no plan in view. I may say

that no plan could for a moment be entertained by this House which would not be perfectly impartial with reference to the proceedings of the different parts of the House.

METROPOLIS — STATE OF THE THAMES.

MR. THOROLD ROGERS asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, Whether he can inform the House when the Report of the Royal Commission on the state of the Thames between London Bridge and the lower river will be presented?

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, that, owing to the absence of the Royal Commissioners, he was unable to state when their Report would be presented.

MADAGASCAR—THE FRENCH AT TAMATAVE—CASE OF THE REV. MR. SHAW.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether Her Majesty's Government have learnt, either from the London Missionary Society or from any other source, that Mr. Shaw is absolutely prevented from all communication of any kind with persons outside the vessel on which he is imprisoned; whether any communication has been received by any person in this Country direct from Mr. Shaw; and, if so, whether Her Majesty's Government can state the nature of such communication; whether Her Majesty's Government have been informed by the French Government of the nature of the charges on which Mr. Shaw is imprisoned, and if such charges contain anything more serious than an attempt on the part of Mr. Shaw and other Europeans to organize an ambulance society, under the Red Cross, for the relief of the wounded; and, further, what steps Her Majesty's Government have taken, considering the strictness of Mr. Shaw's imprisonment, to obtain for him access to counsel to defend him on his trial?

MR. GLADSTONE: This Question links together inconveniently the matters connected with Mr. Shaw, and I will go over the points to which the hon. Member refers, dealing strictly, in the first place, with matters of fact. With regard to the first part of the Question, we have no information of any kind. Our information, it must be remembered, is scanty, and is not recent; but no com-

munication was allowed by the French Admiral with Mr. Shaw by any person outside the vessel, as far as our information goes. With regard to the second part of the Question, of course we cannot say what communication may have been received; but no communication has been received to our knowledge from Mr. Shaw by any person in this country since the date of his arrest. With respect to the third part of the Question, I stated on a former evening the general effect of the information which we had received from the French Government. As to the nature of the charges against Mr. Shaw, we have never heard a word in any document which has reached us about an attempt having been made by Mr. Shaw and other Europeans to organize an Ambulance Society for the relief of the wounded. No such thing has been included in what the French Government told us with respect to these charges. With regard to the latter part of the Question, we have communicated fully with the French Government on that subject and pretty constantly; and the French Government, of course, like ourselves, labour under the disadvantage of a want of all rapid communication. We have no telegraphic communication with Madagascar; the French also are considerably embarrassed by the want of it; but, in addition to the assurances that were given by M. Waddington, and which were, I admit, quite of a general character, M. Waddington has been authorized by the Minister of Foreign Affairs to assure Lord Granville and the English Government that the French Government will not only give, as a matter of course, every facility to Mr. Shaw for his defence, but, generally speaking—and this is an important declaration if it be given and if it be received, as I have no doubt it has been given and will be received, in an equitable spirit—that they will do everything in their power to put an end to this incident. That is by far the best thing I can state in the absence of any specific information. In these circumstances we have considered, obtaining light of the general practice as well as we can, what are the proper limits of action on the part of the British Government, and it would be beyond all doubt quite proper that we should instruct our Agents as speedily as we can to ascertain for themselves whether Mr. Shaw is in

possession of those facilities, and to let whatever aid may be found necessary—if it is found necessary—to enable him to secure this assistance.

HARBOURS OF REFUGE — DOVER HARBOUR.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE BALFOUR asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, If he will obtain and furnish the Papers referred to (C. 3,726) relating to Dover, excluding the Reports of the Committees and Commissions previously laid upon the Table of the House; if he will obtain special information as to the number of acres of varying depths of water within the Harbour area, and furnish a rough plan showing the length of the breakwaters and arms forming the proposed Dover Harbour, and an estimate of cost constructing the separate portions in the way stated in the former plans of 1840 to 1847; if he will procure a Statement of the income to be expected, and the rate of interest which that income will provide, on the capital to be invested in making this Harbour; and, finally, the information now asked for can be made available for use during the recess, so as to facilitate criticisms on the proposed Harbour?

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT, reply, said, he was afraid he could not answer in any detail this Question. As to the Papers referred to, he should be happy to consult with the hon. and gallant Member. No definite plan for the extension of Dover Harbour had yet been placed before Parliament; but, roughly speaking, the number of acres of varying depths of water within the harbour area was 145. A statement as to the income to be expected would be laid before Parliament before Parliament was asked to vote the money for the harbour.

SIR ALEXANDER GORDON asked whether the House, having voted £16,000 for the purpose of building a prison at Dover to lodge the convicts who are executed at the Dover Harbour Works, was committed or not to the execution of the works at Dover Harbour?

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT, reply, said, that they were all agreed there should be some harbour at Dover. He was not a naval or a military man, nor even the Board of Trade, and it was only his business to employ the convict

and the harbour at Dover seemed to him to be a good method in which they could be employed. The House was not pledged to any particular form of the harbour; and it might be made larger or smaller, as the House chose, when the full plan was laid before it.

LICENSING (METROPOLIS)—SPORTING NEWS—BETTING.

Mr. HOPWOOD asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, Whether his attention has been drawn to the fact that the police in the Metropolis have been threatening licensed victuallers with opposition to their licences at the annual meeting, unless they at once give up the receipt of general, sporting, Parliamentary, and Stock Exchange news by the Automatic News-transmitting Instrument (such as is in use in Clubs), and for which a considerable annual payment is made; whether, in one of the instances referred to, the police went through the premises, taking down the names and addresses of persons found there; whether he will state by whose authority these proceedings take place; and, whether he will sanction their continuance?

Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT, in reply, said, he had a Report from the police on this subject. It was the duty of the police to put down betting houses; and in consequence of reports from Superintendents of the various divisions and complaints of inhabitants that a number of licensed victuallers were violating the letter and spirit of the law, the Commissioners directed that licence-holders should be cautioned that if facilities for betting were given by means of these instruments, steps would be taken by summary proceedings before the magistrates, or by opposing the renewal of the licences, as circumstances might warrant. That seemed to him to be a very proper proceeding.

Mr. JOSEPH COWEN asked if what the right hon. and learned Gentleman meant was that public-houses were not to be forbidden having telegraphic communication, provided it was not converted into machinery for betting.

Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT: Yes, Sir. If public-houses wish for telegraphic communication, to report, for instance, the proceedings of this House, they will not be interfered with. But

the telegraphic instruments must not be made the means of betting.

Mr. HOPWOOD: If they do not give up the use of these instruments, will they be opposed at the next Sessions?

Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT: No, Sir; only if they are used as a means of betting?

THE MAGISTRACY (IRELAND)—SUPPLY OF STATUTES AND PUBLIC PAPERS.

Colonel KING-HARMAN asked Mr. Attorney General for Ireland, Whether, as the Office of Law Adviser to the Castle had been abolished, he would give directions that copies of all Irish Acts of Parliament and Castle Circulars should be sent to each Resident Magistrate?

The ATTORNEY GENERAL for IRELAND (Mr. PORTER), in reply, said, that he had no power to make any such order; but he should make it his business to inquire into the matter, and see whether anything could be done.

ARTIZANS' DWELLINGS IN LARGE TOWNS.

Mr. BROADHURST asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, Whether he would, during the Recess, consider some scheme for proposal next Session with regard to providing better accommodation for the working people of the great towns?

Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT: This subject is one of the very greatest consequence, and I should be very happy to give all the attention I can to it, and consider whether any adequate means can be discovered for forwarding such an object.

Mr. BROADHURST said, he should call attention to the subject next Session.

CRIMINAL LAW (SCOTLAND)—SUNDAY TRADING — THE STROME FERRY CASE.

Mr. MACFARLANE said, he had observed some comments in the Scotch Press on the Home Secretary not having answered a portion of a former Question of his with regard to the Strome Ferry rioters. He now wished to ask the right hon. and learned Gentleman whether it was a fact that these men had their hair cropped and were being treated as common felons?

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: I have no special information on this subject. The men will be treated, I presume, as ordinary prisoners under the sentence of the law, and there will be no distinction made between them and other prisoners.

MR. MACFARLANE: Are they treated as pick-pockets and wife-beaters are treated?

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: No distinction.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR: As Mr. Harrington is treated?

MR. SPEAKER: The Question of the hon. Member (Mr. Macfarlane) has been put and answered.

PUBLIC HEALTH (METROPOLIS)—
SEWER VENTILATORS.

MR. J. G. TALBOT asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, Whether he will draw the attention of the local authorities of the Metropolis to the necessity of attending carefully to the sewer ventilators in the streets, with a view to prevent as far as possible the exhalations frequently issuing therefrom; and, whether his attention has been called to a plan which has been tried with apparent success in the town of Ryde, under high engineering sanction, for rendering the ventilation of the sewers inoffensive, and yet effective?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE, in reply, said, he should answer the Question; but there was really no jurisdiction at all.

MR. J. G. TALBOT said, he put the Question to the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Secretary of State for the Home Department.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: Well, then, I reply that I have no authority. Neither the Local Government Board nor the Home Office have any authority in this matter. It seems to be the idea that we have the government of London in our hands. We have not; and we cannot be held responsible for it. The sewers of the Metropolis are vested either in the Commissioners of Sewers, the Metropolitan Board of Works, or the Local Vestries or District Boards. In fact, they are in the hands of 40 or 50 different Bodies, and Government have no power in any way of compelling those Bodies to take any course whatever with reference to the sewers.

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE, in reply, said, with reference to the second part of the Question, that the Mayor of Ryde

had a scheme of his own for ventilating sewers, which had been tried as an experiment in that town; but the Town Council had not approved of the scheme. The Chief Sanitary Inspector of the Local Government Board, the highest authority on the subject of sewers in the world, had said that no system of ventilating sewers was so effective as the existing open grate system.

LAW AND POLICE (IRELAND)—
THREATENING LETTERS.

MR. JOSEPH COWEN wished to ask the Chief Secretary a Question in reference to the proceedings on Saturday last when a statement was made by the hon. Member for King's County (Mr. Molloy) regarding certain outrages. The Committee understood that a woman accused of theft, and then in prison, confessed to having committed various incendiary fires, and written various threatening letters; that the charges against her had been withdrawn; and that she had disappeared from the district. His right hon. Friend was unable then to confirm those statements but promised to make inquiries. I wished to ask the right hon. Gentlemen whether he had since made those inquiries?

MR. TREVELYAN: I have made inquiries, and I will confine myself absolutely to the points about which was unable to give information to the House. It was confidently believed by a certain number of Members that Mary Grehan confessed to writing threatening letters for which the parishes of Ball boggan and Castle Jordan were proclaimed. I have now ascertained the facts. Mary Grehan pleaded "Guilty" on the 6th of March, 1882, to the charge of writing threatening letters; and the Judge allowed her to stand out on her own recognizances to come up for judgment when called on. It was after that that every one of the 13 outrages occurred to which I referred as having been the cause of the district being proclaimed. These outrages included two shootings into houses, two incendiary fires, the shooting of a sheep, and the shooting of a mule, killed while it was being driven in a car by a man who was "Boycotted," the rest being threatening letters.

MR. MOLLOY asked the Chief Secretary for Ireland whether all these ou

rages had not been predicted in the threatening letters?

[No answer was given to this Question.]

PREVENTION OF CRIME (IRELAND)
ACT, 1882—PROCLAMATIONS—LOUTH
AND DROGHEDA.

Mr. CALLAN asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether, considering the peaceable condition of the county of Louth and the county of the town of Drogheda, as evidenced by the calendar of prisoners and the charges of the going Judges of Assize and Chairmen of Quarter Sessions, both as regards offences against person and against property, and the statements of—1. Mr. Justice Andrews, at the Summer Assizes for the county of the town of Drogheda, that—

“He was happy to find, from the information given him by the resident magistrate and the constabulary returns, that the condition of the town was that of an orderly and peaceable community;”

2. The Chairman of Quarter Sessions, in June last, at Dundalk, addressing the Grand Jury, said—

“As far as I can hear, the county has been in a very quiet state since my last visit;”

and 3. At the Summer Assizes for the county of Louth, Mr. Justice Andrews, in charging the Grand Jury, said—

“I find that there are no Bills to go before you at the present Assizes, while only yesterday the County Court Judge concluded his sittings, and I understood he had only one case to go before him. Under these circumstances, I am very happy to tender you my sincere congratulations on the peaceable and orderly state of your county,”

on which occasion Sir John Robinson, foreman of the Grand Jury, in presenting white gloves to the going Judge, said—

“It was a happy state of affairs that nothing had occurred to mar the peace and quietness that prevailed in the county of Louth,”

whereon Mr. Justice Andrews, in accepting the white gloves, said—

“It was very gratifying to him to accept those white gloves, as an emblem of the peaceable state of the county, upon which he had taken the opportunity of congratulating them, and, through them, the community at large;”

and, whether, in view of these circumstances, he is prepared to remove the Proclamation of the county of Louth

and the county of the town of Drogheda?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, the Government are gratified at the peaceful state of the county of Louth; and the question of removing the Proclamation has for some time past been under their consideration. I hope that a decision will be come to in the course of a few days. I do not think the county of the town of Drogheda stands quite on the same footing, as the Government consider it necessary to maintain safeguards against any undue importation of arms into the country. The matter is, however, also under consideration.

PARLIAMENT—BUSINESS OF THE
HOUSE—PUBLIC HEALTH (DAIRIES,
&c.) BILL.

SIR WALTER B. BARTELOT asked the President of the Local Government Board, Whether it was intended to proceed with the Public Health (Dairies, &c.) Bill, which had come from the Lords, and stood for a second reading? He hoped the right hon. Gentleman would now move that the Order be discharged.

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: It is not a Local Government Board Bill—it is a Privy Council Bill.

MR. DODSON: I cannot agree that it is not a Local Government Board Bill—it is more of that than a Privy Council Bill. However, looking to the period of the Session, I have no option but to consent that the Order be discharged.

Order for Second Reading read, and discharged.

Bill withdrawn.

FRANCE—THE FRENCH PYRENEES—
SUPPOSED CASUALTY TO THE REV.
MERTON SMITH.

MR. MONTAGU SCOTT asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, If there was any further information regarding the Rev. Merton Smith, who disappeared mysteriously in Spain?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE said, nothing could be definitely ascertained regarding the rev. gentleman, whose case had excited such a painful sensation. Instructions had been given that every effort should be made to obtain information; but he was bound to say that nearly all hope of his being alive had been given up.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS (ENGLAND BILL).—[BILL 306.]

(Mr. Dodson, Mr. Shaw Lefevre, Mr. Solicitor General.)

CONSIDERATION OF LORDS' REASON AND AMENDMENT.

MR. DODSON said, he rose to move, in accordance with what he believed was the usual practice, that the Lords Reason and Amendment to the Commons' Amendments be forthwith considered.

Motion made, and Question, "That the Lords' Reason and Amendment to the Commons' Amendments be considered forthwith,"—(Mr. Dodson,)—put, and agreed to.

Lords Amendment,

"Provided, That no compensation shall be claimed under this section for any improvement where the agreement fixing the rent was made on the express or implied condition that such improvement should be executed by the tenant,"

proposed in lieu of the Proviso in page 2, line 11, read a second time.

MR. DODSON: I have to move that this House disagree with the Lords in their Amendment as amended. The wording of it does not appear to me to be very clear. I confess I do not know what is meant by "agreement fixing the rent" in contradistinction to a contract of tenancy, the other expression used in the clause. If it only refers to the case where the tenant, in consideration of his engaging to make an improvement, has obtained a lower rent, which I presume is the intention, then the case is sufficiently covered by Clause 6; and to insert this particular Proviso in this case would only be misleading, and likely to weaken the general effect of Clause 6. On the other hand, if the Amendment is intended to go beyond such cases as this, and to cover the case in which a tenant is debarred from compensation although he makes an improvement, it is an Amendment which we should not accept; and I move, therefore, to disagree with it.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That this House doth disagree with the Lords in their Amendment, as amended."—(Mr. Dodson.)

MR. A. J. BALFOUR said, that as it was clear the Government had made up

their minds on this point he did not suppose it was worth while arguing it but the Amendment was designed to carry out the object of the Bill. The intention of the Government was that if there was a contract entered into with regard to the making of an improvement for anything given by the landlord, such contract should stand. The Amendment would do away with the obscurity which hung over Sub-section A of Clause 6. He did not see how it could do any harm and he was surprised that Her Majesty's Government should waste the time of the House and bring themselves into conflict with the other House upon a trivial matter. At the same time, he did not think it worth while pressing the matter further; and he supposed they must assent without further objection.

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (SIR FARRER HERSCHELL) said, it must not be taken as admitted that these words would do no mischief. Their contention was that if there was an arrangement between the parties concerned by which for a consideration, in the shape of low rent or otherwise, improvements were to be made, that was already provided for in the Bill, although not in the same terms. On the other hand, if they inserted a Proviso, as in the present case they would give rise to difficulties, and raise an argument that something more was meant.

MR. WHITLEY said, he entirely agreed with the Amendment, and was utterly unable to follow the reasoning of the hon. and learned Solicitor General. The clear meaning of the Amendment was that all contracts should be binding both upon the landlord and upon the tenant. Her Majesty's Government now proposed that practically freedom of contract should be abolished, and the tenants should be at liberty to break agreements into which they had deliberately entered. As the Representative of a great commercial constituency, he (Mr. Whitley) deplored the fact that such a dangerous policy had been embarked upon; and he hoped the hon. Member for Hertford (Mr. A. J. Balfour) would divide the House upon it.

MR. WARTON, supporting the Amendment, said, he hoped that when the Solicitor General succeeded to the Bench he would remember the construction he had put on this clause.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

The Commons do not insist on their disagreement to the Lords' Amendment, in page 3, line 5, on which The Lords do insist.

Committee appointed, "to draw up Reasons to be assigned to The Lords for disagreeing to one of the Amendments made by The Lords to the Bill:"—Mr. DODSON, Mr. CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, Mr. SOLICITOR GENERAL, Mr. SHAW LÉVEYRE, The LORD ADVOCATE, Mr. SOLICITOR GENERAL for SCOTLAND, Sir CHARLES W. DILKE, and Lord RICHARD GROSVENOR:—Three to be the quorum:—To withdraw immediately.

AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS (SCOTLAND) BILL.—[BILL 307.]

(*The Lord Advocate, Mr. Solicitor General for Scotland.*)

CONSIDERATION OF LORDS REASON AND AMENDMENT.

Lords' Reason and Amendment *considered forthwith*.

Lords' Amendment,

"Provided that no compensation shall be claimed under this section for any improvement where the agreement fixing the rent was made on the express or implied condition that such improvement should be executed by the tenant," proposed in lieu of the Proviso in page 2, line 3, read a second time, and *disagreed to*.

The Commons do not insist on the second Amendment made by the Commons to The Lords' Amendment, page 2, line 39, to which The Lords have disagreed.

The Commons do not insist on the disagreement to The Lords' Amendment, page 3, line 14, on which The Lords do insist.

Amendment made by The Lords to Clause 29, as re-inserted by the Commons.

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL FOR SCOTLAND (Mr. ASHER), in moving that the House do agree to the Amendment, said, it was through a mistake the sub-section was not struck out by his right hon. and learned Friend the Lord Advocate.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That this House doth agree to the Amendment made by The Lords to Clause 29, as re-inserted by this House."—(*Mr. Solicitor General for Scotland.*)

GENERAL SIR GEORGE BALFOUR said, he hoped the Solicitor General for Scotland was all right in what he was doing. [*Laughter.*] The occupants of the Treasury Bench might laugh; but they did not know what was in his head.

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL FOR SCOTLAND (Mr. ASHER) said, he could assure his hon. and gallant Friend that the course he was taking had the entire concurrence of the Lord Advocate.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

Committee appointed, "to draw up Reasons to be assigned to The Lords for disagreeing to one of the Amendments made by The Lords to the Bill:"—Mr. DODSON, Mr. CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, Mr. SOLICITOR GENERAL, Mr. SHAW LÉVEYRE, The LORD ADVOCATE, Mr. SOLICITOR GENERAL for SCOTLAND, Sir CHARLES W. DILKE, and Lord RICHARD GROSVENOR:—Three to be the quorum:—To withdraw immediately.

BANKRUPTCY BILL.—[BILL 243.]

(*Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Solicitor General, Mr. John Holmes.*)

CONSIDERATION OF LORDS' AMENDMENTS.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Lords' Amendments to the Bill be considered forthwith."—(*Mr. Chamberlain.*)

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR said, this question of considering the Lords' Amendments to important measures had in times past given rise to a considerable amount of discussion. Thirty years ago a Standing Order was made that such Amendments should be considered on a subsequent day to that upon which they were introduced. That was a salutary rule; and as he was given to understand that there were upwards of 60 Amendments to this Bill, a copy of which he had been unable to obtain, he submitted that it was unreasonable to attempt to consider them forthwith.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, the Standing Order referred to did not prevent Amendments being considered when the House so ordered, as he asked should be done in this case. Although the Amendments were numerous, the vast majority of the alterations were by the draftsmen, and none of them raised any question of principle. He hoped, therefore, the House would consent to consider them at once.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR said, his object in desiring to defer the considera-

tion of the Amendments was, that the vested interests of a considerable number of officers of the Court of Bankruptcy, which were safeguarded by the Act of 1869, were seriously imperilled by this Act. If the Government could assent to a small Amendment to protect the interests of the officers of the Court of Bankruptcy, he would be willing to withdraw his opposition.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, the point was not touched by the Lords' Amendments.

MR. WARTON said, he must protest against the system of no proper or due Notice being given of the Amendments introduced in Bills by the House of Lords. The present practice was most scandalous, and rendered it most difficult for hon. Members to do their duty. He trusted some prominent Member of the House would move a Standing Order which would provide that a distinct interval should elapse between the Lords' Amendments being brought up and their being considered.

MR. BOURKE said, he hoped the Motion of the President of the Board of Trade would be adopted. At the same time, he trusted the course taken by the right hon. Gentleman in pressing the Amendment on the attention of the House without stating his reasons for so doing would not be established as a precedent.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

Page 1, after line 23, insert—

"If in England or elsewhere he makes any conveyance or transfer of his property, or any part thereof, or creates any charge thereon, which would, under this or any other Act, be void as a fraudulent preference if he were adjudged bankrupt,"

—the first Amendment, read a second time.

Amendment proposed, in line 3 of the said Amendment, to leave out the words "or any other."—(*Mr. Arthur O'Connor*.)

Question, "That the words 'or any other' stand part of the said Amendment," put, and *agreed to*.

Amendment *agreed to*.

Several Amendments *agreed to*.

Amendment in Clause 17, page 7, line 6, after "writing," insert "and shall be read over to," the next Amendment, read a second time.

Mr. Arthur O'Connor

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR proposed to amend the Amendment by inserting the words "or by one of the office shorthand writers attached to the court in order to secure accuracy in taking the depositions."

MR. SPEAKER said, the Amendment appeared to go beyond the scope of the Lords' Amendment, to which alone the attention of the House must be directed.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR pointed out that he merely wished to insert some words in the same place as the Lord had done to add to the protection of the debtor.

MR. SPEAKER said, it was not competent for him to put the hon. Member's Amendment from the Chair.

Lords' Amendment *agreed to*.

Several Amendments *agreed to*.

Clause 116, page 52, after line 40, insert—

"Provided that nothing in this section shall affect the right of any registrar or officer appointed before the passing of this Act to act as solicitor by himself, his clerk, or partner to the extent permitted by section sixty-nine of the Bankruptcy Act, 1869,"

—the next Amendment, read a second time.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR said that the Bill provided that no Registrar should practise as a solicitor, and that alteration made by the Lords was opposed to the policy of the Bill. He therefore, would move that the House disagree with the Lords' Amendment.

Motion made, and Question proposed "That this House doth disagree with the Lords in the said Amendment."—(*Mr. Arthur O'Connor*.)

MR. CHAMBERLAIN explained that the object of the Amendment was to prevent great hardships being inflicted upon existing Registrars, who had a right to practise in certain Courts.

Motion, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Lords' Amendment *agreed to*.

Several Amendments *agreed to*.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR complained of the difficulty of knowing how and when to move to amend the alterations introduced by their Lordships. He wished to move the insertion of certain words with the object of saving the interests of some eight or ten officials.

the Bankruptcy Court, who would be seriously affected by the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER, having received the Amendment from the hon. Member, said it appeared to go beyond the scope of the Lords' Amendment, and raised the question of compensation. It certainly could not be put from the Chair.

MR. J. G. TALBOT said, that the Bill had been materially altered in the other House, and they were obliged to deal with it in a very unsatisfactory way. The Bill was becoming law in a form which was almost unknown to the Members of that House. He did not doubt that the alterations made by the House of Lords were improvements; but Members of that House—as the Amendments had not been printed—had had no opportunity of considering their effect. Of course, if the Government were satisfied with the alterations which had been made, the House would be satisfied. But the whole responsibility of those Amendments rested with the Government alone. His hon. Friend the Member for Evesham (Mr. Dixon-Hartland), and other Members who had devoted great care and labour on the Bill, were exercising great forbearance in not criticizing the Amendments in detail; and he hoped that the Government would acknowledge that forbearance, and prevent the recurrence of such hasty legislation.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he did not think that the hon. Gentleman could have been in his place when he explained that, generally speaking, the whole of these Amendments were mere drafting Amendments, or to carry out pledges given to that House in the course of the passage of the Bill through the Grand Committee or through the Report stage. It was not, therefore, correct to say that the House of Lords had materially altered the Bill, and that they were called upon to accept it on faith. If there had been any serious Amendments of principle, he quite agreed that it would be impossible to ask for the forbearance of the House in taking them without further Notice. There was nothing unusual in the proceedings on that Bill, and nothing had happened which did not generally happen at the end of a Session. He admitted that the practice pursued to-day was one which it would be undesirable to extend; but the proposal was made for the convenience of Mem-

bers, and in order to avoid a prolongation of the Session.

MR. DIXON-HARTLAND said, he could not agree with the President of the Board of Trade that the Amendments were immaterial. The change of a single word sometimes made all the difference in an Act of Parliament, and the House did not know what the effect of the Amendments would be. It was next to impossible to grasp the general bearing of the Amendments, without seeing them printed on the Paper, and having more time to consider them. The responsibility of those Amendments lay wholly with the Government.

MR. WARTON said, he thought there ought to be time for the House to consider the question properly. The Amendments ought to have been placed in Members' hands properly paged and lined.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR said, he thought they were fairly entitled to say that the Amendments of the Lords were of such a nature as to require very serious consideration. Under the circumstances in which they were presented, it was absolutely impossible to draft any Amendment. He thought it was just as well that the country should understand the parody on legislation which they had lately witnessed.

Subsequent Amendments agreed to.

CONSOLIDATED FUND (APPROPRIATION) BILL.

(*Sir Arthur Otway, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Courtney.*)

THIRD READING.

Order for Third Reading read.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Bill be now read the third time."

MR. CALLAN said, he felt it his duty on this Bill to place on the Paper, so that the Attorney General for Ireland should have full Notice of it, a Motion dealing with jury-packing in Ireland. The Motion was—

"That the exclusion of Catholics from the juries in the Commission Court in Dublin in August and September, 1882, gave just cause of grave dissatisfaction to the Catholics of Ireland."

The House would also remember that he gave the Attorney General for Ireland special Notice as to Walsh's case. Any person conversant with the state of Ireland

for the past few years—indeed, he might say the state of Ireland for the past 40 years, for it was 40 years since O'Connell was tried—must be aware that no subject has enlisted such warm feeling, or excited more dissatisfaction amongst the Catholics of Ireland, than the persistent, unblushing, and in many cases audacious exclusion of their co-religionists from the jury panels; and if ever there was a time when their exclusion gave rise to more dissatisfaction, or during which the Officers of the Crown ought to have respected the rights and privileges of Catholics, it was during the last 12 months. It was 13 months ago since the Prevention of Crime Act, after a discussion in the House calculated to engender the most acrimonious feelings, was entrusted to the Executive in Ireland. That Act gave the Crown power to call together jurors in a manner unprecedented in the chequered history of Ireland; and the first occasion on which jurors under that Act were called together was at a Commission held in Dublin unfortunately before Mr. Justice Lawson. On the jury panel there were 193 jurors, of whom 112 were Protestants or non-Catholics, and 81 Catholics. At the first trial, at which he should say, in justice to him, the Attorney General for Ireland was not present, 20 jurors were set aside, of whom 18 were Catholics, and an exclusively Protestant jury was sworn. That was the case known as "The Kerry Outrage," not a capital case, nor was it one which excited any interest in the City of Dublin. Now, who were the Catholics set aside? They were men amongst the most respectable of the City, leading merchants and others; men like Mr. Vaughan, a retired merchant; Mr. Ennis, a young sporting gentleman; Mr. Lenehan, one of the principal leather merchants in Dublin; and Mr. Dennehy, a most extensive merchant. *The Freeman's Journal* next day, in a most moderate article, called attention to the matter; and what did the Attorney General for Ireland say of that article? He said it was intolerable that it should be permitted that any journalist or any man belonging to any profession or class in the community should exercise a right of supervision over his Lordship's Court, which right belonged to his Lordship alone. Well, he supposed the Attorney General

for Ireland meant, in referring to a other profession or class, to refer to the House. Well, they would see whether he was right in that assumption. O'Connor's case was tried on Thursday and on Friday a young man named Hynes was tried, and in his case Catholic jurors were ordered to sit aside, and an exclusively Protestant jury was sworn. In reference to that case another article appeared in *The Freeman's Journal*, in which it was stated that the belief was gaining ground that Catholic jurors were being set aside simply and solely because they were Catholics; and in that belief he might now say *'Freeman's Journal'* was supported every Catholic in Ireland, from Episcopal authority down to the poor peasant. Three days after that article was written, the Attorney General for Ireland, commenting on it, asked—"What is the obvious and necessary consequence of the publication of such an article? Well, he would say—"By the fruits you will know them." And what, he would ask the House, was the immediate obvious result of that article? The first trial that took place after it was published was that of Laurence Kelly, and on the jury in that case there were 10 Catholics and six Protestants. That was the immediate and obvious consequence of the article. But a most extraordinary circumstance connected with the case was that five of the Catholics sworn were actually ordered to sit aside in the O'Connor and Hynes' case or in Hynes' case alone. Did these men do their duty faithfully? Why, almost without leaving the box they found the man guilty. [THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND: Two hours.] He (Mr. Callan) expected that insinuation, and that was the reason he said almost without leaving the box. He would regard the two hours as showing the impartiality of the jury. The statement *The Freeman's Journal* was borne out by those who best knew it, for the Catholic jurors themselves signed a protest declaring that they were set aside because they were Catholics. And who was one of the signatories to that protest? Not a Home Ruler, not a Land League man, but Mr. Laurence Egan, a gentleman who resigned his seat in the Dublin Corporation because he could not coincide with the views of his constituents in their desire that the freedom of the

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City should be conferred on the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell). How happy it would be if hon. Members in that House would follow a like honourable course when they found their views did not coincide with the views of their constituents. For the article in *The Freeman's Journal* the hon. Member for Carlow County (Mr. Gray) was imprisoned for six months and fined £500; and he might say that the imprisonment of the hon. Member and the conduct of his newspaper in the matter placed *The Freeman's Journal* pre-eminently before the public of Ireland as a strong, determined, and fearless advocate of Catholic and Irish rights, and had placed the hon. Member himself in the foremost place in Irish politics as one of the most trusted Representatives of the Irish cause. When they had fined and imprisoned the hon. Member for Carlow County, the Crown, of course, found they were safe again; and in the very next case—the first trial of Patrick Walsh—the Crown Officers adopted the extraordinary course of suppressing the names of the jurors, so that they could not see who was told to stand aside. They knew, however, the men who were on the jury, and they were 12 true blues, and not a single Catholic. On the second trial of Patrick Walsh a little incident occurred which, he thought, would prove to the House the truth of his contention that jurors were set aside because they were Catholics, and for that reason alone. Mr. Thomas Phillips, partner of Mr. Charles Healy, was called. Mr. George Bolton, the chaste and virtuous friend of the Attorney General for Ireland, was in charge of the case, and he challenged Mr. Phillips. Mr. Samuel Anderson would have made no such mistake, for he knew the religion and politics of every juror in Dublin; but Mr. Bolton, trying his 'prentice hand at the work, challenged Mr. Phillips because he happened to be a partner of a Catholic. Immediately that he did so, the gentleman who did the registration work for the Constitutional Club and the marking of the jury lists for the Crown rushed across to Mr. Bolton, and it was apparent to everyone in Court that a mistake had been made, and that a true blue had been set aside. In this very trial, although the Crown allowed Mr. E. Johnson, restaurant keeper and retailer, to be on the

jury, he being a Protestant, yet five Catholics who held retail licences were objected to. He (Mr. Callan) was very glad to see the Attorney General for Ireland following him so closely, because the right hon. and learned Gentleman was present in Court while the whole of this packing of juries was going on at the hands of Mr. George Bolton, with whom the right hon. and learned Gentleman was in constant communication. At the first trial, as he had said, 11 Catholics were struck off, five of them being holders of retail licences. The next trial he would refer to was that of the man Walsh for the murder of Constable Kavanagh, which was begun on the 27th September. The present Attorney General for Ireland, then Solicitor General for Ireland, was present at this trial. Mr. Thomas Phillips was again called; but the chaste and virtuous George Bolton, having found by this time that Mr. Phillips was a Protestant, allowed him to be sworn in. Mr. Edward Johnson, although he held a retail licence, yet had done good service at the previous trial, and he also was not objected to. Mr. W. J. Halliday, a grocer, holding a retail licence and a Protestant, was ordered to be sworn, although Mr. James Carroll, a gentleman holding precisely the same position, together with eight other Catholics, was ordered to stand by. Another gentleman who was struck off was Mr. Abraham Shackleton, a magistrate and a Quaker. In these two trials 26 Catholics were struck off in the presence of the Attorney General for Ireland. From beginning to end not one Catholic was allowed to appear. He would let these facts speak for themselves. He was convinced that not even the ferocious Coercion Act—not even the vindictive Prevention of Crime Act—had envenomed the population of Ireland so much against the present Government as their course of conduct with regard to juries. He was sorry the Prime Minister was not in his place, for he believed him to be a man of justice, and he would have asked him to intervene. The Prime Minister was the only surviving Member of the Cabinet by whose conduct O'Connell was done to death, and the only surviving Member of the Cabinet whose Attorney General convicted O'Connell by a manipulation of the jury panel, which in the House of Lords Lord Denman said had produced a jury which was a delusion, a

mockery, and a snare. Men had been ordered during the recent trial to stand aside whose fathers were more respectable than the Attorney General for Ireland's father, and whose own position was fully equal to that of the right hon. and learned Gentleman. This conduct on the part of the Government had encouraged the contemptible pettifoggers who were the Crown prosecutors throughout the country. He was present last March at Dundalk, the first town on the Circuit to which the Attorney General for Ireland belonged, the Crown prosecutor being Mr. Parkinson, a staunch Conservative. There was only one small case of larceny, and the prosecutor declined to challenge; but, to the surprise of everybody, the Crown Prosecutor said he was bound to act up to his instructions, and 18 jurors were accordingly called. The first was a Catholic, a wealthy and independent man, and he was ordered to stand aside. Two jurors were sworn, and the fourth person who came up was also sworn, although he held a retail licence, and was so described in the panel. He, however, was a Protestant. That showed that Catholic jurors were ordered to stand aside whilst Protestants were sworn in. He would ask whether in the Phoenix Park trials the Government did not find that Catholics returned verdicts according to the evidence? The presiding Judge, Mr. Justice O'Brien, on that occasion knew the tendency of the Crown officials to pack juries; and when he was Crown Prosecutor at Green Street had repeatedly told him (Mr. Callan) that the tendency was to exclude Catholics and to pack juries. For himself, he placed the most entire confidence in the impartiality, the high character, and the fairness of the learned Judge, who had said that by a jury of half Catholics and half Protestants they were more likely to get a verdict according to the evidence than by any other means. He (Mr. Callan) held the Attorney General for Ireland responsible for this packing of juries, and for the exclusion of Catholics when it took place in his presence, and when the party by whom the packing was done was one of the right hon. and learned Gentleman's subordinates. What could Catholics feel with respect to the Executive Government when they saw their brother Catholics, worthy and independent men,

treated in this way. Unfortunately many of them hitherto had been pure unadulterated Whigs; but he trusted after this they would ever be found on the side of determined opposition to Government. He knew that the feeling of the North of Ireland Unitarians against the Catholics was very strong, and the Attorney General for Ireland was one of the most cherished Representatives of that feeling. What he wished to impress upon the House was that the conduct of the Attorney General for Ireland in permitting such audacious and scandalous proceedings as the capricious and insulting exclusion of Catholic jurors was conduct that merited the condemnation of every Irish Catholic, and conduct which he hoped would at the next Election, bring down vengeance upon the Representatives of the Government in Ireland.

Mr. O'BRIEN said, this jury-packing was so open and unblushing that he wondered why even such a grave Gentleman as the Attorney General for Ireland did not burst out laughing when he attempted to defend it. In the case of his (Mr. O'Brien's) own trial—though as far as the learned Judge who tried the case, and the personal demeanour of the Law Officers of the Crown went, had nothing to complain of—and although he himself declined to challenge a juror—yet the jury was shamelessly packed under his own eyes. Catholics after Catholics—some of them men in the very highest position in Dublin were made to stand aside, and Protestants took their places. Just two Catholics were allowed on that jury, and they were admitted simply because on the previous day they happened to be on a jury, and had found a verdict without leaving the box that had sent a man to penal servitude for life. If there was anything more distrusted in Ireland than the system of jury-packing, it was the hypocrisy with which officials were found to stand up in that House to explain away. He would now call attention to another matter—namely, the conduct of the Resident Magistrate (Captain Phelkett) in the case of a so-called "Black-cotted" blacksmith, named Halliss at Aughabullogue. This magistrate wrote a letter promising to relieve a parish of a police tax of £200 a-year so if the people would subscribe £100, and present Hallissey with it, to enable

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him to leave the country. Never such a letter had ever been written by a bandit, not to say official. This was as plain a case of levying blackmail on the district as any since the days of Rob Roy Macgregor—"Collect the money, and I will have the police removed; fail to do so, and they shall remain;" and this on behalf of a man that had been fleecing the parish, and keeping it in hot water by getting up a bogus story of being fired at. When he (Mr. O'Brien) brought this matter before the Chief Secretary for Ireland, the right hon. Gentleman replied that the offer came quite spontaneously from the parishioners, and that it was out of his mere bounty that Captain Plunkett had agreed to the terms. On that reply appearing next morning, the parishioners held a meeting under the presidency of their priest, in which they stated that "nothing could be further from the truth than the version given by the Chief Secretary for Ireland." But, as a matter of fact, the parishioners were placed "between the devil and the deep sea," and had either to pay these policemen or pay Hallissey off. But to represent them as consenting parties to this transaction was but repeating the old story of representing the tenant farmers as consenting parties to their own rack-renting, when, to use the simile of the Prime Minister, landlordism stood over them like a ruffian with a knuckle-duster. He wanted to know if there was not a law which Captain Plunkett was distinctly and flagrantly violating when he wrote this letter to Father Ahearn? There was the Intimidation Clause of the Prevention of Crime Act, which made it illegal to compel a man to do that which he had a legal right to abstain from doing. Captain Plunkett could not have more clearly violated that law unless he were to go about enforcing his will with a revolver. He wanted the same law enforced in the South against a magistrate which had been enforced in Loughrea against young men who were collecting funds to defend untried prisoners. Suppose the people subscribed the £50 that was required to emigrate Hallissey, was there anything to prevent him raising the figure to £100? He understood his hon. Friend the Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) was going to refer to the Crossmaglen cases; and he would help him by mentioning some

facts which came to his own knowledge as to the practices by which the police endeavoured to obtain convictions. The man Bannican, of Tullyard, made an affidavit that the police arrested him and carried him to the police barrack without a warrant. In the barrack the police told him some persons had sworn against him, and reminded him that he had a wife and large family. Bannican replied that he had no evidence to give; and at 3 o'clock in the morning he was released, without having been brought before a magistrate. The Chief Secretary for Ireland at first, in reply to a Question, totally denied these circumstances. That was rather puzzling; and he (Mr. O'Brien) investigated the matter, and ascertained that Bannican, his wife, and mother-in-law were ready to swear that the police did invade his house at midnight, did make threats and statements to him, and did carry him four miles to the barrack without a warrant. What was the Chief Secretary's reply? He said that in the interests of public justice he could not answer any more Questions on this subject. Was it safe for the Chief Secretary now to explain the meaning of his mysterious answer? He was afraid this was only a small part of the system by which these unfortunate Crossmaglen men were handed over to the tender mercies of Mr. Duffy, the informer, and a jury of Belfast Orangemen. He would only add that so long as Her Majesty's Government endeavoured to extort evidence by means of terrorism and the holding out of unworthy inducements, they would succeed in nothing but the establishment of a permanent hatred and contempt of the law.

MR. GRAY said, he hoped some answer would be given by the Government to the very grave charges that had been brought against their Irish policy.

MR. TREVELYAN said, the hon. Member for Mallow (Mr. O'Brien) had stated some facts of Hallissey's case accurately; but there were other facts which put the matter in a different light.

Notice taken, that 40 Members were not present; House counted, and 40 Members being found present.

MR. TREVELYAN, resuming, said, the case of Hallissey's unpopularity was that in the position of a blacksmith he worked for persons who had earned

the displeasure of the political combinations in the neighbourhood. If he had done otherwise he would have been guilty of what no good citizen should be guilty of—namely, refusing to give the accommodation which his trade was intended to afford to persons who called upon him in the ordinary way of business. That was his crime. Let them see what was his punishment. From a report made in 1882 he learned that Hallissey was “Boycotted” by his former customers. He had been earning 35s. a-week; but he was reduced to penury with all its consequences. His health suffered from anxiety and absolute poverty; and two of his neighbours who showed him some little kindness had their ploughshares broken during one night, as a warning that “Captain Moonlight” had his eye upon them, and that they had, therefore, better not follow the dictates of their own consciences any longer. The poor man then applied to the Government, and stated that even his doctor was afraid to visit him. He was then visited by the dispensary doctor, and received some little help from the Government to keep him going. When his cruel neighbours failed to get rid of him by the milder methods of “Boycotting” they resorted to rougher means; and in October, as he was standing at his door, he was struck by a stone, which rendered him senseless for some time. “Boycotting” was subsequently continued, and the case was one in which the Government was clearly bound to apply the power which was put into their hands by Parliament. He could not conceive a stronger case. It became absolutely the duty of the Government to show that in Ireland, as in England and Scotland, a citizen who did his duty by the community had a right to live. Under such circumstances the police tax was imposed, and it was found very irksome indeed by the community. There was a general desire to get rid of the burden, and negotiations began between the police officers and the parish priest. Captain Plunkett telegraphed to him that the parish priest originated a collection of money for the purpose of emigrating Hallissey. So far from Captain Plunkett having originated the proposal, it was evident that at the time he sent the telegram he was under the impression that the Rev. Mr. Ahearn had got up the sub-

scription. That, however, was not the case. The proposal originated in a conversation between Mr. Langan and the parish priest, and it came, in the first place, from the former. The parish priest informed Mr. Langan that he saw no prospect of the “Boycotting” ceasing, and the Resident Magistrate stated the police could not be moved as long as Hallissey's life was in danger. Under these circumstances, the parish priest, who had the confidence of the parishioners large on the one hand, and the magistrates representing the Government on the other, came together and had a talk. The parish priest said he allowed Hallissey was in danger, and that the danger would not cease so long as he was in the country. The magistrate assured him that the Government had not imposed the police tax for vindictive purposes, but for the very practical purpose of protecting a man's life, and that if that man left the country the tax would be removed. The hon. Member for Mallow might call it blackmail, and he might compare Captain Plunkett a ruffian standing over them with knuckle-duster; but he (Mr. Trevelyan) thought the negotiations were honorable both to Mr. Ahearn and to Captain Plunkett. The hon. Member for Mallow said he might be disposed to look favourably upon the Government's emigration scheme, if they would use it for the purpose of ridding the country of citizens like Hallissey. What a terrible sentiment that was. What was Hallissey's fault? Why, that he had done his duty as an honest tradesman and as a fearless citizen. The consequence was that his heart had been broken and his business had been ruined. The hon. Gentleman had nothing to say against the man except that he was popular among the people. He, however, thought that Hallissey was the sort of man whom they wanted to rid the country of; but he (Mr. Trevelyan) was of opinion that citizens like Hallissey were exactly the sort of citizens who were wanted in Ireland as well as in any other country. It was only because the district had got into an extremely unhealthy state that emigration had been resorted to, and that a citizen who ought to have remained at work in his village had been compelled to leave the country. The poor man, he took it, would not stick out in order to make a good

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bargain for himself. His life was as undeservedly miserable as it could be; but he hoped the affair would end amicably, and in a manner that would be popular with the respectable part of the community. He regretted that transactions which appeared to prove that things were mending in Ireland should have been characterized by epithets so very severe as those used by the hon. Member for Mallow. The case of Hallissey was interesting for its typical character, and he was not sorry that it had been brought before the House; but he earnestly hoped that hon. Members who might follow would not adopt the same tone of speech. He would leave the Crossmaglen case to be dealt with by the Attorney General for Ireland. The hon. Member had asked for an explanation in that case, and if he could have given any explanation he would have given it at first. He had said, four months ago, that it was impossible to answer that question in the interests of justice, and it was now impossible to answer the question in the interests of justice.

Mr. MOLLOY, recurring to the case of Mrs. Graham, who confessed while in prison for theft that she had written threatening letters in the neighbourhood of Castle Jordan, and stated that she had been instigated to do so by a blacksmith named Denny Glynn, observed, that the answer of the Chief Secretary to a question put by the hon. Member for Newcastle (Mr. J. Cowen) absolutely and entirely confirmed the statement which he made with regard to the matter on Saturday last. The threatening letters were followed by the crimes which they said would be committed, and in consequence of which the district was proclaimed; and yet, by a farce of justice, no action was taken against the woman, nor against the instigator of the threatening letters. In her confession, she said—"Denny Glynn, the blacksmith, was the man who put all this misfortune upon me;" and she then alluded to a threatening letter sent to a man named M'Namara, a farmer, whose house was burned to the ground, himself and his family having had a narrow escape from being burned to death. In that case the threat contained in the letter was followed by the crime itself. And so it was in two other cases. What he complained of was, that the district was proclaimed

while the person guilty of the crimes was allowed to escape. For six long months he had been endeavouring to obtain an investigation; and to-day he was told that his statement that the woman was not prosecuted, and that the Government refused to prosecute, was incorrect, because, according to the right hon. Gentleman, she pleaded guilty, and was allowed to depart in peace. He maintained that his statement was correct, and that his case remained unrefuted, uncontradicted, and unanswered. He would say no more than that he again challenged investigation in the interests of peace, order, and justice. One of the sufferers by the outrages, Mr. Carew, on whose gates the threatening letters were posted, had been selected to bear nearly the whole penalty. Mr. Carew was a man of position who took no part in politics, and yet the extra police tax had been thrown upon the whole of his property, while the property all round was left untouched.

Mr. HEALY said, he had no hope of influencing the House, or of getting anything but a series of denials from the right hon. Gentlemen who were paid in the House to give the answers desired by the police; but he desired to put forward certain cases, so that public attention might be called to them. He simply regarded the Attorney General for Ireland as the humble servant of the police. Whatever the police did in Ireland they were backed up by the Government on all hands. With regard to the statement made by the hon. Member for King's County (Mr. Molloy), it remained entirely unrefuted; but what notice had been taken of it by the House? The House had done nothing more than what honest Liberals should do, and merely cheered the Government. It would not affect the English newspapers, which did not quote facts, and only abused the Irish Members for what they called their scandalous conduct; and so the game went on. He would draw the attention of the House to the case of the Crossmaglen prisoners, and to the conduct of a person of the "blacksmith species," named Duffy, who had sought, by means of fraudulent books, to connect hundreds of young men with the Patriotic Brotherhood. One man, Patrick Finnigan, whom he had said had been sworn to shoot Brooke, of Castleblayney, had been afterwards

found to have been in Glasgow at the time; and Donnelly, of Carnally, who was stated to have burned down a mill, had gone to America two months before the mill was burnt down. After these two facts, what now did they think of Mr. Duffy, the firm and gentle Mr. Duffy, the versatile, the candid Mr. Duffy, the Governmental Mr. Duffy?—for no adjectives would be complete without capping the climax. At Belfast the Government produced two books—the Mullabawn book and the Crossmaglen book. Doubt, much similar to that cast on the Shapira manuscripts, was thrown on the Mullabawn book and the Crossmaglen book. To a person of true investigating spirit, the manner of the discovery of those books put forward by the Government Sub-Inspector was extremely interesting. This Sub-Inspector swore—and this was the only corroboration the Government had—that the books were found in a wall of a house belonging to one Nugent, and that Patrick Waters stated that the Crossmaglen book was a genuine document, and had written him a letter to that effect. The inquisitive public asked what became of that letter. Wonderful, was it not, the obstacles thrown in the way of law and order in Ireland? The public ought to be more gentle and more lenient in its inquiries in the matter of Irish criminal trials. They, however, were there representing the public; and they, in the interests of the public, demanded to be told what became of Patrick Waters' letter? What was the story of the Sub-Inspector? The Sub-Inspector could not find the letter. Perhaps it might be that the Attorney General for Ireland had got the letter now in his despatch-box, and would produce it triumphantly to refute the libels upon justice coming from men who dared challenge the word of a real live Sub-Inspector. Let him do it if he was able. Would the Attorney General for Ireland go the length of saying that Mr. Duffy was inspired; because, otherwise, how could they account for the fact that in the Mullabawn book he gave full-length speeches of all these dark conspirators? Was he an adept at stenography, this literary blacksmith? Even from Mr. Hallissey, the Mallow blacksmith, for whose comfort the Government did so much, it would be too much to expect that he would be able to take down long

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speeches *verbatim*. That being so, the Government was in great difficulty to make things square, and so they never allowed the prisoners or their counsel to get a glimpse at these books. They went about, however, amongst the prisoners showing them these books, and telling them that if they only pleaded guilty they would be allowed out on their own recognizances. The minions of the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland—who professed to be so eager in the interests of justice, and who was so anxious that no innocent man should be found guilty—would not allow the unfortunate prisoners, or one representing them, a minute to scrutinize these volumes until the day of the trial, when they were flung for a few minutes to the prisoners' counsel to be snatched back again and handed over to *The Northern Whig*, the chief literary supporter of the Attorney General. But when *The Northern Whig* circulated in Crossmaglen another batch of these unfortunate prisoners had been convicted; and so the hundreds of men who would have come forward and shattered to atoms the statements in that infamous production were too late, and when some of them did arrive in Belfast all was over. The right hon. and learned Gentleman was very anxious for the interests of justice—very anxious. They wished his interest in these men—innocent men—would have allowed him to let them know what the charges were that he had brought against them. It was no part of his business, he would say, to get up the evidence for defence. But for what else did he draw his salary, except to give innocent men a chance? He was not paid by the taxpayers of this country only to find them guilty, though between him and his Colleagues he got £9,000 a-year in fees for doing it. He was not paid to find unfortunate peasants guilty on such evidence as this—in these two books—infernal machines he (Mr. Healy) would prefer to call them—fabricated by the police system in Ireland. Men were locked up in Ireland without any means of knowing what charges were made against them until the informer came on the table and swore. Had they—Gentleman—they all these machines they mi

of British might behind it; they had him for six months, with all the torture of solitary confinement, deprived of his friends, deprived of everything, with informers fabricating charges against him, and could they try him then by a Catholic jury—he would not say Catholics, it would be an insult—could they try him by a jury of 12 Invincibles—12 sworn members of a secret society, what chance would there be for his neck? Why, he could by this patent plan find any man in that House guilty of any conceivable offence, from the Prime Minister downwards—very much downwards. Give him an informer, give him a dozen policemen, give him an Invincible jury, give him solitary confinement, give him the reverse of Judge Lawson, and where was the one he would not convict? Why, he would have the 500 or 600 Members of that House in penal servitude in the twinkling of an eye. No evidence whatever was forthcoming against these 12 men except the evidence of the informer Duffy, and the Crossmaglen book, and the Mullabawn book. It was for nothing Michael Bannican was dragged out of his bed at night by Constable Gartland, threatened that he had better tell all or it would be worse for him; but, unfortunate man, like the needy knife-grinder's story, he had none to tell, and he preferred solitary confinement from Constable Gartland to inventing stories against his fellow-men. But they got Mr. O'Hanlon, who swore that he belonged to the so-called conspiracy, and saw one of the prisoners write in the Mullabawn book. What happened to Mr. O'Hanlon? He was so smitten at the idea of sending 12 innocent men to the gallows or penal servitude, and freed from the terrorism of the police, that he said he would prefer to go to penal servitude himself than swear falsely against the men. The County Armagh, where this conspiracy was alleged to have existed, was a county where there were as many Protestants as Catholics; but although a county where both were evenly balanced, not a man, Catholic or Protestant, believed a word of Mr. Duffy's story about the Crossmaglen book and the Mullabawn book. There everybody pretty well knew what Duffy's character was; but the Protestant county of Armagh was not good enough for the Irish police

machinery, and so they took the unfortunate men to Belfast. *Blackstone* it was, he believed, who spoke of the desirability of men being tried in the locality in which they lived, and where everything was known about them; but in this 19th century they had got a long way ahead of *Blackstone*. They had got, in fact, to Porter, and he doubted not that succeeding generations would be greatly bettered by the experience of this enlightened age. But the men were removed from the Protestant county of Armagh to Belfast; and the other night the Attorney General for Ireland made great capital out of the fact that they were tried there by a common jury. *Mavrone!* There was very little necessity to try in Belfast "the good old rule, the simple plan," of Crown challenge. That was a region well known to the Attorney General for Ireland. [THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND: Hear, hear!] He was glad to have the approving cheer of the right hon. and learned Gentleman, for well he knew the juries of the County Antrim. Twelve peasants from the hills of Armagh tried before a jury on which there was not one member of the old faith—a faith that would live in Ireland when Unitarianism would have sunk into the infinite azure of the past. There, before Judge Lawson, they were tried and found guilty, as a matter of course; and what was the verdict of Ireland on the trials? He would give that in the words of the editor of *The Daily Express*, the gentleman who was Dublin Correspondent of *The Times*, the editor of the Orange organ of Ireland; and what did he say—

"We would not find fault with the jury if they were unable to come to a conclusion that the men were guilty."

Bernard Smyth had been released because he was spitting blood. Why not also release Michael Waters, who was dying of consumption? The boy was not 19 when arrested. He was kept over 12 months in gaol without trial; and the unfortunate lad would not last much longer in Mountjoy Prison unless he was speedily released. Why was he detained, when Smyth, a much halderman, was liberated? If that was the way the British Government proposed to strike terror, they would only strike shame and hatred into the people. Who was afraid of the British Government? The

people of Ireland only despised them. Strike terror! The whole population of Armagh, even the landlord and Protestant class, before whom they dared not try the Crossmaglen prisoners, believed them innocent. Did the Government hope to strike terror into the guilty by imprisoning and hanging innocent men? It was only the British Government that were capable of such an attempt to maintain law and order. The people of Ireland loved justice; no people could be found more anxious for the carrying out of a just law than they were. Irish Attorney Generals since the days of Davis had only changed by becoming blacker. Where was the innocent man who, after being confined in a miserable cell, fed with miserable food, allowed to speak to nobody, kept 12 months awaiting trial, and then tortured by informers, might not be induced to plead guilty in the hope of being let out on his own recognizances? Yet these Crossmaglen men refused all proffers of the kind made to them, strong in the belief that innocence must triumph. It was by this system of police, of terrorism, and ruffianism, which was upheld by officials getting large salaries in Ireland, that justice was defeated. Irish Members were accused of using strong language. One would imagine, from what had been said, that they should only be engaged on those Benches with a thurifer incensing the Treasury Bench. Understand the present position in Ireland. Nine-tenths of the people hated and the other one-tenth despised the English, for they knew—the hon. and gallant Member for the County of Dublin (Colonel King-Harman), and the hon. Member for the County of Leitrim (Mr. Tottenham) knew—as well as they did what the whole game was. They knew that they were simply an engine for the extraction of rent and for the extraction of taxes. From the day the English first landed on their shores, 700 years ago, down to this 23rd of August, 1883, they did nothing for the people that they could possibly abstain from doing. They rack-rented, tortured, and oppressed the country in the interests of a miserable clique. The right hon. and learned Gentleman would get up and read out to them his Mullabawn book and his Crossmaglen book; but let him read them to his supporters. He would produce no conviction upon the minds of Irish

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Members, and they could not hope to produce conviction on his mind—his £9,000 a-year was against it. The Government had all the weight of interest, of money, of position in their favour. They had the seven deadly sins on their side—they had everything that the oppressor and the tyrant had; but let them not hope to influence the minds of his hon. Friends. Let them make their speeches, make their statements, produce their police documents, talk to the English public; but the Irish public would neither believe them nor respect them.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. PORTER) said, he deeply regretted the tone of the speech of the last speaker. In this closing day of the Session it was obviously the intention of the hon. Member who had delivered the speech, avowedly to the outside public, to do anything he could to prevent the return of the discordant element, and that return to law and peace, which alone would result in the release of those whom the hon. Member had to represent. So long as crime stalked through the land, so long as law was insecure, so long would it be impossible to hope for that which ought to be the wish of everyone who was influenced by a spark of real patriotism. The hon. Member had again, upon this occasion, endeavoured to bring discredit upon everything connected with the administration of law and justice; and he had laboured to extend sympathy not only to everyone who was accused of crime, but everyone who had been convicted of crime. He had never laid claim to the merits of his Predecessor, to nothing except a conscientious endeavour to do his duty in the disagreeable position in which he was placed, and he should endeavour to do so in future, undaunted by the threats of hon. Members. The hon. Member for Louth (Mr. Callan) had gone over ground that had already been traversed several times this Session. He had nothing to add, in answer to him, to what he had already stated. He had to say, as he had said before, that the directions which were given by his respected Predecessor alone, that there should be no

There was one

statement

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persons, a

that direct corroboration which was brought home to others.

MR. PARNELL: This is rather an important point. Will the right hon. and learned Gentleman say whether there was such corroboration in the case of Coleman?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) said, he could not undertake to say from recollection whether there was such corroboration in the case of Coleman, because he was not present at the trial, and only knew what took place from reading the reports and the informations. He would say that in nearly all the other cases there was positive and clear corroboration. It was true that Smith's name appeared in the book; but when he petitioned the Lord Lieutenant, he pointed out that there were five others of the same name in the same district, and that he might have been mistaken, and the upright and learned Judge who tried the case recommended, when the memorial was submitted to him, that its prayer should be agreed to. But the name of the learned Judge had been upon this occasion, as upon every other, foully bespattered. ["No, no!"]

MR. HEALY: Will the right hon. and learned Gentleman quote the "foul bespattering?"

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER): As to the second batch of prisoners, it was possible that they might have received a lighter sentence if they had not been persuaded by mischievous advisers to take their chance of a trial. This was a case in which it was idle to expect the House to review the decision of a jury; but he maintained that no single circumstance, founded on fact, had been mentioned by the hon. Members who had impugned the trial, which cast the slightest doubt upon the propriety or justice of the proceedings. The hon. Member for Monaghan also referred to the case of Hallissey, calling him a man of no business, although his right hon. Friend the Chief Secretary for Ireland had shown him to be a prosperous man, earning 35s. a-week.

MR. HEALY: Might I ask the right hon. and learned Gentleman whether he was receiving outdoor relief? ["Order!"]

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER): Does the hon. Member say that of his own knowledge?

MR. HEALY: Yes, I do.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER): From his own knowledge?

MR. HEALY: From the statements of the Board of Guardians.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. PORTER) said, he should believe that that was after the "Boycotting" until something was proved to the contrary. Mrs. Green was prosecuted and returned for trial, and she was prosecuted; but the Crown could not prevent her pleading guilty. The Judge gave her a lenient sentence, because it was quite plain she had been acting under the influence of her husband, a working mason. The reason why the man she named was not prosecuted was that the Crown did not believe he had anything to do with the offences, while he was a man who had been "Boycotted" on account of his interest in the trade dispute then existing. The statement of the woman was utterly uncorroborated, and if it had been acted upon it would have been complained that the Crown were using the evidence of informers. He cared not for personal attacks upon himself, nor for the menaces made against himself. He admitted his inferiority to the men who had gone before him. He admitted that his right hon. and learned Predecessor, who had not long left the House, was a man in every way his superior, except in his determination to do his duty fearlessly, perfectly undismayed by anything that went on either inside or outside of that House, content to leave his conduct to be judged by those who, in the long run, would give credit to a man of honesty of purpose, and for steadfastness of determination in duty.

MR. PARNELL said, this case of the peasants convicted at the Belfast Assizes of conspiracy to murder had excited a very great amount of attention, not only in the North of Ireland, but throughout the rest of the country, and he thought he was safe in saying that it was the universal conviction in Ireland, and that that conviction would still remain despite the eloquence and special pleading of the Attorney General for Ireland, that

in the case in question a number of innocent persons were now enduring penal servitude; the belief was universal that these people were unjustly convicted and sentenced for offences which they had not committed. How far had they now got in this case? To a virtual admission by the Government that one of the persons was unjustly convicted, and that there was not sufficient evidence to maintain the sentence inflicted upon him, for they found that Bernard Smith was released unconditionally by the Lord Lieutenant from the sentence of penal servitude. He did not believe, and it was useless to tell them, that mere spitting of blood by a prisoner sentenced to penal servitude in Ireland on a grave offence of this kind would secure his release. Such a statement was preposterous. He confessed he had formed, previous to this discussion, a very strong opinion as to the innocence of those men, and he had hoped to hear from the Attorney General for Ireland some attempt, at all events, to inquire dispassionately into this case, as if he were a seeker after truth, and not a person endeavouring, by pleading quibbles and technicalities, to uphold the administration of what was called law and order in Ireland. But the right hon. and learned Gentleman evaded the force and point of the attack of his hon. Friend, and turned aside to miserable quibbles and special pleading which might have done credit to some Petty Sessions attorney, but which were not creditable in a case of this grave character, and which he did not expect to hear from the lips of the Attorney General for Ireland. The right hon. and learned Gentleman said these prisoners were tried before a common jury. Yes, a jury of common Orange rowdies taken from such localities as the Pound, and a class from which those ship carpenters came who annually assembled, armed with bludgeons and weapons, for the purpose of attempting to take the lives or of inflicting injury upon their Catholic fellow-countrymen. A special jury in Belfast would be infinitely less unfair in a trial of this kind than a common jury taken from that class. Their contention simply was that a jury of Northern Protestants taken from the class to which this common jury belonged could not possibly be a fair one under the circumstances. Would any hon. Member like to be tried in any

case, however slight, by a jury of illiterate men consisting of his political enemies? He ventured to think no hon. Member would feel himself safe in such a condition. Yet these proceedings were of daily occurrence in Ireland, and he occurred in reference to the lives and liberties, not of people of importance in the country, but of the humblest class of mountain peasant such as had been described by his hon. Friend, who were now suffering terrible sentences in Mourjoy Prison. Ordinarily, prisoners were allowed the right of 20 challenges; but the prisoners were put on trial on charge which amounted to misdemeanour, and they were in that way limited collectively to six challenges, while the Crown had an unlimited right to order jurors to stand aside. The wonderful books which were produced on the trial and which were supposed to contain internal evidence of genuineness, were persistently withheld from the gentlemen defending the prisoners, and they got only such a glance at them as rendered it impossible they could adequately defend the prisoners in respect of their contents. The right hon. and learned Gentleman accused his hon. Friend of endeavouring to bring law and order into discredit. That discredit was brought by themselves. It was brought by such trials as this, and the issue of such trials. He was informed that the case against Coleman, who was still in penal servitude, was precisely the same as that against Bernard Smith who had been released, and in reference to whom the Judge—the notorious Judge Lawson—in putting the case to the jury pointed out that there was comparatively little evidence, and that all probability of law and justice in Ireland would not suffer if they were acquitted. The right hon. and learned Gentleman the Attorney General for Ireland had said that a change of venue was justified on the ground of intimidation. It was rather too late for the Government to plead that change of venue was necessary when there had been the successful prosecutions in the case of the Dublin assassinations and the attempt on the life of Mr. Field conducted to a successful issue in the City where the offence had been committed. The change of venue from Armagh to Antrim had been necessary in order that the unfortunate people might be prevented from

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proving their innocence. He trusted the result of the debate would induce the Government to investigate the case of Coleman, and that if they found the evidence as slight as that against Smith they would not wait till blood-spitting or some more fatal malady had set in before they opened the prison doors to him. It was not the first time that there had been an amnesty movement in Ireland, out of which great benefits had come to the Irish people; and the Crown Officials in Ireland might depend upon it that no exertions, no expenditure, no risk, no odium would be shrunk from in order to procure the release by the Irish people, and their Representatives, from the horrible penalty of penal servitude of those whom public opinion in Ireland deemed to be innocent.

Mr. HARRINGTON said, he heard with great surprise the statement of the Attorney General for Ireland that he had given directions that in no case was the religion of a juror to be made the cause of his rejection. The Attorney General for Ireland might wish his Colleagues to believe that he had no desire to pack juries; but the trials in Dublin, where there were large numbers of Roman Catholics upon the panel, and only Protestants were selected, pointed to the contrary. The right hon. and learned Gentleman did not when he conducted a certain trial in Dublin deny that the jury was packed. In that case he distinctly heard him say that it was necessary to pack the jury. The case he referred to was that of his hon. Friend the Member for Mallow (Mr. O'Brien), who was tried for writing an article attacking the system of jury packing. He was surprised that when the fact was patent to every peasant in Ireland, the right hon. and learned Gentleman should stand up and deny its existence. He did not think the right hon. and learned Gentleman would be contented to be tried by others than those of his own religion, or who were opposed to his political friends.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, he had sat night after night, and heard his right hon. and learned Colleague (the Attorney General for Ireland) attacked and abused, and there were few Members of the House who, perhaps, knew more clearly than he how entirely unfounded those attacks and censures were. His right hon. and

learned Colleague needed no defender, since he had proved to-night how ably, eloquently, and completely he could defend himself; and, although it was said that his right hon. and learned Friend had used the quibbles of a Petty Sessions practitioner, those who heard that criticism would probably come to the conclusion that if the charges against him were equally well-founded, he need care very little for the attacks made against him. He (the Attorney General) knew something of the responsibility of a Law Officer of the Crown; but his right hon. and learned Friend had had to perform those duties in a situation of peculiar difficulty, and in a country where crime was popular. [*Cries of "No!"*] Well, where crime was rendered popular. He had had to discharge his duties under circumstances that would appal most men, in a country where the Judges stood in danger of their lives, and where jurymen who fulfilled the obligation of their oaths were attempted to be murdered. The hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Healy) had said nine-tenths of the people of Ireland hated the Government of Ireland. What had the hon. Member done to lessen that number? [*Cheers.*] From these cheers he gathered that the hon. Member had sought to add to their number, and that he had sought to add to the number of jurymen who hated the Government and hated the administration of the law, and who would do nothing if they could to bring guilty men to justice. Against the men who had helped to produce this condition of things his right hon. and learned Friend in Ireland had had to contend, and night by night he had had to stand by and hear his Colleague accused. He knew how careful and jealous the Attorney General for Ireland had always been to see that nothing should be done to the prejudice of any accused person, and how he had endeavoured to give to everyone the opportunity of proving his innocence. He therefore hoped it would be thought not unnatural, when he heard all this abuse, that he should find it impossible to remain silent. It was not for him to speak in general terms of what might be done if a different tone were adopted by hon. Members; but when the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) said there had often been a period of great

amnesty in Ireland, was he not aware there was not one of those who had spoken in the spirit of the hon. Member for Monaghan who did not know that he was preventing the recurrence of those periods? When they were attacking the administration of the law, however pure, however fair, however just, must they not know that they were incurring a responsibility beyond the mere responsibility of personal attack in the language that had been heard? They must know that, beyond that, they were bringing upon themselves the responsibility, which the people of Ireland ought to cast upon them, of making it necessary to administer the law sternly, untempered with that mercy, which, the moment it was shown, was used only for the purpose of attacking his right hon. and learned Friend while endeavouring to do his duty as faithfully as any just Minister of the Crown had ever performed it.

MR. SEXTON said, a more vicious principle had never been expounded than that just expounded by the Attorney General for England. The hon. and learned Gentleman argued that they must not protest against injustice, or else they must not hope for mercy. If the hon. and learned Gentleman thought that he could terrorize the Irish Party in the House of Commons into silence when justice demanded speech he was very mistaken, for they would treat him and his mercy with contempt. The Attorney General for Ireland had practically admitted the whole case which had been brought against the House with regard to jury packing. He had argued that a Catholic ought to be satisfied to be tried by a jury of Protestants. Would the right hon. and learned Gentleman like to be tried by a jury of Catholics when political and religious feeling was running high? In countries where the circumstances tended to moderate the rancours and hatreds of creed, it was unconstitutional or unjust to place the life and liberty of any man in the hands of a jury of a different creed. In Ireland, where political distrust and hatred existed in its acutest form, it was nothing more than moral murder to throw a man into the hands of jurors of an opposite creed. If they told the Protestants of Ireland that they looked to them to find verdicts, he could conceive no tactics more calculated to

create exasperation among one set of people and arrogance in another class. There was no more disgraceful record in the modern judicial life of Ireland than the convictions in the Crossmag case. If the Government continued to pursue the system now in force, if they took their informers from the low class, if they coaxed, nursed, and bribed them, and made it a more brilliant career to be an informer than to be an honest man, if they persisted in the system of obtaining sham evidence by means of solitary imprisonment, and when the skin of the British Lion was short they pieced it out with the skin of the fox, it would be impossible for an honest man in Ireland to think his life or his property was safe. He wished now to refer to a case of police violence which came under his own observation during the recent Sligo Election. While some other gentlemen were proceeding peacefully to a place of meeting, a number of policemen disposed themselves artistically across the highway. They refused to leave the road, and when one gentleman, Mr. Brennan, raised his hand as a signal to be allowed to pass, and said "keep back," two of the constables sprang upon him with a ferocity that could not have been surpassed had he been a criminal seized in the act of murder. They twisted his arms and dragged him to the police barracks, and in the evening at a late hour he was conveyed before a magistrate. He (Mr. Sexton), speaking as an eye-witness, was in a position to state that Mr. Brennan only put up his hand and though several witnesses deposed to the same effect, and there was on the evidence of two policemen to the contrary, this respectable gentleman had since been fined £2. He would not disgust the ears of the House by deterring the language used towards him and other popular Representatives by the police; but speaking of this particular case, with the facts of which he was himself acquainted by observation, as well as his hon. Colleague (Mr. Lynch) he was entitled to claim a public inquiry. He would content himself with saying that such was the feeling engendered in the mind of every office in Ireland, from the lowest to the highest, by the feeling of protection by the Government, that no meanness or enormity was impossible. He supposed

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this was what was called a Constitutional Government. Nothing could be more absurd than the speeches they had heard from the Treasury Bench. Of what avail were the platitudes, the empty phrases, and the windy, unmeaning declamations of right hon. Gentlemen for the purposes of conciliation, while among the Officials of Ireland, from the Viceroy on his throne to the meanest constable in a village police barracks, the surest way to promotion was a course of insult and discourtesy to the people?

Mr. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT asked the indulgence of the House for a few moments while he referred to a Question which he had put to the President of the Board of Trade on the subject of the maladministration of the Suez Canal by its local officials—he did not say its Directors. He rested his case upon a very serious indictment which had been published by the Agent of the Peninsula and Oriental Company at Suez, and not, as the right hon. Gentleman had said, upon "vague gossip." Further, there was the testimony of the Alexandria correspondent of a public journal, who stated that "the incapacity of the administration of the Company, its utter disregard of justice, and arbitrary proceedings, had rendered the Company thoroughly detested throughout Egypt." That was all the evidence he would trouble the House with at this period of the Session; but he might add that he had received a number of private communications to the same effect, and that a Member of the House largely interested in commerce, and a supporter of the Government, whose name he was not at liberty to mention, had told him that he was perfectly right in his charges and the President of the Board of Trade perfectly wrong. He felt called upon to make this statement because he had been accused, not only by the President of the Board of Trade, but also by the Home Secretary, of bringing charges for which there was no foundation. On this point he had only to add that if the charges were not substantiated by him next Session he would withdraw them. Another matter to which he would briefly refer was the answer given by the Secretary to the Admiralty to some perfectly fair Questions respecting the number of Her

Majesty's ships at Madagascar and the Mauritius. He was at a loss to understand why, under some vague fear of offending the French Government, that information was refused. There was nothing of an offensive character in the request. It was a matter in which the country had a deep interest, and the refusal of the Government to furnish the information was one of the most extraordinary, he might say pusillanimous, proceedings ever known in that House. Parliament was kept entirely in the dark as to the facts of these grave and painful incidents, while the Prime Minister made loose and partizan statements out-of-doors. Before the right of moving the adjournment of the House at Question time had been taken away from private Members, no Minister would have ventured to give such an answer.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

Bill read the third time, and *passed*.

INDIA—EAST INDIA REVENUE ACCOUNTS—THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

COMMITTEE. [ADJOURNED DEBATE.]

Order read, for resuming Adjourned Debate on Amendment proposed to Question [22nd August], "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair."

And which Amendment was,

To leave out the word "That" to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "in the interests of India and of the United Kingdom, it is desirable that India should not bear the charge of the Consular and Agency expenditure on the Persian Gulf, and upon the Tigris and Euphrates, and that the concerns of British trade and commerce in Western Asia should be in the hands of officers more completely responsible to the Home Government,"—(Mr. Arthur Arnold.)

—instead thereof.

Question again proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question."

Debate resumed.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL said, he had hoped the Ilbert Bill would not be made a Party question. The emphatic statement of the Prime Minister gave assurance that the Government would not allow the matter to be dealt with in a way that would produce trouble in the future. If the amendment of the law which he supported in India in 1872 had been carried, the present agitation would

have been entirely averted. He warmly approved the conduct of Lord Ripon in general, and he was no way to blame in respect to this Bill. He denied that there was any authority for the statement that nine-tenths of the Civil servants of India were against the Bill. He entirely denied that the alarm said to be existing in India was at all of a spontaneous character; it was an artificial alarm created by lawyers, and others no better than lawyers. They were told of telegrams that had been received describing outrages that had been committed on European women. It was now six weeks or two months since those telegrams arrived, and he had searched the Indian papers for some substantiation of them, and had failed to find any. He asserted that the panic among the Europeans in India was ridiculously exaggerated, though, no doubt, a certain amount of panic did exist. They were told that in India people were liable to false charges; but if they had competent Native Judges and magistrates, they were the very men to sift out the truth or falsehood of charges made by the Natives. Before 1833 Natives were entirely without any rights or freedom, and in that year was passed the law that no man should be excluded from any office whatever by reason of his race or colour; and yet they were told that a long course of legislation had exempted Europeans from being subject to the jurisdiction of Natives. The Acts of Parliament passed by the Government of India did not require the Government to choose Natives to fill these appointments whether they were fit or not. They were only Acts removing the legal disqualifications, and enabling the Government to appoint Natives if they thought it desirable to do so. The hon. Member for Mid Lincolnshire had asked him whether he would appoint a Native Governor General, and he had replied that under the Act of Parliament a Native was eligible if he was the most fit man—there was nothing in law to prevent it. He (Sir George Campbell) did not think a Native would be the most fit man for a long time to come. In rare instances to appoint Natives to lower positions was not an extreme step, but a very moderate one. They were told that some great authorities were arrayed against this proposal of the Governor

General, and one or two authorities hostile to the measure had been prominently paraded before them, the chief one being the Calcutta High Court. That Court had been for some time out of humour with the Government. The Court had sent home a Protest against the Bill, which he admitted to be as able and as good a case could be made against it. He did not in the least suspect the Chief Justice of being the writer of that Protest—was not in his ultra-bigoted style; but this document had been put forward as well and ably as it was possible to do. He (Sir George Campbell) had examined the Protest with great care, and he found that the Judges did not so much condemn the measure as they—with great elaboration and skill and force he admitted—set themselves to show that the measure was not really necessary, and that for a time it would have been possible to do without it. Well, he was quite willing to admit that if they were prepared to set aside Acts of Parliament requiring them to do these things, that particular measure which he had described, the comparatively small measure that the Government of India proposed might have been postponed for a few years. He did not think that would have done a great deal of harm. If they could have foreseen the success of the agitation which had been got up, notwithstanding the Act of Parliament they might have been able to postpone this matter for a few years until quieter times came about, for there were much more important matters before the Government of India requiring to be dealt with. What he wished to press upon the House and Her Majesty's Government was this—that however it might have been desirable to postpone this measure before things came to the pass at which they were now, after this extreme and unscrupulous agitation which had taken place, it would lead to the greatest practical evil if the Government were to give in. The Government was exercising rightful power in the fulfilment of the Act of Parliament, and it would be an unpardonable thing to give in now. It was only would it be a great evil to give in to a European agitation of this kind, but it would be an enormous evil to yield on account of the example it would give to the Natives of the advantage and power of agitation. The educated Natives were

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very apt to follow the example which was set them in this matter. They familiarized themselves with our manners and with our literature, and hon. Members heard already of Native agitation being got up on the lines of our European agitations. Like the Irish, they might soon become ungovernable; and he therefore maintained that to teach them this lesson of agitation was an enormous political evil. If they came to govern India as Ireland was governed—if they had agitators in India such as they had in Ireland, and had Native political spouters making such speeches as the House had heard to-night from the opposite Benches, the 250,000,000 people under our sway in India would soon become ungovernable. The 250,000,000 people could never be governed as we were governing the 5,000,000 people of Ireland. It was, therefore, very much on this ground that he specially deprecated yielding to this agitation, and that he expressed his full hope and confidence that the Government would not give way. He had no doubt that when once the thing was done the agitation, though it might, perhaps, last for two or three months, would disappear, and things would settle down, the Europeans finding that they were not in a bit worse position than they were before. The whole thing would be settled in a very short space of time. The Government had expressed their opinion very decidedly, and he hoped they would stick to it. It seemed to him that the opponents of the policy of the Governor General had made the most of one point with regard to the statutory Civil servants. But it must be remembered that what had been done in this respect was due, not to Lord Ripon, but to the Earl of Lytton. Certain appointments which were reserved under the old system for Civil servants sent out to India were in future, upon certain conditions, to be open to Natives of proved merit and ability—these words, “of proved merit and ability,” to be accepted in the ordinary sense. It seemed to him that the intention with which this course was taken had been altogether frustrated. What had been done had not been to offer facilities to Civil servants in lower appointments to rise to the higher positions, but young Native gentlemen of no proved merit or ability, simply on

the certificate of their friends and relations that they were promising young men, had been selected. They had been selected because they were well connected. The Court had some justification in saying that this was a class of Civil servants to whom the law never intended that power should be intrusted, and there was on that point some fear that evil consequences might ensue; or, at all events, there was some ground for apprehension. He hoped Her Majesty's Government would maintain intact the proposed law now before the Governor General and Council of India. He trusted they might not make two bites at a cherry; but would, with regard to these questions of jurisdiction, do away with the disabilities of the Natives. They must always, however, endeavour to avoid the appointment of unfit persons to these offices. If there was to be any modification or exception in the law, then, in his opinion, these statutory Civil servants should not be entitled to exercise all the powers of covenanted Civil servants. He fully admitted that most Natives were not equal to Europeans, and he would utter a word of warning. They found in the Engineers' Department, where the appointments involved hard labour, that it was a difficult thing to get the Natives to accept them. Some of the Natives, of course a limited class, had adopted our manners and modes of thought, but had not acquired our backbone. [*Laughter.*] Hon. Members might laugh, and he might have expressed himself in a laughable manner; but at the same time he was expressing a very serious opinion. For instance, in the matter of local government—and he was all for local government—he had some doubts whether, if they put much political power into the hands of members of the small upper class, who would always be partizans of their own class, they might not, perhaps, find that they had gone a little too fast in this matter. As an illustration of what he meant, he would point to a particular case which had occurred in the present day, and which, he must say, had filled him with very great sorrow. Among that educated class of men in India who were more inclined to be politicians than to be engineers, or to do labourers' work, the most prominent man at the present time was Mr. Banerjee, who had been only lately released from prison, where he

had been confined for contempt of Court. He repeated, the case of this man filled him with sorrow and grave doubts as to the political enfranchisement of the Natives. Banerjee was the first Native civilian who came to this country and obtained all the advantages of education, and, by his high talents and passing examinations, and long contact with Europeans, obtained a good position in the Civil Service. He had not only high talents, but also, as he had since abundantly proved, great energy. What happened to him? Why, he deliberately and systematically falsified his records. He subjected the suitors about his Court to difficulties and expense, in a manner which would have been impossible to a European. Moral sense in this man seemed to be utterly wanting. Unwilling as they were to acknowledge that this was the result of the first admission of a Native to the Civil Service, the Government of India and Her Majesty's Government at home were reluctantly compelled to remove this Native gentleman, as he was supposed to be, from the Civil Service for disgraceful conduct. What happened? Why, within a year or two, elective political institutions were granted to Calcutta, and this man had become the most prominent Native politician in the country. He was the most prominent politician in India—posed as the idol and the leading man amongst the party which might be called "Young India." This showed them how careful they must be in making these appointments, and it showed that there was some inequality between the Natives and the Europeans. They had entered upon a new course, and they must begin at the bottom, and gradually work their way up. That was all he had got to say on this particular subject. He hoped he had not detained the House unreasonably, seeing that one Member after another on the opposite side of the House had risen to express opposite views. Having expressed his opinions on these points, he felt it would be a farce to discuss the Indian Budget at this time of the morning. He thought that, able as was the speech of the Under Secretary of State for India (Mr. J. K. Cross), the hon. Member had fallen into the error which was habitual with Under Secretaries for India, and had put the matter in a too much *colour de*

rose shape. Indian finances were not so elastic as the Government seemed to think. We had not established a Surplus upon which we could rely for the accidents or possible debts of the future, and we still relied upon the Opium Revenue, which, long ago, had been admitted to be very precarious. Therefore, he was not prepared to admit that the finances of India were so prosperous as they had been described.

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON: Sir, although the hour and conditions of the House are not propitious, I think it is desirable, after some of the speeches that have been made in this discussion, that I should make one or two observations on the subject of the Criminal Procedure Bill, the more especially as I was the Minister who was responsible for the approval by the Home Government the introduction of that measure. In my opinion, whatever may be the merits and demerits of the measure, Lord Ripon has been, personally, most unfairly and unjustly assailed for the part he has taken in regard to its introduction. I am certain that Lord Ripon is the man who would shrink from any responsibility which properly belongs to him; and not only does he not do so, but he is proud of the part he has taken in many measures which have been initiated by the Government of India, and which have brought upon him considerable unpopularity among the Europeans in India. But when we hear this measure represented, as it has been, as the outcome of Lord Ripon's sentimental policy, the result of his desire to attain popularity among the Natives of India, and of his insane desire for uniformity and to remove all anomalies, I think it is just to Lord Ripon that the facts relating to the introduction of this measure should be brought before Parliament. The introduction of the Bill at the present time is owing to the instrumentality of the Government of Bengal, and of the then Lieutenant Governor, Sir Ashley Eden. I am very much surprised to hear the hon. Member for Mid Lincolnshire (Mr. E. Stanhope) state that Sir Ashley Eden was not responsible for the Bill introduced. I am very much surprised to hear the hon. Member for Mid Lincolnshire (Mr. E. Stanhope) state that Sir Ashley Eden was not responsible for the Bill introduced. I am very much surprised to hear the hon. Member for Mid Lincolnshire (Mr. E. Stanhope) state that Sir Ashley Eden was not responsible for the Bill introduced. I am very much surprised to hear the hon. Member for Mid Lincolnshire (Mr. E. Stanhope) state that Sir Ashley Eden was not responsible for the Bill introduced.

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India in reference to the measure quotes the opinion of the Government of Bengal upon a particular case it had before it, in which Sir Ashley Eden distinctly states the opinion that the time had now arrived when the distinction between Natives and the British officials in these respects ought to be removed, and the attention of the Government of India should be called to the subject. It may be open to him to say he did not recommend the introduction of the Bill; but it so happens that Sir Ashley Eden, coming fresh from India, has a second responsibility in this matter, inasmuch as he was a Member of the Council at home at the time the despatch of the Government of India asking for leave to introduce the Bill was received, and he was a party to the approval which the Home Government gave to the introduction of the measure. It therefore happens that Sir Ashley Eden is responsible in a double sense, and I am at a loss to know what authority the hon. Gentleman the Member for Mid Lincolnshire has for the statement he has made. I must ask the House to consider for a moment the former proceedings with regard to this question. In 1870 a very powerful Commission, which sat in this country for the purpose of revising the Indian Criminal Law, and which included Lords Romilly and Sherbrooke, recommended that further steps should be taken for assimilating the law as regarded Natives and European subjects of the Queen; and they expressed their regret that further progress had not been made in this direction.

Notice taken, that 40 Members were not present; House counted, and 40 Members being found present,

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON, resuming, said: A Bill was introduced in India, in 1872, founded upon the Report of that Commission, and containing provisions which, if not identical, are strictly analogous to those of the measure we are now considering. That Bill was subjected to an examination by a Select Committee of the Legislative Council, and, in consequence of what was at the time avowedly a compromise, the provision extending the powers to try certain cases by Native officials was struck out. The hon. Member for Mid Lincolnshire (Mr. E. Stanhope) yester-

day alluded to that as a compromise, and added that it was accepted at the time as a permanent settlement of the question. Now, although I am of opinion that it was a compromise, I cannot agree with the hon. Member for Mid Lincolnshire that it was then accepted, or has ever since been acknowledged, as a permanent settlement. On the contrary, four of the most distinguished Members of the Legislative Council thought it necessary to move an Amendment to the Bill in the Legislative Council, proposing a provision exactly similar to that which we are now discussing. Those four Members not only recorded their votes, but, in speeches, gave their opinions why the compromise which had been arrived at would not be a permanent settlement; and other Members of the Council announced their opinion that it could only be defended as a compromise, and not on broad and general grounds. That was the state of things when the matter was brought by the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal under the attention of the Government of India, and before Lord Ripon. Did Lord Ripon force the measure on a reluctant and unwilling Council? His first act was to consult all the Local Governments of India in a despatch which might be said to be almost colourless, and in which he expressed no preferences; and the result of that proceeding is summed up in the 5th paragraph of the despatch of the Government of India now before the House. The substance of that despatch states that, with one exception, there was among the Local Governments of India a universal consensus of opinion that the inequalities and disabilities on Native magistrates ought to be removed, although there was some difference of opinion as to the precise extent to which that measure should go. When the proposal for the introduction of this Bill came to England, it was not necessary for me to overrule a reluctant Council for the purpose of supporting the Government of India. Hon. Members are probably aware of the character of the Council of the Secretary of State in this country. It certainly is not a Council of a Radical or a revolutionary character. If it has a fault it errs, perhaps, too much on the side of prudence and timidity, and it is not at all likely to consent to anything of a revolutionary

try cases of all descriptions, a European, when he commits an offence against a Native, can only be tried by a person of his own nationality. Is not that practice likely to raise in the minds of the Natives a suspicion—or, at least, a prejudice against our rule—that we think it necessary, in the interests of our countrymen, to require that they shall have something more than a fair and impartial trial, and that they are to be tried by men who may be presumed to have some bias in their favour? What are the real causes of the opposition to the measure? It may, by some, be thought sufficient to say that the Anglo-Indian, whatever may be his merits—and, no doubt, they are great—is not a person who is distinguished by an exceptionally calm judgment. Agitation of the same character has been seen before, when there was just as little foundation for it. Lord Macaulay, Lord Canning, and other Anglo-Indian statesmen experienced the same kind of opposition from Anglo-Indians; but all these reproaches have recoiled, not against the statesmen with regard to whom they were uttered, but against the persons uttering them themselves. Probably many hon. Members have read the description written by the present Chief Secretary for Ireland (Mr. Trevelyan) of the agitation which arose in India on the passing by Lord Macaulay of what was called the Black Act. The pages to which I refer read as if they had been written about this very agitation. The same alarm was manifested then, and the same prophecies were made; and I doubt not that the result in the present instance will be the same, and that the prophecies which are made will not be fulfilled. I believe that the cause of the prevalent excitement is to be found, not in this measure, but in the general course of policy that has been pursued both by this Government and the late Government. It has been the policy of Governments, for some years past, to impress upon the Government of India the desirability of obtaining the assistance of the Native population, as far as possible, in the government of that country. Over and over again that policy has been inculcated from home. In 1879 a Resolution was passed which limited appointments of the value of 200 rupees a-month to officers of the Army and to Natives.

That restriction has been rigidly enforced, and has met with all kinds of opposition from non-official classes of Europeans, who think that all the appointments ought to be reserved for them. The same spirit was shown when it was determined that admission to the Engineering College at Roorkee should be confined to Natives. I do not say that the agitation has been got up entirely by the lawyers; but I could quote passages in letters in the Indian papers in which it is admitted that the agitation was directed against the policy of the Home Government in providing appointments for Native civilians, while there were many Europeans without appointments. The policy of Her Majesty's Government is, in my opinion, founded upon considerations of the most practical character. Whatever differences of opinion there may be, there can, in my opinion, be very little doubt that India is insufficiently governed at the present time. I believe there are many districts of India in which the number of officials is altogether insufficient, and that is owing to the fact that the Indian Revenue would not bear the strain if a sufficient number of Europeans were appointed. The Government of India cannot afford to spend more than they do on the administration of the country; and if the country is to be better governed, that can only be done by the employment of the best and most intelligent of the Natives in the Service. There is a further reason, in my opinion, why this policy should be adopted, and that is that it is not wise to educate the people of India, to introduce among them your civilization, and your progress, and your literature, and, at the same time, to tell them they shall never have any chance of taking any part or share in the administration of the affairs of their country, except by their getting rid, in the first instance, of their European Rulers. Surely, it would not be wise to tell a patriotic Native of India that. The hon. Member for Mid Lincolnshire said that it was the policy of the Romans to carry the privilege of Roman citizenship wherever they went. That is, in my opinion, precisely what we are trying to do by this policy; we are attempting to extend to a few of the best Natives of India the full privileges of British citizenship; we are attempting to bring a few of them within the rights

and powers and privileges of governing themselves as they might be able to govern themselves under a Native Administration; and if it is wise to attempt to do this, surely it is wise to trust to them thoroughly and to invest them with all the powers necessary to place them on an equality with those with whom they are equal. No doubt, the discussion which has taken place may lead to some reconsideration of the details of the Bill; and although all the Reports have not been received from the Local Governments, I believe the majority of them are of opinion that the withdrawal of the Bill will be an error. At the same time, the Government of India will be quite prepared to give every consideration to any reasonable suggestion that may be made for the amendment of the Bill, though they hold that the withdrawal of the measure in deference to the agitation would be an error, and a very fatal one. I do not wish to speak disrespectfully, but much of the agitation has proceeded from the non-official class in India; and I must point out that they are not responsible for the government of the country. It is the Government of India alone that is responsible for the government of that country; and, if this measure is to be withdrawn in deference to an agitation of that sort, I have no hesitation in saying that the Government of India must be altogether revised. If we are going to invest a class, now under no responsibility, with the power of interposing a veto upon legislation which is thought necessary and wise by the Government of India, we must devise some mode of revising the form of government so as to invest them with responsibility. I wish to say, in conclusion, that I am unwilling that this debate should terminate without Lord Ripon being assured that he has heartily, fully, and completely the support of his Colleagues at home who have assented to the introduction of the Bill.

MR. ARTHUR ARNOLD: I beg to withdraw my Amendment.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Main Question, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair," put, and *agreed to*.

ACCOUNTS *considered* in Committee.

(In the Committee.)

The Marquess of Hartington

Resolved, That it appears, by the Accounts laid before this House, that the Ordinary Revenue of India for the year ending the 31st day of March 1882, was £62,913,743; the Revenue from Productive Public Works, including the Net Traffic Receipts from Guaranteed Companies, was £10,782,063, making the total Revenue of India for that year £73,695,806; that the Ordinary Expenditure in India and in England, including Charges for the Collection of the Revenue, for Ordinary Public Works, and for Interest on Debt, exclusive of that for Productive Public Works, was £61,464,074; the Expenditure on Productive Public Works (Working Expenses and Interest), including the payments to Guaranteed Companies for Interest and Surplus Profits, was £9,649,005, making a total Charge for that year of £71,113,079; that there was an excess of Revenue over Expenditure in that year of £2,582,727; that the Capital Expenditure on Productive Public Works in the same year was £2,269,861; and that there was also a Capital Outlay on the East Indian Railway of £1,041,563, including £586,300 India 3½ per cent. Stock, and £455,263 redemption of portion of the East India Railway Annuity.

Resolution reported, and agreed to.

MR. WADDY said, there was one question he wished to ask, and only one. He wished to know from the Government whether anything had ever been done to replace the Famine Fund? It would be remembered that one of the most disgraceful Governments that India ever had—he meant Lord Lytton's—had extorted by extraordinary pressure from the people of India large sums of money, about £1,500,000, for the Famine Fund, and, having given the most fulsome pledges of the honour of Great Britain that they would not spend it on anything but Famine Works had spent every penny of it on gunpowder. He wished to know whether anything had been done to replace that money?

MR. J. K. CROSS said, that part of the sum had been expended on Famine Relief, and the rest on Protective Works and the payment of Debt.

QUESTION.

SOUTH AFRICA—ZULULAND.

SIR HENRY HOLLAND said, he should like to ask, with a view of relieving anxiety, whether the noble Marquess (the Marquess of Hartington) could give any more important information as to whether the Government intended to do anything to what

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON:
The instructions given are that the troops should be removed to the border of the Reserve. They have been distinctly ordered not to enter the Reserve or Zululand, but to await further instructions.

MOTION.

PARLIAMENT—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—ADJOURNMENT.

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON:
Perhaps I may say that as I understand there will be no Business to be transacted to-morrow, therefore, I move that the House at its rising adjourn until Saturday at 2 o'clock.

Motion made, and Question proposed,
"That this House at its rising adjourn until Saturday, at Two o'clock."—(*The Marquess of Hartington.*)

Motion agreed to.

AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS (ENGLAND) BILL.

Reasons for disagreeing to the Amendment made by The Lords reported, and agreed to:—
To be communicated to The Lords.

AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS (SCOTLAND) BILL.

Reasons for disagreeing to the Amendment made by The Lords reported, and agreed to:—
To be communicated to The Lords.

MAIL CONTRACTS (HOLYHEAD AND KINGSTOWN).

Ordered, That the Contract dated 20th August 1883, between Her Majesty's Postmaster General and the City of Dublin Steam Packet Company, for the conveyance of Mails between Holyhead and Kingstown, be approved.—(*Mr. Courtney.*)

House adjourned at a quarter after
One o'clock till Saturday.

HOUSE OF LORDS,

Friday, 24th August, 1883.

MINUTES.]—PUBLIC BILLS—*Second Reading*—*Committee negatived*—*Third Reading*—Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) *, and passed. *Third Reading*—Epidemic and other Diseases Prevention * (213); Post Office (Money Orders) Acts Amendment * (219), and passed.

JUDICIAL BUSINESS.

Ordered, That this House do meet on *Tuesday* the 13th day of November next for the purpose of hearing and determining Appeals and matters connected therewith, pursuant to the provisions of the "Appellate Jurisdiction Act, 1876"; and that during such meeting of the House leave be given to the Appeal Committee to meet and appoint their own Chairman.

PARLIAMENT — BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE — REPRINTING OF BILLS AMENDED ON THIRD READING.

RESOLUTION.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he desired to call attention to a matter which might seem of small importance, but which affected the procedure of the House and the convenience of their Lordships. It would be remembered that on the third reading of the Agricultural Holdings Bill many important Amendments were introduced in that House. He found on inquiry that it had not hitherto been the custom of that House to reprint Bills with the Amendments introduced on the third reading. They were always reprinted when Amendments were made on the Report, which greatly facilitated reference to what had been done. But when a Bill went down to the House of Commons after third reading with Amendments, there was no reprint and no means of access to the Bill in the form in which it left that House. Thus it was almost impossible to understand and follow the alterations made. He therefore ventured to move, though he had not given Notice of it, that it be an Order of that House that Bills amended on he Third Reading in that House should be always reprinted.

Moved, "That Bills amended on Third Reading in this House be always reprinted as amended."—(*The Duke of Argyll.*)

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said, he entirely agreed with the noble Duke as to the great inconvenience which was recently felt. He thought that such an Order was necessary for practical purposes—that was to say, it would cause a permanent record to be made of the state in which every Bill left their Lordships' House.

Motion agreed to.

FRANCE—SPEECH OF M. WADDINGTON, THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR.

QUESTION.

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY: I wish to ask the noble Earl opposite, the Leader of the House, a Question, of which I have given him private Notice. I wish to ask him, Whether he is able to state, from any communications that have reached him, how far a speech attributed in the French newspapers to the French Ambassador, which has attracted a good deal of attention both here and abroad, is genuine?

EARL GRANVILLE: My Lords, I am happy to be able to give a complete answer to the Question of the noble Marquess, because, in the course of conversation I had with M. Waddington, the French Ambassador incidentally referred to this case as an instance of how reports totally without foundation are sometimes circulated.

PARLIAMENT—PRIVILEGE—BRADLAUGH v. CLARKE.

OBSERVATIONS.

LORD DENMAN said, he had to trouble their Lordships with two cases relating to the Privilege of their Lordships' House. In the first case, he found that a Scotch newspaper—*The Edinburgh Courier*—had reported two speeches, one by the noble Lord the Chairman of Committees and another by himself, on a clause—afterwards withdrawn—proposed for the Scottish Peersage Bill. This clause and these speeches were wholly ignored by *The Times*. They related to a majority of a quorum of three Law Lords over-ruling a majority of a Committee of Privileges. He believed that any Peer attending the whole of the proceedings was fully entitled to vote; indeed, in one case, that of the father of the late Sir William Knollys, the minority, who had attended the whole of the proceedings, were more entitled to vote than a majority of Law Lords and Peers, who only heard part of the case; and three illustrious Royal Dukes—Kent, Sussex, and Gloucester—joined in signing a Protest by Lord Erskine against that Judgment. The only reason why noble Lords did not vote upon the O'Connell case was their not having heard the arguments; and the first Lord Wharfedale expressly

advised their Lordships not to vote, "in order to retain the appellate jurisdiction of the House of Lords." With regard to the Bradlaugh case, he had heard the whole of the case, and had soon given his judgment, or opinion, as some called it, to the Lord Chancellor, but had not been allowed to see the decisions of the other noble Lords before their delivery. He found, also, that his name was not in the rota, and that his words were not in the law reports; and he contended that his presence should be noted in the Journals of their Lordships' House. He brought these cases forward, not for his own sake, but for the serious consideration of their Lordships.

AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS (ENGLAND) BILL.—(No. 220.)

(The Lord President.)

CONSIDERATION OF COMMONS' REASON.

Commons reason for disagreeing to Lord further amendment considered (as going to order).

following is the said reason:—

The Commons disagree to the amendment now proposed by the Lords in page 2, line 11, (in lieu of the amendment to which the Commons disagreed) for the following reason:

"Because all cases to which the proviso will apply are covered by the provisions of clause 5, sub-section (c), and to insert this proviso in clause 2 will be misleading."

LORD CARLINGFORD (Lord President of the Council) said, with respect to the only point now at issue between the two Houses, he had to move that the House do not insist upon the further amendment on Clause 2. The balance of opinion in that House was as nearly as possible equal upon the Amendment, and it was sent back to the other House in a hesitating and accidental fashion. The noble Marquess opposite (the Marquess of Salisbury), had said that he looked with suspicion and jealousy on the 6th clause, to which the Government naturally pointed as meaning the case which his Proviso had in view; that he desired to remove all ambiguity—

fore
amend
the bill

conclusion, under the best legal advice at their disposal, that the dangers the noble Marquess had in his mind were not really to be feared. They believed that no such ambiguity existed, and they were also instructed that to introduce the Proviso would have a very misleading and possibly mischievous effect, and raise serious doubts as to the effect of Clause 6. He, therefore, moved that their Lordships do not insist on the Amendment.

Moved, "Not to insist on the said Amendment."—(*The Lord President.*)

THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY said, he was once again impressed with the fact that the influence of these estimable and valuable Members of their Lordships' House to whom Charles Fox once gave the name of "the Janissaries of the Bed Chamber," increased every hour as they approached the end of the Session. It was very strong on Wednesday last, and it was stronger now. As far as he was concerned he fully recognized that they were his masters, and he, therefore, had no intention of dividing the House, although he had no doubt what the result would be. But he could not allow the Question to be put without calling their Lordships' attention to the case advanced at the present stage of the Bill by the Government and the House of Commons, to the evils it indicated, and to the extreme uncertainty of the Bill. The noble Lord opposite told him that the 6th clause obviated all the evils he feared. As far as a layman could read that clause, he was not the least of the noble Lord's opinion. He had had an opportunity, like the noble Lord, of consulting very high legal authority indeed, and his views were confirmed by that legal authority; so that, at all events, they had a pretty tangle for the Judges to untie. But what he wished to call attention to was the cause of this ambiguity, for which they had not far to seek. It would have been perfectly easy to have made a clear and straightforward Bill, which would have been intelligible and, therefore, acceptable to both sides as avoiding the danger of litigation; but the Government had been afraid to state distinctly what their object and intention was, because they had two sets of people to satisfy. Their object was to pass their Bill without driving on the one side the Radicals to despair, or with-

out removing all hope from the Conservatives; and, therefore, they had drawn an ambiguous Bill, which to the unlearned, and probably the learned, judgment conveyed a very doubtful meaning. The noble Lord opposite thought the 6th clause would prevent a tenant who, by implied or express promise, had bound himself to make improvements from claiming compensation for those improvements. He, however, did not agree with the noble Lord; but, even if that were so, he asked why could not the thing have been plainly stated in the Bill? Again, it was very doubtful whether the landlord and tenant were capable of agreeing beforehand with respect to the rate of interest and other matters. The clause was, in fact, utterly ambiguous. The Government contended that the view taken by him was covered by that clause; but why could not a plain and satisfactory statement have been made of what it was desired by the Bill to indicate? Then they had the question of cottage gardens. The Lord Chancellor at first thought they were within the scope of the Bill, but more lately had come to the conclusion that they were not. What security had they that the Judges would not take the last instead of the first of the two strong opinions which the noble and learned Earl had given? Why was it not possible to put a plain statement into the Bill that cottage gardens were not included in its provisions? Then, again, they had the question of a "fair and reasonable compensation." No human being knew what that meant, or whether that clause would include the ordinary agreements in which compensation was measured by the outlay of the tenant, or whether those agreements would be declared contrary to the spirit of the Bill. It would have been perfectly easy to have drawn a plain straightforward Bill that would have given to the tenant the outlay that he had made upon the land, and given it him without doubt or litigation. The evil of that fantastic system of valuing which the Government had adopted, and which had never been tried, and in many cases probably could never be applied, would tend to cause doubts and differences, and would plunge the two parties into litigation, and would impose serious costs upon them. It would, besides, force the landlords to take precautions, and so diminish the good under-

standing between the parties which existed at present. He was not making these observations in the interest of the landlord, for, if they took it from that point of view, litigation was the interest of the stronger man, who would in all probability win. The result of the obscurity of this Act, then, would be that it would impose so many charges on the tenant that he would in the end be afraid to appeal to it. His objection to the Bill was this—that, for the sake of satisfying Parliamentary exigencies, ambiguities had been admitted into the Bill, which would bear with oppressive weight on the cultivators of the land, which would baulk them of their just demands, and which, by setting up doubts and differences between landlords and tenants, would tend to multiply precautions by which all that hearty co-operation between the two would be sensibly diminished, and instead of which a spirit of estrangement and jealousy would grow up. He deeply lamented this result, and he held Her Majesty's Government and the Parliamentary exigencies to which they had bowed responsible for it.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said, it seemed to him that not for Party or Parliamentary reasons, not for reasons tending to separate and put against each other the two great classes concerned, but for reasons equally relating to the mutual interest of both those classes and tending to diminish difficulty and friction between them, and not to increase it, some such measure as that Bill was necessary. He admitted that the less legislation they had about social relations the better; but when circumstances arose which rendered some legislation of that kind necessary and desirable, the best thing they could do was to make it moderate, fair, and reasonable; and he thought the general expression of opinion, not only "elsewhere," but also among their Lordships, had been that the present Bill, on the whole, fulfilled that character. It appeared to him that the noble Marquess was disposed to lay down an impossible standard for that kind of legislation; for he seemed to think that they must define everything, down to the smallest details, and with a complete foresight of all the circumstances that might possibly arise, by Act of Parliament. His own impression was that any attempt to do so would be

constantly found to defeat its own object. Their definitions would not truly anticipate all the variety of circumstances and of conditions which might present themselves. At every point there would arise questions as to those things concerning which the Act was silent or imperfectly expressed, because it was quite impossible to anticipate and express everything. In regard to the particular criticisms of the noble Marquess, he would first observe that as to the test of value, which the noble Marquess thought a mistake, and to which he preferred the test of outlay, he must be aware, if he had followed the advice of the noble Duke (the Duke of Richmond and Gordon) and had read the Report of the Royal Commission, that the Royal Commissioners recommended the test of the difference of value resulting at the time of quitting from the tenant's improvements in preference to the test of outlay. And he could not but think that the noble Marquess would see that both the landlord and the incoming tenant, that test would be more satisfactory; because if the actual outlay made by the tenant in good faith was not also made with good judgment, and did not result in a profit either to the landlord or to the incoming tenant, it seemed manifest that the landlord and the incoming tenant would frequently be paying for that from which they got no benefit. He did not mean to say that to determine what was the value to a new tenant, or to the landlord, of an improvement effected on a farm might not sometimes be a matter of some doubt or difficulty; but the danger, if any, was that the valuers would be likely to fall back on the criterion of outlay as the test of value rather than they should make a mistake in the opposite direction; and that would, so far, be doing the very thing which he understood the noble Marquess to say ought to be the general rule. The noble Marquess inadvertently on the absence from the 8th clause of a definition of what terms in an agreement would be fair and reasonable. Now, in the nature of things, it was impossible to define beforehand what the parties might desire to agree upon, and that the law would be the best guide.

The Marquess of Salisbury.

give him. When the parties had agreed *bona fide* and deliberately on any terms, those who objected to any such terms, on the ground that they were unfair and unreasonable, would have to show that they were so. It was possible that they might be unfair and unreasonable; and it would not be right to say, if that was the case, that they should prevail over the general rule. It was not unusual to leave questions of that kind to valuers and, if necessary, to lawyers, and there did not occur to his mind any other or better way by which the object could be accomplished. He pleaded guilty to being at first a little perplexed on the question whether cottage gardens might not possibly be capable of being held to be let for agricultural purposes. He did not think it was probable; but he thought that a question of that kind might possibly be raised. When, however, he carefully examined the terms of the clause which excluded all land that was not let either for agricultural or pastoral uses, or as a market garden, it became evident to him, from the mention of market gardens as a third category, that a market garden was not held to be let for agricultural purposes; and in that way he had satisfied himself that no serious doubt on the point could arise, as a cottage garden could not be held to be so on any ground which would not apply to a market garden with equal or greater force. Then, as to drainage, he was surprised that the noble Marquess suggested that as the clause stood it was uncertain whether the landlord and the tenant might agree as to the terms on which, by common consent, a work of drainage should be executed. He did not see how the clause could be made clearer on that subject. As finally amended it did not seem to be at all ambiguous. The only point that remained was the particular Amendment which was not now, he was happy to hear, to be pressed by the noble Marquess. He did not call in question the intention with which that Amendment was conceived; but he would point out that not only by the close division of opinion which was shown among their Lordships on the subject was the House of Commons justified in not accepting it, but the very fact that it was proposed at the last moment, and came upon them as a surprise, indicated either that the words

from which the Commons had disagreed were not necessary, or that they might have produced inconveniences which were not intended or foreseen by the noble Marquess. The 6th clause was couched in general terms, having the same general intention as the Act of 1875. It applied both to present and future tenancies; and to introduce a different rule expressed in different terms, but intended to give effect to the same principle as to past tenancies, on the ground that the terms of the 6th clause were too wide or not sufficiently clear, would be rather casting a reflection on the 6th clause than improving the 2nd. Moreover, the introduction of the words "implied as well as expressed" in the noble Marquess's Amendment might have given rise to disputes, because it was more easy to construe an expressed intention than to determine something that was not expressed, but only to be implied. He trusted that none of the inconvenience which the noble Marquess suggested would be found to arise from the clause; but of one thing he was sure—that it had been framed deliberately, not with any view, as the noble Marquess had supposed, to satisfy two opposite sections—not with any view to Parliamentary or Party objects, but simply with a *bona fide* desire to do equal justice to both of the great classes who were concerned.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL said, he considered that the remarks of the noble and learned Lord on the Woolsack were of a re-assuring character, and he was glad to recognize the spirit which they displayed. He was also glad to hear that the Amendment of the noble Marquess was not to be pressed. He thought that the Government had shown a fair disposition to resist extreme views on the question of agricultural legislation. They were much pressed in "another place" to adopt provisions which he thought would have involved a very great invasion of the rights of property, and a great upsetting of the existing relations between landlord and tenant, and a serious injury to the prospects of agriculture. These provisions had been resisted by the Government, involving Divisions which showed considerable differences of opinion in the Liberal Party. Therefore, on the whole, he did not see reason to complain of the course which the Government had pursued with

regard to that Bill. He did not, however, rise to defend the Government for that Bill, but simply to express an earnest hope that their Lordships, in so far as they represented the landlords of this country, would endeavour to work that Bill in a liberal spirit. The second Irish Land Act was excused and defended on the allegation—in his opinion, to a great extent, the unfounded allegation—that the Irish landlords had worked the previous Land Act of 1870 in a jealous and unworthy spirit. He had read carefully the evidence taken by the Bessborough Commission, and also that taken by the Commission of which the noble Duke (the Duke of Richmond and Gordon)—not now present—was the head; and he was unable to find satisfactory evidence in proof of that accusation against the Irish landlords; but it was an accusation that was quite sure to be made, and it was made an excuse for the second Irish Land Act. He hoped that the landlords of England and Scotland would remember that fact, and not suffer themselves to fall into such a trap. He believed it would be possible to work the Bill to the satisfaction of both landlords and tenants. But it was impossible to deny that measures of that kind, introducing relations by statute instead of those which had been hitherto regulated by free contract, produced new dangers and created fresh motives to which both parties might be tempted to give way. He hoped their Lordships would not allow themselves to be tempted in that manner, and that they would work the Bill in a liberal spirit, so that it would be impossible to say of them that they had not acted with a fair and reasonable compliance with its provisions. He would venture to suggest to their Lordships, having had experience of these matters, that with regard to the important details concerning the rights of tenants to compensation for manorial value of the land and other improvements, that those rights should not be made among the general conditions of a lease. He remembered a remarkable speech made two or three years ago by a former Lord Advocate. He had always regarded a successful lawyer as an omniscient being; but he read that speech with great surprise. The right hon. and learned Gentleman took one of the printed conditions which

were common on estates in Scotland, and were very convenient to both parties. "This," said the right hon. and learned Gentleman, "is what is called free contract. Can it be called free contract when all the conditions are printed?" A most absurd question could not have been asked by an intelligent man; but yet the great majority of those persons who were present, utterly ignorant as they generally were of the principles upon which landed property was managed, cheered him to the echo. He might well have asked if it was free contract that they could go to a sale and find the conditions of sale printed on paper. He quite admitted that they should not generally put into this mere printed or legal form anything but the universal and stereotyped condition of lease, and with regard to these detailed arrangements for compensation for manorial value and other improvement which almost necessarily varied in each individual case—with regard to the conditions he thought generally they should be written agreements in each case. With this protection, he thought they could work the Bill with perfect success, provided it was done, not in spirit of narrow jealousy, but taking care that they were really desirous to give to the tenants everything they desired to have that was perfectly fair and just within the spirit of this Bill.

LORD BRAMWELL said, that, in his opinion, the Amendment of the noble Marquess was by no means unnecessary in consequence of the provisions of Clause 6. He would have said that the case was too plain for argument had not his noble and learned Friend on the Woolsack taken a different view. When it was said that it was impossible beforehand to be precise, that was true to a certain extent; but it was also true that to a certain extent they could be precise. He thought it was their duty to lay down their laws intelligibly; and it was clear that the Act was not so plain as it might be, as his noble and learned Friend and himself took different views.

LORD DENMAN said, he must make a final protest against the Bill. He felt sure that if there were a conference between the two Houses the mischievous character of the Bill would be made manifest. He believed that the Act of 1875 was far better and more certain

than the present one. So far from being a panacea for their evils, the Bill would throw the apple of discord among landlords and tenants. He believed there would have been no misfortune in throwing out the Bill. It was passed with haste, and with haste that might have been avoided.

THE EARL OF WEMYSS: My Lords, I greatly regret that my noble Friend the Leader of the Opposition does not feel himself in a position to stand to his Amendment. No doubt, his position, as described by himself, is most unfortunate, and worthy of commiseration, for he has told us that he is deserted by his troops, and left at the mercy of what he calls the "Janissaries" of the Government; and the loss of the Amendment is the more to be regretted as, after what has fallen from my noble Friend (Lord Bramwell), it is evident that the 6th clause, unless the Amendment be maintained, will be a fruitful source of litigation. But we are told that by insisting upon the Amendment your Lordships will lose the Bill. Speaking for myself, I should view its loss as so much gain, and I hardly think that your Lordships have fully taken in all the bearings of the measure. I have, however, here a summary of its provisions, which I have carefully made out, and which, I think, will clearly show how manifold and great are the evil principles contained in this so-called moderate Bill. By Clause 1, rights previously non-existent are created, and given as a "boon" or bribe to the present tenant at the cost of the future tenant or landlord. Under Clauses 1 to 7, State agreements are imposed in the place of private contracts. By Clause 4, the rate of interest for money is actually fixed by statute. By Clauses 8 to 27, State arbitrations and Courts are enforced, from which, in certain cases, no appeal is allowed; and a scale of costs is prescribed. By Clause 34, rights of property are transferred from the owner to the occupier. In Clause 41, a reduction of rent is prescribed in certain named cases; and Clauses 44 to 52 limit the powers of recovering debts. Further, the Bill empowers the tenant to drain land against the will of his landlord. And, generally, the measure bars all feu agreements in the future; breaks them—even 19 years' leases—in the past; while it tends to the direct encouragement of

fraud. Such, my Lords, is an accurate summary of the Bill; and it must, I think, be admitted that we have here abundant evil, protoplasmic provisions, capable, when Party expediency demands, of indefinite extension and universal application. Now, how comes it that a measure such as this has passed through both Houses of Parliament without opposition? How is it that the Liberals are thus garrotting liberty, and the Conservatives failing to conserve property? It is due, my Lords, not to any belief in the soundness of the principles of the Bill, but to Party needs, and the supposed moderation of the measure. "For God's sake pass the Bill, lest worse befall us!" That is the chief argument one hears urged in its favour, and, to say the least, it is not a very brave course, nor likely, in the long run, to ward off the dreaded danger. Why, what is this vain endeavour to find security in the provisions and folds of this Bill, but a repetition of the policy of that foolish feathered denizen of the desert, which, when pursued, hides its head for safety in the sand. Now, my Lords, I venture to think that the Conservatives have thrown away a great chance. What was it that brought them the last time into Office? Harassed interests. And now, again, ever since they returned to power, we have had the Liberals at their old game, harassing one great interest after another. At one time the manufacturer; at another the shipowner, who is scolded, threatened, and put into the corner like a naughty child by the President of the Board of Trade; and here we have the landed interest inequitably treated by this Bill. Why, my Lords, the fact is that the Liberals have divorced their old, true, faithful love and spouse, Liberty, and have, as the phrase is, "taken up" with Socialism, that painted social evil, whose falsehood and rottenness all history proclaims. Well, here the Liberals have, as I said, given their opponents a chance—they have thus fairly exposed their flank; and the Conservatives have failed to take advantage of their errors. For of this I feel assured, that, however Socialistic may be the present tendency of legislation, there is in the English nation, and in the Anglo-Saxon race, such an innate love of liberty, and so much self-reliance, that in the long run the people of this country

will rally round the Party in the State that firmly takes its stand upon, and in defence of, individual liberty. Had, therefore, the Conservatives stood firmly as the champions of free contract; had they manfully resisted the breaking of existing agreements, they might possibly have lost the support of a very few agitating political tenant farmers, but they would have thus secured the respect of all steady-going agriculturists, and the confidence of the commercial community. And now, my Lords, a word upon the consequences of the measure. The noble Duke who spoke behind the Treasury Bench (the Duke of Argyll) expressed a hope that there might, after the passing of this measure, be peace and kindly feeling between landlord and tenant. I trust so too. But I am bound to state my belief that the consequences of this Bill will be distrust, enmity, litigation; the shortening of, if not the doing away altogether with, leases; the taking of farms in hand by owners wherever possible; and, generally, the checking of agricultural improvements. Such, then, is the view I take of the Bill; and as regards the Amendment, I look upon it as the only one worth fighting for, because it is the only Amendment that has any shred of principle in it. And now, my Lords, I have only to thank your Lordships for having allowed me to make these remarks upon the Bill; and, in conclusion, I would say this—that I shall ever look back with satisfaction upon the fact that I have from the outset, alike before my constituents and in my place in Parliament, consistently and persistently denounced and opposed, to the best of my ability, all legislation of this kind, which I believe to be fraught with evil, not only to landlord and tenant, but to all classes of the community, and, if persevered in, ultimately fatal to the well-being of this great commercial people.

Motion agreed to.

AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS (SCOTLAND) BILL.—(No. 221.)

(*The Lord President.*)

CONSIDERATION OF COMMONS REASON.

Commons reason for disagreeing to Lords further amendment *considered* (according to order).

The Earl of Wemyss

The following is the said reason:—The Commons disagree to the amendment now proposed by the Lords in page 2, line 3, in lieu of the Amendment to which the Commons disagree for the following reason:—

“Because all cases to which the proviso will apply are covered by the provisions of clause (a), and to insert this proviso in clause 2 will be misleading.”

On the Motion of The Lord President the said Amendment *not insisted on.*

STREET TRAFFIC (METROPOLIS)—
HAMILTON PLACE, PICCADILLY.
OBSERVATIONS.

EARL FORTESCUE said, he wished to call the attention of the House to the obstruction which, particularly during the months of May, June, and the early part of July, was notoriously caused to and by, the traffic coming out of Hamilton Place into Piccadilly. The obstruction had produced serious inconvenience and he had already called attention to the subject some time ago. But he wished to do so again, before it became too late to apply a remedy which would cost little now, while the work was still unfinished, but would be much more expensive hereafter. He had now fortified his own opinion as to the right remedy by that of the best practical authorities he could conceive on the point—namely, that of some of those policemen who had discharged, in turn the duty of managing the traffic therewith so much tact and good humour. One of these had told him, evidently quite unconscious of his questioner being a legislator, that, when talking over their difficulties with his comrades, they all agreed the right thing to do was to widen Piccadilly gradually from opposite Park Lane, so as to get room for another double line of carriages opposite Hamilton Place. Practically, all the traffic down Hamilton Place went Westward or Southward, and, by the rule of the road, was obliged to cross, and therefore interrupt, the great flow of traffic Eastward along Piccadilly. But if space were given to the traffic or emerging from Hamilton Place to turn Westward at once, it would have opportunities, in the much widened space beyond, for joining its proper line either Southward or Westward, without much interrupting the traffic Eastward, by

crossing it where, so to speak, its line had got loosened in the wide spaces; as their experience had taught them traffic always did under such circumstances. He called upon the Government, which was always boasting of its economy, to make cheaply now an improvement which he was sure would have to be made before long at much greater cost.

LORD THURLOW: My Lords, I have absolutely no new information to impart to the noble Lord in reference to the Question he has just brought forward; but I will take care to bring it to the notice of the First Commissioner of Works, from whom, no doubt, it will receive full consideration. The noble Lord, I believe, admits that very great improvements have been made; that is universally admitted; but as those improvements are not yet completed, it is rather premature to judge at present of the results which will ensue from them. Early next Session, however, we may be able to judge better what improvements, if any, may be desirable to relieve the congested districts in the neighbourhood of Piccadilly.

DEATH OF THE COMTE DE CHAMBORD.

QUESTION.

LORD BRAYE inquired, Whether any further information had been received by the Government respecting the death of the Comte de Chambord?

EARL GRANVILLE: When I inquired at the Foreign Office, no information had been received beyond the Reuter's telegram announcing the fact, which I believe has been published this afternoon.

CONSOLIDATED FUND (APPROPRIATION)

BILL.

Read 2^a (according to order); Committee *negatived*: Then Standing Order No. XXXV. considered (according to order), and *dispensed with*; Bill read 3^a, and *passed*.

House adjourned at a quarter before
Five o'clock, till To-morrow,
Two o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS,

Saturday, 25th August, 1883.

MINUTES.]—PUBLIC BILLS.—*Royal Assent*—

Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 56]; Statute Law Revision [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 39]; Public Health Act, 1875, (Support of Sewers), Amendment [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 37]; Statute Law Revision and Civil Procedure [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 49]; Trial of Lunatics [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 38]; Expiring Laws Continuance [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 40]; Provident Nominations and Small Intestacies [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 47]; Cholera Hospitals (Ireland) [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 48]; Corrupt Practices (Suspension of Elections) [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 51]; Medals [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 45]; Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland) [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 43]; Public Works Loans [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 42]; Municipal Corporations (Borough Constables) [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 44]; Merchant Shipping (Fishing Boats) [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 41]; Bankruptcy [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 52]; Epidemic and other Diseases Prevention [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 59]; Post Office (Money Orders) Acts Amendment [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 58]; Revenue [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 55]; Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 51]; Education (Scotland) [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 56]; National Debt [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 54]; Patents for Inventions [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 57]; Agricultural Holdings (England) [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 61]; Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 62]; Labourers (Ireland) [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 60]; Factories and Workshops [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 53]; Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 1) [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. cxxiii]; Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 2) [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. cxxiv]; Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 3) [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. cxxv]; Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 4) [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. cxxvi]; Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 5) [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. cxxvii]; Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 6) [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. cxxviii]; Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 7) [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. cxxix]; Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 8) [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. cxxx]; Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 9) [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. cxxxi]; Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 10) [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. cxxxii]; Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 11) [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. cxxxiii]; Local Government Provisional Order (No. 2) [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. cxxiv]; Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 9) [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. cxxv]; Isle of Wight Highways [46 & 47 *Vict.* c. cxxvi].

PROROGATION OF THE PARLIAMENT— HER MAJESTY'S SPEECH.

THE PARLIAMENT was this day prorogued by Commission.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR acquainted the House that Her Majesty

had been pleased to grant two several Commissions, one for declaring Her Royal Assent to several Bills agreed upon by both Houses of Parliament, and the other for proroguing the Parliament:—And the LORDS COMMISSIONERS—namely, The LORD CHANCELLOR; HER MAJESTY'S PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES (The Earl of Derby); The LORD STEWARD OF THE HOUSEHOLD (The Earl Sydney); The LORD CHAMBERLAIN (The Earl of Kenmare); and The LORD MONSON (Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard)—being in their Robes, and seated on a Form between the Throne and the Woolsack; and the COMMONS being come, with their Speaker, and the Commission to that purpose being read, the ROYAL ASSENT was given to several Bills.

Then THE LORD CHANCELLOR, pursuant to Her Majesty's Command, delivered HER MAJESTY'S SPEECH, as follows:—

“ My Lords, and Gentlemen,

“ In releasing you from your protracted labours, I use the occasion to acknowledge your unremitting energy and devotion in the fulfilment of the great trust committed to you.

“ The harmony of my relations with foreign Governments continues to be undisturbed.

“ The Conference, assembled in London for the settlement of various questions connected with the free navigation of the Danube, has, by the conciliatory attitude of the countries represented in it, arrived at an agreement favourable to commerce.

“ The work of administrative re-organization in Egypt, though retarded at important points by the visitation of cholera, has steadily advanced.

“ The aim of the temporary occupation of the country by my military forces, the considerations which must supply the measure of its duration, and the constant direction of my efforts to the maintenance of established

rights, to the tranquillity of the East, and to the welfare of the Egyptian people, have been more than once explained to you, and they remain unchanged.

“ Occurrences arising out of the French operations in Madagascar form the subject of communications with the Government of France, which, conducted in the spirit of friendship, will, I doubt not, lead to satisfactory results. In connection with these occurrences, my attention has been, and will continue to be, steadily directed to all which may affect the rights or liberties of my subjects.

“ My hopes for the re-establishment of stable peace and order in Zululand have not as yet been fulfilled, and the working of the Convention with the Transvaal Government has proved, in certain respects, to be far from satisfactory.

“ In regard to the first, I shall, while avoiding all gratuitous interference, study to maintain such engagements as I have contracted, and keep steadily in view the security of the border of Natal.

“ The questions of frontier policy opened by the second, which in different forms have for so long a time constituted the main difficulty in the administration of my South African Possessions, will, with other points, shortly be discussed in this country between my Ministers and the confidential Envoys who are to be dispatched from the Transvaal for the purpose.

“ Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

“ I thank you for the liberal supplies by which you have enabled me to make adequate provision for the public estab-

ishments and other services of the country during the current year.

"My Lords, and Gentlemen,

"The Revenue has thus far not fallen short of its anticipated amount; the condition of the classes suffering from the depression of agriculture has, in most districts of the country, shown some degree of improvement; and the general state of trade and industry is sound.

"I can refer with greater satisfaction than on some former occasions to the condition of Ireland. Except in regard to the disposal of Appeals, where there is still much to be desired, the action of the appointed Tribunals has brought into wide operation the provisions of the Land Act; the late combination against the fulfilment of contracts, especially for rent, has been in a great degree broken up; there is a marked diminution of agrarian crime; and associations, having murder for their object, have been checked by the detection and punishment of offenders.

"The expectations of more successful progress in the work of legislation, which I expressed to you at the close of the last Session of Parliament, have not been wholly disappointed; and I have cordially given my assent to many measures of public usefulness.

"The Acts, which secure due compensation to improving occupiers of land in England and Scotland respectively, and comprise other valuable provisions, will, I trust, tend alike to the promotion of confidence between classes, and to the more advantageous prosecution of the great business of agriculture.

"The new Law relating to corrupt practices at elections will not only tend towards extinguishing the grosser forms

of mischief, at which it is particularly aimed, but will, by reducing the expense of Parliamentary Elections, give increased freedom of choice to the Constituencies, and thus promote the more efficient representation of all classes in the great Council of the nation.

"The Act for the improvement of the Law of Bankruptcy appears well adapted to fulfil the favourable anticipations with which it has been received by the commercial and trading community; and the Act concerning Patents will be found greatly to improve the position of inventors, in whose ingenuity and resource the public has a substantial interest.

"The provision which you have made for further securing a continuous redemption of the National Debt will materially aid the maintenance of the public credit.

"The Act for the encouragement of Irish industry and enterprise by improvement of communications, and for the further relief of particular districts by emigration and migration, supplies a new proof of your anxiety to promote the prosperity of Ireland.

"The remission of Parliamentary labour which you have so amply earned will bring with it the discharge of important duties, both personal and public, in your respective districts. Alike in these, and in the arduous exertions which may be demanded from you in coming Sessions, I trust that the favour of Providence may uniformly guide [you to promote the object of my constant solicitude—the welfare and happiness of my people."

Then a Commission for proroguing the Parliament was read.

After which,

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said—

My Lords, and Gentlemen,

By virtue of Her Majesty's Commission, under the Great Seal, to us and other Lords directed, and now read, we do, in Her Majesty's Name, and in obedience to Her Commands, prorogue this Parliament to Monday the twelfth day of November next, to be then here holden; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Monday the twelfth day of November next.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Saturday, 25th August, 1883.

The House met at half after One of the clock.

QUESTIONS.

LABOURERS' (IRELAND) ACT.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If he has any objection to direct the Local Government Board to issue a circular to the various local bodies in Ireland, pointing out their powers under the Labourers' (Ireland) Act, explaining its provisions, and offering suggestions as to how those provisions can be carried into effect?

MR. TREVELYAN: The Local Government Board will forward a copy of the Act to each sanitary authority, and call their attention to its provisions, and they will be at all times ready to give advice and assistance to any sanitary authority requiring it; but the duties and powers of such authorities under the Act are very clearly and fully defined, and it does not appear to be either necessary or desirable to make any general suggestions. If the hon Member will speak to me afterwards, perhaps he may tell me some reasons on which we might ground the issue of a Circular.

RUSSIA—THE EXPULSION OF JEWS FROM ST. PETERSBURGH.

MR. MONTAGU SCOTT asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, If he has received information from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at St. Petersburg, with respect to the

expulsion from Russia of a British subject, furnished with an English Foreign Office passport only fourteen days' old, the representative of Messrs. Raphael Tuck, of London, on account of his religion; and, if Her Majesty's Government have taken any steps to induce the Russian Government to extend to Jews the rights stipulated by treaty to all Her Majesty's subjects of whatever denomination?

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE: Yes, Sir; the information which the Secretary of State has received from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires is to the effect that on the 13th instant, Mr. Marcuse called at the British Consulate with his passport endorsed by the police, "British subject, a Jew, forbidden to reside in St. Petersburg." The acting Consul explained the regulations, and offered to go with him to the Prefect of Police to obtain permission for him to remain about three weeks for business purposes. Mr. Marcuse, however, said that he only cared to remain three days, and declined to ask any favour of the Russian authorities. Mr. Marcuse made no further application to the Consulate and none at all to the Embassy. He remained four days at St. Petersburg, and left for Warsaw on the 16th instant. Since the receipt of this information Messrs. Tuck have asked the Secretary of State to obtain for their representative a permit to return to St. Petersburg, and thence to travel to Moscow and Odessa for the purposes of their trade, and Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at St. Petersburg has been instructed to inquire whether the Russian Government will give such a permit. Her Majesty's Government have not recently had occasion to make any representation to the Russian Government with regard to British subjects of the Hebrew faith not being permitted to reside at St. Petersburg and certain other places in Russia. An Imperial Commission for the revision of the laws affecting the Jews was appointed in February last. As the Government expect to receive a copy of that Report, they do not in the meantime propose to take any definite action in the matter.

LAW AND POLICE (IRELAND)—EXTRA POLICE TAX, CORK.

MR. SEXTON (for Mr. PARNELL) asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieu-

tenant of Ireland, Whether, notwithstanding that the Assize, Quarter Sessions, and Police Court records attest the absence of any serious crimes having been committed in Cork City for some years past, the citizens of Cork have annually to pay a heavy impost for the maintenance of an extra police force, which, according to the City Treasurer's account, amounted last year to £1,022 9s. 11d.; whether this force was drafted into Cork at the time of the Fenian rising, and retained there since; whether the Rates and Taxes necessary for maintaining the City are already over 9s. in the pound; whether hundreds of citizens are annually processsed, their goods sold, and their names struck off the Burgess roll, because they cannot pay these heavy rates; whether two members of this extra police force are at present under arrest, charged with having committed the only fatal outrage recorded in the City since another policeman shot a man on the Western Road some years ago; whether the Cork Corporation has frequently complained of the Rates being burdened with the cost of this unnecessary extra police force; and, whether, under these circumstances, he will undertake to have this extra Police Force withdrawn, and the citizens relieved of this taxation?

MR. TREVELYAN: It is true that there has been for some years an extra force in the city of Cork, for which the city has to pay, and the diminution of serious crime is considered to be in a great degree attributable to the presence of the police. Many persons, however, interested in the peace of the city consider the force to be too small, and the Corporation recently complained to the County Inspector that there was not sufficient Constabulary supervision over several matters in the city. The County Inspector had to reply, that with the number of men at his disposal he could do no more than at present. I am informed that it is the case that the city rates are over 9s. in the pound, of which the charge for extra Constabulary forms a very small fraction. No doubt, many persons are annually processsed for non-payment of rates; but there is no reason to think that the removal of the extra Constabulary would make any practical difference in this respect. It is true that two sub-constables were recently charged with being accessory to the

death of a poor man named Leatham; but after an investigation which lasted four days, the magistrates refused information on the ground—first, that the evidence did not connect the accused with the occurrence; and, secondly, that the medical testimony went to show that death was the result of natural causes. The other fatal occurrence referred to by the hon. Member is as follows:—In 1878 a police patrol saw a man knock down a watchman by striking him with a hatchet on the head. They believed him to have committed murder, and called on him, in the Queen's name to stand, and, on his refusing to do so, they fired after him and killed him. A Coroner's Jury returned a verdict of "Justifiable homicide." I do not think I can hold out any immediate prospect of a diminution of the extra force.

MR. SEXTON (for MR. PARSELL) asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether, notwithstanding the fact that the citizens of Cork have to pay over £1,000 per annum for an extra Police Force, the Police authorities charge the Executive Committee of the Cork Exhibition over £20 per week for Police on duty there; whether he is aware that the Exhibition has been organized by a Committee composed of men of all religious and political opinions, and presided over by the Earl of Bandon; and, whether, since the funds of the Exhibition were not provided by voluntary subscriptions from all parties, for the promotion of Irish industries, he will instruct the Police authorities to supply the Police necessary for protecting the exhibitors' property free of charge in future, and to refund the moneys already paid by the Executive Committee of the Exhibition?

MR. TREVELYAN: The charge made in this case is in accordance with the invariable practice in such cases, both in England as well as Ireland; and I regret that I see no ground upon which an exception can be made in favour of the Cork Exhibition. The Government keep a reserve force for emergencies like this among others.

PUBLIC HEALTH—THE HORNSEY SANITARY DISTRICT.

MR. ANDERSON asked the President of the Local Government Board, If he is aware that a part of Hornsey Sanitary District can not be drained ex-

cept through the Tottenham District, and that, so far, the Tottenham Sanitary Authority has declined to permit this, and that consequently the Hornsey Board has issued notices requiring the construction of eighty-eight cesspools over a small area, and many more would be required; and, whether, in case of such disputes between two local authorities, the Local Government Board has power to interfere; or, if they have not power to do that, if they would, by consent of both, act as arbitrator between them; or, failing these alternatives, whether, in the interest of public health, they will introduce a Bill asking for extended powers?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: The estate to which it is presumed that the Question refers is Wright's Park Estate. The Board have not received any official communication on the subject from the owners or occupiers of the houses on that estate, or from the Local Board; but they have been informed generally of the facts. The estate consists of 99 houses; and if these houses had been erected, and the drainage system carried out in accordance with the plans approved by the Local Board, there would have been no difficulty in providing for the sewerage of the houses. About 80 of the houses have been provided with drains; but they have been so laid that the drains are lower than the outfall sewer, and the connections with that sewer are being gradually silted up. The proper drainage of these houses cannot now be effected without re-laying the drains, and this the owners are unwilling to do. As to the remaining houses, they have been erected at such a level that drains cannot be made to discharge into the outfall sewer of the district. The Local Board, with the view of securing some remedy, have required the owners to construct cesspools, this being the only order they could make in the matter; but they have made the requirement in the hope that the owners would re-arrange the drainage, and thus render the construction of the cesspools unnecessary. The Board have reason to believe that all the houses might be drained without the cost of re-laying the house drains if a connection were made with the Tottenham sewers; but they are not aware that, as yet, formal application has been made by the Hornsey Local Board to the Tot-

tenham Local Board, although there have been communications on the subject between the surveyors of the two districts. The Board have reason to believe that the Hornsey Local Board will endeavour to come to some arrangement with the Tottenham Local Board. The Local Boards of the two districts are empowered by the Public Health Act, by agreement, to cause the sewers of the one district to communicate with the sewers of the other. Any dispute as to the terms and conditions on which the communication shall be made may be settled by the Local Government Board. The Board are not aware of any sufficient ground for further legislation on the subject.

REGISTRATION OF ELECTORS (IRELAND).

MR. HEALY asked Mr. Attorney General for Ireland, If he is aware that Dr. Darley, the County Court Judge for Wicklow, at Revision Sessions, ruled that if a man succeeds his father or mother in a rateable holding, having been twelve months or more in *bonâ fide* possession, having paid his rent and rates in his own name during that period, he is ineligible for the Voters' List unless his father or mother has bequeathed it to him by will or deed; whether it is the fact that a man taking a house or farm of the required rateable value is put on as a matter of course if he has been twelve months in *bonâ fide* possession; and, if he can say what the law is?

MR. TREVELYAN: My right hon. and learned Friend the Attorney General for Ireland has not seen any report of the decision in question, and desires me to say that if the ruling of the Revising Barrister be disputed it can be questioned on appeal; and that it would be improper to give an official statement of the law, which is contained in Statutes accessible to all. I have heard from Dr. Darley, who states that he decides all such cases according to the principles laid down by the Court of Appeal, and that his decisions have never been appealed against.

ARREARS OF RENT (IRELAND) ACT 1882 — THE COLLECTOR GENERAL OF RATES, DUBLIN.

MR. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland,

Mr. Anderson

Whether the Government have yet decided, with regard to the retention in office of the Collector General for Dublin; and, whether it is usual to allow a charge of fraud to hang for five weeks over the head of an important public servant intrusted with the collection of millions of money, without the Government coming to any conclusion as to his suspension or dismissal?

MR. TREVELYAN, in reply, said, the question was being carefully considered by the Lord Lieutenant, who had now returned to Dublin. The last paragraph was a general Question, to which he did not think he could give any answer except that the circumstances of this case were not such as would, for instance, require the suspension of a public servant from his duties while the inquiry was going on.

MR. HEALY asked if the right hon. Gentleman was aware that his Predecessor in Office (Mr. Forster) removed Dr. Kenny from his office on a "reasonable suspicion," and yet here was the case of a man who had millions of public money passing through his hands, and who for five weeks had been allowed to remain in his office with a charge of fraud against him? There was the greatest anxiety among the citizens of Dublin about this matter.

MR. TREVELYAN: I cannot give any answer beyond what I have already stated.

PREVENTION OF CRIME (IRELAND) ACT, 1882—PROCLAMATION OF CO. LOUTH.

MR. CALLAN asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether, considering the peaceable condition of the county of Louth, as evidenced by the calendar of prisoners and the charges of the going Judges of Assize and Chairmen of Quarter Sessions, both as regards offences against person and against property, and the statements of the Chairman of Quarter Sessions, in June last, at Dundalk, who, addressing the Grand Jury, said that—

"As far as I can hear, the county has been in a very quiet state since my last visit;" and at the Summer Assizes for the county of Louth, of Mr. Justice Andrews, who, in charging the Grand Jury, said—

"I find that there are no Bills to go before you at the present Assizes, while only yesterday

the County Court Judge concluded his sittings, and I understood he had only one case to go before him. Under these circumstances, I am very happy to tender you my sincere congratulations on the peaceful and orderly state of your county;"

and Sir John Robinson, foreman of the Grand Jury, who, on the same occasion, in presenting white gloves to the going Judge, said—

"It was a happy state of affairs that nothing had occurred to mar the peace and quietness that prevailed in the county of Louth;"

and of Mr. Justice Andrews, who, in accepting the white gloves, said—

"It was very gratifying to him to accept those white gloves, as an emblem of the peaceable state of the county, upon which he had taken the opportunity of congratulating them, and, through them, the community at large;"

and, whether, in view of these circumstances, he is prepared to remove the Proclamation of the county of Louth and the county of the town of Drogheda?

MR. TREVELYAN: I answered this Question the other day, and have nothing further to add.

PROROGATION OF THE PARLIAMENT.

Message to attend The Lords Commissioners:—

The House went;—and a Royal Commission to that purpose having been read, the *Royal Assent* was given to several Bills.

And afterwards Her Majesty's Most Gracious Speech was delivered to both Houses of Parliament by the Lord High Chancellor (in pursuance of Her Majesty's Command).

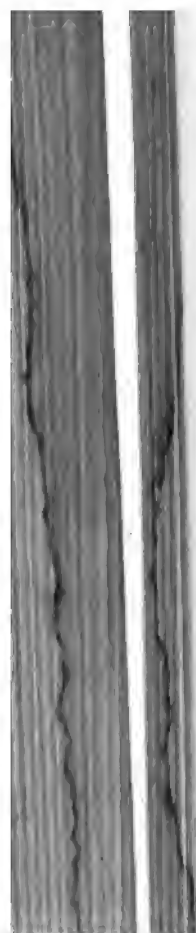
Then a Commission for proroguing Parliament was read.

After which,

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said—

My Lords, and Gentlemen,

By virtue of Her Majesty's Commission, under the Great Seal, to us and other Lords directed, and now read, we do, in Her Majesty's Name and in obedience to Her Commands, prorogue this Parliament to Monday the twelfth day of November next, to be then here holden; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Monday the twelfth day of November next.



A

TABLE OF ALL THE STATUTES

PASSED IN THE FOURTH SESSION OF

THE TWENTY-SECOND PARLIAMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM
OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

46 & 47 VICTORIA.—A.D. 1883.

PUBLIC GENERAL ACTS.

1. **A**N Act to amend the Consolidated Fund (Permanent Charges Redemption) Act, 1873.
2. An Act to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Fund to the service of the years ending on the thirty-first day of March one thousand eight hundred and eighty-two, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-three, and one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four.
3. An Act to amend the Law relating to Explosive Substances.
4. An Act for enabling the Trustees and Director of the National Gallery to lend Works of Art to other Public Galleries in the United Kingdom.
5. An Act to apply a sum out of the Consolidated Fund to the service of the year ending on the thirty-first day of March one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four.
6. An Act to provide, during twelve months, for the Discipline and Regulation of the Army.
7. An Act to amend the Bills of Sale (Ireland) Act, 1879.
8. An Act to amend the Glebe Loans (Ireland) Acts.
9. An Act to make further provision for taking dues for repairing and improving the Harbours in the Isle of Man.
10. An Act to grant certain Duties of Customs and Inland Revenue, to alter other Duties, and to amend the Laws relating to Customs and Inland Revenue.
11. An Act to provide for Expenses incurred by Guardians of the Poor in relation to Poor Law Conferences.
12. An Act to amend the Act for the Prevention of Crime in Ireland, 1882, as to the Audience of Solicitors.
13. An Act to apply the sum of five million nine hundred and seventy-three thousand nine hundred and twelve pounds out of the Consolidated Fund to the service of the year ending on the thirty-first day of March one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four.
14. An Act to amend the Laws relating to the Pay and Pensions of the Royal Irish Constabulary and the Police Force of Dublin Metropolis; and for other purposes.
15. An Act to amend the Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845.
16. An Act to grant a sum of money to Admiral Baron Alcester, G.C.B., in consideration of his eminent services.
17. An Act to grant a sum of money to General Baron Wolseley of Cairo, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., in consideration of his eminent services.
18. An Act to make provision respecting certain Municipal Corporations and other Local Authorities not subject to the Municipal Corporation Act.
19. An Act to amend the Medical Act (1858).
20. An Act to amend the Law relating to the Registry of Deeds Office, Ireland.
21. An Act to continue certain Turnpike Acts, and to repeal certain other Turnpike Acts; and for other purposes connected therewith.
22. An Act to carry into effect an International Convention concerning the Fisheries in the North Sea, and to amend the laws relating to British Sea Fisheries.
23. An Act to apply the sum of fifteen million one hundred and eighty-two thousand seven hundred and seven pounds out of the Consolidated Fund to the service of the year ending on the thirty-first day of March one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four.

VOL. CCLXXXIII. [THIRD SERIES.]

[To follow Text.]

24. An Act to make temporary provision for the relief of the destitute Poor in Ireland.
25. An Act to explain and amend the thirty-second section of the General Prisons (Ireland) Act, 1877.
26. An Act to promote the Sea Fisheries of Ireland.
27. An Act further to amend the Acts relating to the raising of Money by the Metropolitan Board of Works; and for other purposes.
28. An Act to amend the Companies Acts, 1862 and 1867.
29. An Act to consolidate the Accounting Departments of the Supreme Court of Judicature, and for other purposes.
30. An Act to authorise Companies registered under the Companies Act, 1862, to keep Local Registers of their Members in British Colonies.
31. An Act to prohibit the Payment of Wages to Workmen in Public-houses and certain other places.
32. An Act to make further provision respecting the application of the Revenues of Greenwich Hospital, and for other purposes.
33. An Act to amend the Irish Reproductive Loan Fund Act, 1874.
34. An Act to amend the Law relating to Railway Passenger Duty, and to amend and consolidate the Law relating to the conveyance of the Queen's Forces by Railway.
35. An Act to make better provision as regards the Metropolis for the isolation and treatment of persons suffering from Cholera and other Infectious Diseases; and for other purposes.
36. An Act to provide for the better application and management of the Parochial Charities of the City of London.
37. An Act to amend the Public Health Act, 1875, and to make provision with respect to the support of public sewers and sewage works in mining districts.
38. An Act to amend the Law respecting the Trial and Custody of Insane Persons charged with offences.
39. An Act for further promoting the Revision of the Statute Law by repealing certain Enactments which have ceased to be in force or have become unnecessary.
40. An Act to continue various Expiring Laws.
41. An Act to amend the Merchant Shipping Acts, 1854 to 1880, with respect to fishing vessels and apprenticeship to the sea fishing service and otherwise.
42. An Act to grant Money for the purpose of Loans by the Public Works Loan Commissioners and the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland and the Irish Land Commission; and to amend the Acts relating to the said Commissioners, and for other purposes.
43. An Act for promoting the extension of Tramway communication in Ireland, and for assisting Emigration, and for extending certain provisions of the Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881, to the case of Public Companies.
44. An Act to explain the effect of Section One hundred and ninety-five of the Municipal Corporations Act, 1882.
45. An Act for preventing the Sale of Medals resembling Current Coin.
46. An Act to suspend for a limited period, on account of Corrupt Practices, the holding of an Election of a Member or Members to serve in Parliament for certain cities and boroughs.
47. An Act to extend the power of Nomination in Friendly and Industrial, &c. Societies, and to make further provision for cases of Intestacy in respect of Personal Property of small amount.
48. An Act to enable sanitary authorities in Ireland to take possession of land for the erection of temporary Cholera Hospitals.
49. An Act for promoting the Revision of the Statute Law by repealing various Enactments relating to Civil Procedure or matters connected therewith, and for amending in some respects the Law relating to Civil Procedure.
50. An Act to apply a sum out of the Consolidated Fund to the service of the year ending on the thirty-first day of March one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four, and to appropriate the Supplies granted in this Session of Parliament.
51. An Act for the better prevention of Corrupt and Illegal Practices at Parliamentary Elections.
52. An Act to amend and consolidate the Law of Bankruptcy.
53. An Act to amend the Law relating to certain Factories and Workshops.
54. An Act to make further provision respecting the National Debt, and the Investment of Moneys in the hands of the National Debt Commissioners on account of Savings Banks, and otherwise.
55. An Act to amend the Law relating to the Customs and Inland Revenue, and to make other provisions respecting charges payable out of the public revenue, and for other purposes.
56. An Act to amend the Laws relating to Education in Scotland, and for other purposes connected therewith.
57. An Act to amend and consolidate the Law relating to Patents for Inventions, Registration of Designs, and of Trade Marks.
58. An Act to amend the Post Office (Money Orders) Acts, 1848 and 1880, and extend the same to Her Majesty's Dominions out of the United Kingdom.
59. An Act to make better provision for the Prevention of outbreaks of formidable epidemic, endemic, or infectious diseases, and to amend the Public Health Act, England, 1875, and the Public Health Act, Ireland, 1878.
60. An Act to better the condition of Labourers in Ireland.
61. An Act for amending the Law relating to Agricultural Holdings in England.
62. An Act for amending the Law relating to Agricultural Holdings in Scotland.

The Acts contained in the following List, being PUBLIC ACTS of a Local Character, are placed amongst the LOCAL AND PERSONAL ACTS.

- ii. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order under the Land Drainage Act, 1861, relating to Burgh Saint Peter Improvements, situate in the parish of Burgh Saint Peter, in the county of Norfolk.
- x. An Act to confirm certain Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Sea Fisheries Act, 1868, relating to Hamford Water, Hunstanton (le Strange), and Swansea.
- xviii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Local Government District of Abertillery, the Rural Sanitary Districts of the Horsham and Penzance Unions, the Boroughs of Portsmouth and Scarborough, the Local Government Districts of Shirley-and-Freemantle and Staines, the City of Truro, and the Local Government Districts of Walton-on-the-Hill and Wimbledon.
- xix. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order made under the General Police and Improvement (Scotland) Act, 1862, relating to the Burgh of Broughty Ferry.
- xxi. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders under the Drainage and Improvement of Lands (Ireland) Act, 1863, and the Acts amending the same.
- xxx. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order made by the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland in Council, under the Tramways (Ireland) Act, 1860, extending the time for the completion of the Dublin and Blessington Steam Tramways.
- xl. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board for Ireland relating to the township of Rathmines and Rathgar, and to the towns of Tralee and Warrenpoint.
- xlii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Education Department under the Elementary Education Act, 1876, to enable the School Boards for Cummersdale, Cumberland; Hayfield, Derbyshire; Little Eaton, Derbyshire; Stroud, Gloucestershire; and Treuddyn, Flintshire, to put in force the Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845, and the Acts amending the same.
- xliii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the General Pier and Harbour Act, 1861, relating to Inverness, Lamlash, Leven, Methil, Portliven, Truro, and Wick and Pulteney.
- xliv. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board for Ireland relating to Waterworks in the town of Kilburney.
- xlv. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order made by the Board of Trade under the General Pier and Harbour Act, 1861, relating to Whitby.
- xlvi. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Gas and Water Works Facilities Act, 1870, relating to Bilston Gas, Broadstairs Gas, Calne Gas, Enfield Gas, Ferndale Gas, Saint Neots Gas, Tadcaster and Wetherby District Gas, Swanage Gas and Water, and Ystrad Gas and Water.
- xlvii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Tramways Act, 1870, relating to Birmingham and Western Districts Tramways, Edgbaston and Harborne Tramways, North Birmingham Tramways, Oldham, Ashton-under-Lyne, Hyde and District Tramways, South Birmingham Tramways, and Southend-on-Sea and District Tramways.
- xlviii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Gas and Water Works Facilities Act, 1870, relating to Blandford District Water, Farnborough District Water, Gosport Water, Herne Bay Water, Newmarket Water, Newport and Pillgwenly Water, and Pontypridd Water.
- lxxx. An Act to confirm certain Orders of the Local Government Board under the provisions of the Divided Parishes and Poor Law Amendment Act, 1876, as amended and extended by the Poor Law Act, 1879, and the Divided Parishes and Poor Law Amendment Act, 1882, relating to the Parishes of Brafield-on-the-Green, Brentor, Cairau, Clun-gunford, Cogenhoe or Cooknoe, Courteenhall, Cwmearvan, Great-Houghton, Hope-Mansell, Hepton-Castle, Horton, Lamerton, Lew-Trenchard, Little-Houghton, Llandough, Llangaffo, Llangeinwen, Lower Slaughter, Michaelstone-super-Ely, Mitchel-Troy, Newington-Bagpath, Newland, Owlpen, Pennarth, Peterstone-super-Ely, Peter-Tavy, Road or Rode, Ruardean, Saint Bride-super-Ely, Saint Pagans, Tavistock, Thrushelton, Upper-Slaughter, Walford, Whitechurch, and Wootton, to the Townships of Brimington, Claylane, Coal-Ashton, Morton, North-Wingfield, Pilsley, Tipton, Unstone, and Woodthorpe, and to the Tything of Lea-Bailey.
- lxxxi. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board under the provisions of the Poor Law Amendment Act, 1867, as amended by the Poor Law Amendment Act, 1868, and extended by the Poor Law Act, 1879, relating to the Parishes of Birmingham and Lambeth.
- lxxxii. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board under the Highways and Locomotives (Amendment) Act, 1878, relating to the county of Dorset.

- lxxxiii. An Act to confirm Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board for Ireland relating to the towns of Carlow and Listowel, and to the Newtownards Gas Undertaking.
- lxxxiv. An Act to confirm the Provisional Order for the inclosure of the Common Fields and Pastures, situate in the parish of Hildersham, in the county of Cambridge, in pursuance of a Report of the Land Commissioners for England.
- lxxxv. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order under the Land Drainage Act, 1861, relating to Didcot Improvements, situate in the several parishes of Didcot, East Hagbourne, and Long Wittenham, and in the chapelry of Appleford in the parish of Sutton Courtney, in the county of Berks.
- lxxxvi. An Act to provide for the repair and maintenance of certain Highways in the New Forest in the county of Southampton.
- lxxxvii. An Act to provide for the repair and maintenance of certain Highways in the Forest of Dean in the county of Gloucester.
- lxxxviii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders under the Drainage and Improvement of Lands (Ireland) Act, 1863, and the Acts amending the same.
- lxxxix. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Improvement Act District of Bethesda, the Borough of Darlington, the Evesham Joint Hospital District, the Faversham Joint Hospital District, the Improvement Act District of Kingston, the Lower Thames Valley Main Sewerage District, the Boroughs of Maldon and Sandwich, and the Local Government Districts of Torquay, and Wanstead and Woodford.
- xc. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Rural Sanitary District of the Barnet Union, the Local Government Districts of Brentford, Chilvers Coton, and Nuneaton, the Stourbridge Main Drainage District, the Borough of Stratford-upon-Avon, the Rural Sanitary District of the Stroud Union, and the Local Government District of Wellington (Somerset).
- xci. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board relating to the Borough of Leeds.
- xcii. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board for Ireland relating to Waterworks in the city of Limerick.
- xciii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Tramways Act, 1870, relating to South Shields Corporation Tramways, and Wolverton and Stony Stratford Tramways.
- xciv. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State for the improvement of an unhealthy area situated at Saint-George-in-the-East, within the Metropolis.
- xcv. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State for the improvement of an unhealthy area situated at Limehouse, within the Metropolis.
- xcvi. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State for the improvement of an unhealthy area situated in Lambeth, within the Metropolis.
- xcvii. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State for the improvement of an unhealthy area situated at Greenwich, within the Metropolis.
- xcviii. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order made under the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1867, relating to the burgh of Fraserburgh.
- xcix. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Boroughs of Kingston-upon-Hull and Leeds, and the district of Weston-super-Mare.
- cxxxi. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Tramways Act, 1870, relating to Aldershot and Farnborough Tramways Extensions, Bradford Corporation Tramways, Hartlepool Tramways, Liverpool Corporation Tramways, Macclesfield Tramways, and North Staffordshire Tramways.
- cxxxii. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order made by the Education Department under the Elementary Education Act, 1870, to enable the School Board for London to put in force the Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845, and the Acts amending the same.
- cxxxiii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Tramways Act, 1870, relating to Colchester Tramways, Halifax and Districts Tramways, Oxford Tramways Extensions, Rhyl, Voryd, and Plastirion Tramways, Span Valley and District Tramways, and Yarmouth and Gorleston Tramways Extension.
- cxxxiv. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board under the provisions of the Gas and Water Works Facilities Act, 1870, and the Public Health Act, 1875, relating to the Local Government District of Festiniog.
- cxxxv. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Borough of Cheltenham, the Local Government District of Croydon, the Borough of Dorchester, the Rural Sanitary District of the Hendon Union, and the Local Government Districts of Malvern and Wilenhall.
- cxxxvi. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Local Government District of Ashton-in-Makerfield, the Borough of Ashton-under-Lyne and the Local Government Districts of Dukinfield and Hurst, the Boroughs of Burnley and Doncaster, the Town of Hove, the Local Government District of Hucknall-under-Huthwaite, the Improvement Act District of Llandudno, the Borough of Middlesbrough, the Port of Newport (Mon.), the Borough of Rochdale and the Local Government Districts of Sutton-in-Ashfield and West Ham.
- cxxxvii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Local Government District of Bognor, the Borough of Cheltenham, the Improvement Act District of Chiswick, the Borough of Plymouth, the Local Government District of Skipton, the Borough of Stockton and the Local Government District of South

- Stockton, and the Local Government Districts of Stroud and Wallasey.
- ccxxviii. An Act to confirm certain Orders of the Local Government Board under the provisions of the Divided Parishes and Poor Law Amendment Act, 1876, as amended and extended by the Poor Law Act, 1879, relating to the Parishes of Black-Torrington, Bradford, Bridgerule - East, Carhampton, Dodington, Fulwood, High-Hampton, Hinders - Lane - and - Dockham, Holford, Monk-silver, Old-Cleve, Pancrasweek, Pleasley, Porlock, Pyworthy, Selworthy, Stogumber, Sutcombe, Upper-Langwith, and Withycombe; to the Townships of East-Dean, Hucknall-under-Huthwaite, and Sutton-in-Ashfield; and to the Tything of Lea-Bailey.
- clxxxiv. An Act to transfer to one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State the powers vested in the Admiralty and the Board of Ordnance in relation to gunpowder magazines and stores in the River Mersey, and amend the Acts relating to those magazines and stores.
- ccxxiii. An Act for confirming certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Electric Lighting Act, 1882, relating to Cambridge, Canterbury, Chelsea, Finchley, Folkestone, Gravesend, Greenock, Greenwich, High Wycombe, Ipswich, Maidstone, and Sunderland.
- ccxiv. An Act for confirming certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Electric Lighting Act, 1882, relating to Aston, Birkdale, Dudley, Saltley, Ulverston, West Bromwich, and Wolverhampton.
- ccxv. An Act for confirming certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Electric Lighting Act, 1882, relating to Balsall Heath, Birmingham, Redditch, and Walsall.
- ccxvi. An Act for confirming certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Electric Lighting Act, 1882, relating to Barton Eccles Winton and Monton, Carlisle, Croydon, Luton, Margate, Nelson, Rochester, Scarborough, and Sudbury.
- ccxvii. An Act for confirming certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Electric Lighting Act, 1882, relating to Bermondsey, Clerkenwell, Hampstead, Holborn, Hornsey, St. George's-in-the-East, St. Giles' (Brush), St. James' and St. Martin's, St. Luke's, and Wandsworth.
- ccxviii. An Act for confirming certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Electric Lighting Act, 1882, relating to Limehouse, Poplar, Richmond (Surrey), Rotherhithe, St. Giles's (Pilsen Joel), St. Olave, St. Saviour's (Southwark), Shoreditch, and Wednesbury and Darlaston.
- ccxix. An Act for confirming certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Electric Lighting Act, 1882, relating to Barnes and Mortlake, Hackney, Islington, St. Pancras (Middlesex), and Whitechapel.
- ccxx. An Act for confirming certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Electric Lighting Act, 1882, relating to Bradford, Brighton, Hanover Square District (London), Norwich, South Kensington District (London), Strand District (London), and Victoria District (London).
- ccxxi. An Act for confirming certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Electric Lighting Act, 1882, relating to Bristol, Grantham, and Lowestoft.
- ccxxii. An Act for confirming certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Electric Lighting Act, 1882, relating to Chiswick and St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark.
- ccxxiii. An Act for confirming a Provisional Order made by the Board of Trade under the Electric Lighting Act, 1882, relating to Dundee.
- ccxxiv. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board relating to the Improvement Act District of West Hartlepool.
- ccxxv. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Local Government Districts of Haslingden, Ramsbottom, and Rawtenstall.
- ccxxvi. An Act to amend the Law relating to Highways in the Isle of Wight, and for other purposes.

LOCAL ACTS.

*The Titles to which the Letter P. is prefixed are Public Acts
of a Local Character.*

- i. **A** N Act for rendering valid certain Letters Patent granted to William Chetham for "Improvements in Self-acting Temples for Looms."
- P.** ii. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order under the Land Drainage Act, 1861, relating to Burgh Saint Peter Improvements, situate in the parish of Burgh Saint Peter, in the county of Norfolk.
- iii. An Act for the abandonment of the Rhins of Galloway Railway.
- iv. An Act for granting further Powers to the British American Land Company.
- v. An Act for reviving and rendering valid certain Letters Patent granted to Thomas John Mullings for a new and improved process for extracting Oil and Fat and oily and fatty matters from Wool and other substances and the apparatus connected therewith and applicable thereto.
- vi. An Act to authorise the carrying into effect of an arrangement for the Sale to and Purchase by the Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of Brighton for the purpose of a Public Park of certain Lands part of the Estates in the County of Sussex devised by the Will of William Stanford Esquire and for other purposes.
- vii. An Act to confer further powers on the Swindon and Cheltenham Extension Railway Company; and for other purposes.
- viii. An Act to continue and amend the Aberdeenshire Roads Act, 1865; and for other purposes.
- ix. An Act to provide for the dissolution of the British Fisheries Society; and for other purposes.
- P.** x. An Act to confirm certain Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Sea Fisheries Act, 1863, relating to Hamford Water, Hunstanton (le Strange), and Swansea.
- xi. An Act for abolishing the Church Rate now leviable in the Parish of Saint Saviour, Southwark; for vesting in the Lord Bishop of the diocese the right of presentation to the Chaplaincy of the Parish Church, and for other purposes.
- xii. An Act for reducing the Capital of Price's Patent Candle Company (Limited), and for other purposes.
- xiii. An Act to confer further powers on the South-eastern Railway Company and for other purposes.
- xiv. An Act for enabling the Caledonian Railway Company to make certain Railways in the Counties of Stirling and Midlothian; and to abandon a certain authorised Railway in the County of Lanark; for extending the time of construction of certain of their authorised Railways in Lanarkshire; for releasing the remainder of a sum deposited by the Callander and Oban Railway Company; and for other purposes.
- xv. An Act for extending the powers of the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company Limited; and for other purposes.
- xvi. An Act for authorising the Sale of the old Church of Saint Peter (Clifton) in the City of Bristol and of premises connected therewith.
- xvii. An Act for incorporating and conferring Powers on the Leatherhead and District Waterworks Company.
- P.** xviii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Local Government District of Abertillery, the Rural Sanitary Districts of the Horsham and Penzance Unions, the Boroughs of Portsmouth and Scarborough, the Local Government Districts of Shirley and-Freemantle and Staines, the City of Truro, and the Local Government Districts of Walton-on-the-Hill and Wimbledon.
- P.** xix. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order made under the General Police and Improvement (Scotland) Act, 1862, relating to the Burgh of Broughty Ferry.
- xx. An Act to extend the time limited by the Swansea Harbour Act 1874 for the completion of the Docks Railways and Works by that Act authorised; to enable the Swansea Harbour Trustees to raise a further sum of money for the purposes of their Undertaking; and to annul a certain Agreement between the Swansea Harbour Trustees and the Corporation of Swansea.
- P.** xxi. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders under the Drainage and Improvement of Lands (Ireland) Act, 1863, and the Acts amending the same.

- xxii. An Act to confer further powers on the Ordinary Courts of Directors of the Scottish Widows' Fund and Life Assurance Society.
- xxiii. An Act for amending the Metropolitan Street Improvements Act 1877.
- xxiv. An Act for enabling the Caledonian and the Glasgow and South-western Railway Companies to execute certain Works and acquire certain Lands in the Counties of Renfrew, Lanark, and Ayr, in connexion with their Glasgow and Paisley and Glasgow and Kilmarnock Joint Lines of Railway; and for other purposes.
- xxv. An Act to confer further Powers upon the North London Railway Company for the acquisition of Lands and the raising of Capital; and to empower the London and North-western Railway Company to subscribe towards such Capital; and for other purposes.
- xxvi. An Act for amending and extending the Acts relating to the Standard Life Assurance Company, and for making further provisions with respect thereto.
- xxvii. An Act to amend the Acts relating to the Dock Company at Kingston-upon-Hull; to confer further Powers on the said Company; and for other purposes.
- xxviii. An Act to extend the Powers of the Company of Proprietors of Lambeth Waterworks.
- xxix. An Act to amend the Dublin (South) City Market Acts 1876 and 1879; and for other purposes.
- P. xxx. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order made by the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland in Council, under the Tramways (Ireland) Act, 1860, extending the time for the completion of the Dublin and Blessington Steam Tramways.
- xxxi. An Act for conferring further Powers upon the Cheshire Lines Committee and for other purposes.
- xxxii. An Act authorising the Portishead District Water Company to construct additional Works and to purchase additional Lands and for other purposes.
- xxxiii. An Act for sanctioning a Settlement of the Claims of the Mortgagees of the Exeter Canal against the Corporation of the City of Exeter; for empowering the Corporation to borrow for the purpose of carrying into effect such settlement and of improving the said Canal and for other purposes.
- xxxiv. An Act to enable the Corris Railway Company to use their Railways for Passenger Traffic and for other purposes.
- xxxv. An Act to make provision with respect to the support of public sewers and sewage works in the mining districts in the borough of Wigan and neighbouring places.
- xxxvi. An Act to authorise the Metropolitan Railway Company to raise additional Capital to amend their Acts and for other purposes.
- xxxvii. An Act for regulating the Faculty of Procurators in Paisley; for making provision for the present and contingent Liabilities thereof; for the distribution of the Funds and the ultimate dissolution of the Faculty; and for other relative purposes.
- xxxviii. An Act for incorporating and conferring powers on the Halesowen Gas Company, and for other purposes.
- xxxix. An Act to confirm an Agreement between the London, Tilbury, and Southend Railway Company and the East and West India Dock Company, with reference to a supply of water and for other purposes.
- P. xl. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board for Ireland relating to the township of Rathmines and Rathgar, and to the towns of Tralge and Warrenpoint.
- xli. An Act to enable the Watford Gas and Coke Company to erect and maintain additional works to acquire more land and to raise further capital and for other purposes.
- P. xlii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Education Department under the Elementary Education Act, 1870, to enable the School Boards for Cummersdale, Cumberland; Hayfield, Derbyshire; Little Eaton, Derbyshire; Stroud, Gloucestershire; and Treuddyn, Flintshire, to put in force the Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845, and the Acts amending the same.
- P. xliii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the General Pier and Harbour Act, 1861, relating to Inverness, Lamlash, Leven, Methil, Porthleven, Truro, and Wick and Pulteney.
- P. xliv. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board for Ireland relating to Waterworks in the town of Kilmarnock.
- P. xlv. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order made by the Board of Trade under the General Pier and Harbour Act, 1861, relating to Whitby.
- P. xlii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Gas and Water Works Facilities Act, 1870, relating to Bilston Gas, Broadstairs Gas, Calne Gas, Enfield Gas, Ferndale Gas, Saint Neots Gas, Tadcaster and Wetherby District Gas, Swanage Gas and Water, and Ystrad Gas and Water.
- P. xlvii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Tramways Act, 1870, relating to Birmingham and Western Districts Tramways, Edgbaston and Harborne Tramways, North Birmingham Tramways, Oldham, Ashton-under-Lyne, Hyde and District Tramways, South Birmingham Tramways, and Southend-on-Sea and District Tramways.
- P. xlviii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Gas and Water Works Facilities Act, 1870, relating to Blandford District Water, Farnborough District Water, Gosport Water, Herne Bay Water, Newmarket Water, Newport and Pillgwenly Water, and Pontypridd Water.
- xlix. An Act for conferring further powers on the Hounslow and Metropolitan Railway Company; and for other purposes.
- l. An Act for empowering the Local Board of Health for the district of Workington in the county of Cumberland to take water from the River Derwent to construct waterworks and to supply water and to enable the Cockermouth and Workington Joint Water Committee and the said Local Board to agree for the transfer to the said Local Board of the undertaking of

- the said Joint Committee and for other purposes.
- li. An Act to vary and extend the Powers of the East London Railway Company in respect of the Railway authorised by the East London Railway Act 1882 to expedite the opening of a connection by Railway between the North and South sides of the River Thames and for other purposes.
 - lii. An Act for amalgamating the Llynvi and Ogmore Railway Company with the Great Western Railway Company.
 - liii. An Act for rendering valid certain Letters Patent granted to Joseph Law and Henry Law for "Improvements in appliances for heating hardening and tempering Wire used in the manufacture of Cards for Carding Fibres."
 - liv. An Act to authorise the Cambrian Railways Company to extend their Pier and Works at Aberdovey to purchase land at Abereirch to establish Hotels and Refreshment Rooms in connection with their Railway to establish Savings Banks and for other purposes.
 - lv. An Act for authorising the Downham and Stoke Ferry Railway Company to extend their Railway to Gooderstone to raise further money and for other purposes.
 - lvi. An Act for the sale and transfer to the Great Eastern Railway Company of the Undertakings of the Tendring Hundred Railway Company and of the Clacton-on-Sea Railway Company; and for other purposes.
 - lvii. An Act to provide for the conversion of Statutable Securities of the Corporation of Sheffield into Corporation Stock; to make better provision and enlarge the powers of the Corporation with respect to sanitary matters and matters of Local Government Police and the Administration of Justice; to authorise the Corporation to raise Money for Tramway purposes and for Loans to certain Public Bodies within the Borough; and for other purposes.
 - lviii. An Act for transferring to the Rural Sanitary Authority for the rural sanitary district of the Chesterfield Union in the county of Derby the undertaking of the Staveley Waterworks Company and for the dissolution of that Company and for other purposes.
 - lix. An Act for amending the Provisions of the Belfast Harbour Acts respecting the Constitution and Election of the Belfast Harbour Commissioners; and for conferring on the said Commissioners further powers in relation to Victoria Park; and for other purposes.
 - lx. An Act to extend the Municipal Boundary of the City of Aberdeen; to authorise the Town Council to make new streets, execute certain street improvements, and construct a connecting railway to the Gasworks; and for other purposes.
 - lxi. An Act for conferring further powers on the Glasgow and South-Western Railway Company for the Construction of Works and the Acquisition of Lands and for Vesting in them the Saint Enoch Station at Glasgow and for empowering them to raise Additional Capital and for other purposes.
 - lxii. An Act to extend the Borough of Longton and to make further provision for the Improvement and good Government of the Borough and for other purposes.
 - lxiii. An Act for enabling the North-Eastern Railway Company to make new Railways and for conferring Additional Powers on the Company in relation to their own Undertaking and the Undertakings of other Companies; and for other purposes.
 - lxiv. An Act to authorise the Waterford and Limerick Railway Company to raise further Capital and for other purposes.
 - lxv. An Act to enable the Wrexham Mold and Connah's Quay Railway Company to make New Railways to raise further Capital and for other purposes.
 - lxvi. An Act to authorise the Glasgow Yoker and Clydebank Railway Company to make a Railway in the Parish of Govan and for other purposes.
 - lxvii. An Act for conferring further powers on the London Chatham and Dover Railway Company and for other purposes.
 - lxviii. An Act to authorise a Railway in Alloa Parish from the North British Railway to the Alloa Railway; to confirm an agreement as to running powers, &c.; to extend to ships not freighted the obligation of the North British Railway Company to tow Ships freighted under the Tay Viaduct; and for other purposes.
 - lxix. An Act to enable the President Vice-Presidents Treasurer and Governors of the Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb Poor to acquire by Agreement and to hold the fee simple and inheritance of the site of the Institution and premises in the Old Kent Road and for other purposes.
 - lxx. An Act to consolidate with amendments the Local Acts and Orders in force in the Borough of Birmingham and for other purposes.
 - lxxi. An Act to make better provision in relation to the gas and water supply health local government and improvement of the borough of Heywood the borrowing of money and for other purposes.
 - lxxii. An Act for making further Provision respecting the continuation already authorised of Pall Mall and Ray Street in the city of Liverpool; and for other purposes.
 - lxxiii. An Act for more effectually protecting from Inundation by the Sea and for otherwise improving the Island of Canvey in the County of Essex and for other purposes.
 - lxxiv. An Act for repealing and re-enacting portions of the Acts and Order relating to the Harbour of Penzance and for other purposes.
 - lxxv. An Act to authorise the Bristol Port and Channel Dock Company to create and issue a New Debenture Stock and for other purposes.
 - lxxvi. An Act to confer further powers with respect to the Borrowstounness Harbour; and for other purposes.
 - lxxvii. An Act to amend and extend the Acts relating to the Borough of Burnley and to make further provision for its Local Government and Improvement to authorise the Construction of new Waterworks and for other purposes.
 - lxxviii. An Act for conferring further powers on the Corporation of Nottingham with respect to street improvements and to the supply of water and gas and to other matters of

local government for making further provisions with respect to certain allotments and roads in the borough and for other purposes.

Lxxix. An Act to make provision for regulating the navigation of the River Thames between Cricklade in the county of Wilts and Yantlet Creek in the county of Kent and to confer further powers on the Conservators of the River Thames and for other purposes relating thereto.

P. lxxx. An Act to confirm certain Orders of the Local Government Board under the provisions of the Divided Parishes and Poor Law Amendment Act, 1876, as amended and extended by the Poor Law Act, 1879, and the Divided Parishes and Poor Law Amendment Act, 1882, relating to the Parishes of Brafield-on-the-Green, Brentor, Cairau, Clun-gunford, Cogenhoe or Cooknos, Courtoenhall, Cwmcavan, Great-Houghton, Hope-Mansell, Hopton-Castle, Horton, Lamerton, Lew-Trenchard, Little-Houghton, Llandough, Llangaffo, Llangeinwen, Lower-Slaughter, Michaelstone-super-Ely, Mitchel-Troy, Newington-Bagpath, Newland, Owlpen, Pennarth, Peterstone-super-Ely, Peter-Tavy, Road or Rode, Ruardean, Saint Bride-super-Ely, Saint Fagans, Tavistock, Thrushelton, Upper-Slaughter, Walford, Whitechurch, and Wootton, to the Townships of Brimington, Claylane, Coal-Aston, Morton, North-Wingfield, Pilsley, Tapton, Unstone, and Woodthorpe, and to the Tything of Lea-Bailly.

P. lxxxi. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board under the provisions of the Poor Law Amendment Act, 1867, as amended by the Poor Law Amendment Act, 1863, and extended by the Poor Law Act, 1879, relating to the Parishes of Birmingham and Lambeth.

P. lxxxii. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board under the Highways and Locomotives (Amendment) Act, 1878, relating to the county of Dorset.

P. lxxxiii. An Act to confirm Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board for Ireland relating to the towns of Carlow and Lis-towel, and to the Newtownards Gas Under-taking.

P. lxxxiv. An Act to confirm the Provisional Order for the inclosure of the Common Fields and Pastures, situate in the parish of Hildersham, in the county of Cambridge, in pursuance of a Report of the Land Commissioners for England.

P. lxxxv. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order under the Land Drainage Act, 1861, relating to Didcot Improvements, situate in the several parishes of Didcot, East Hagbourne, and Long Wittenham, and in the chapelry of Appleford in the parish of Sutton Courtney, in the county of Berks.

P. lxxxvi. An Act to provide for the repair and maintenance of certain Highways in the New Forest in the county of Southampton.

P. lxxxvii. An Act to provide for the repair and maintenance of certain Highways in the Forest of Dean in the county of Gloucester.

P. lxxxviii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders under the Drainage and Im-

provement of Lands (Ireland) Act, 1863, and the Acts amending the same.

P. lxxxix. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Improvement Act District of Bethesda, the Borough of Darlington, the Evesham Joint Hospital District, the Faversham Joint Hospital District, the Improvement Act District of Kingston, the Lower Thames Valley Main Sewerage District, the Boroughs of Maldon and Sandwich, and the Local Government Districts of Torquay, and Wanstead and Woodford.

P. xc. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Rural Sanitary District of the Barnet Union, the Local Government Districts of Brentford, Chilvers Coton, and Nunaton, the Stourbridge Main Drainage District, the Borough of Stratford-upon-Avon, the Rural Sanitary District of the Stroud Union, and the Local Government District of Wellington (Somerset).

P. xci. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board relating to the Borough of Leeds.

P. xcii. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board for Ireland relating to Waterworks in the city of Lime-riek.

P. xciii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Tramways Act, 1870, relating to South Shields Corporation Tramways, and Wolverton and Stony Stratford Tramways.

P. xciv. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State for the improvement of an unhealthy area situated at Saint George-in-the-East, within the Metropolis.

P. xcv. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State for the improvement of an unhealthy area situated at Limehouse, within the Metropolis.

P. xcvi. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State for the improvement of an unhealthy area situated in Lambeth, within the Metropolis.

P. xcvi. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State for the improvement of an unhealthy area situated at Greenwich, within the Metropolis.

P. xcvi. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order made under the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1867, relating to the burgh of Fraserburgh.

P. xcix. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Boroughs of Kingston-upon-Hull and Leeds, and the District of Weston-super-Mare.

c. An Act to authorise the Anstruther and Saint Andrews Railway Company to construct an extension of their authorised Railway to join the Saint Andrews Branch Railway of the North British Railway; and for other purposes.

ci. An Act to enable the Maryport and Carlisle Railway Company to reduce the Maximum Tolls and Rates chargeable upon their Railways and to make such reduced Tolls

- and Rates permanent and binding on the Company.
- cii. An Act for authorising the Construction of a Dock at Seafeld in the County of Fife with Railways thereto and for other purposes.
- ciii. An Act to enable the Corporation of Brighton to raise further Moneys for their Waterworks Undertaking.
- civ. An Act to authorise the Construction of Tramways in the Township of Blackrock and in the Township of Kingstown in the County of Dublin and for other purposes.
- cv. An Act for the Construction of a Tramway from Castlederg to Victoria Bridge in the County of Tyrone and for other purposes.
- cvi. An Act to make further provision respecting the borrowing of Money by the Corporation of Glasgow and for other purposes.
- cvi. An Act to authorise the Great Eastern Railway Company to construct additional Railways and to improve parts of their existing Railway in the County of Essex; to construct a Graving Dock at Harwich; to execute other works; to purchase additional lands and to exercise further powers; and for other purposes.
- cvi. An Act to enable the Wrexham Mold and Connah's Quay Railway Company to consolidate their debenture and other stocks and share capital and to raise a further sum of money for their Undertaking and for other purposes.
- cix. An Act to alter and amend the Acts relating to the Alliance and Dublin Consumers' Gas Company; to enable that Company to acquire further lands, to raise additional capital; and for other purposes.
- cx. An Act for empowering the London and North-western Railway Company to construct new railways and for vesting in them the undertaking of the Lancashire Union Railways Company and for other purposes.
- cx. An Act to confer Additional powers upon the Midland Railway Company for the Construction of Railways and other Works and the Acquisition of Lands: For Confirming Agreements with other Companies: For raising further Capital: and for other purposes.
- cxii. An Act for authorising the amalgamation of the Undertakings of the Portsmouth Street Tramways Company the Gosport Street Tramways Company and the General Tramways Company of Portsmouth Limited and for other purposes.
- cxiii. An Act to authorise the making of a Railway in Wiltshire to be called the Pewsey and Salisbury Railway.
- cxiv. An Act to authorise the construction of the Kirkcaldy and District Tramways, in the County of Fife; and for other purposes.
- cxv. An Act for the transfer of the Undertakings of the Ribble Navigation Company to the Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Preston and to enable them to improve the River Ribble and the Navigation thereof and to construct Docks and other works at Preston and for extending the Borough of Preston and for other purposes.
- cxvi. An Act to confer further powers on the Church Fenton Cawood and Wistow Railway Company; and for other purposes.
- cxvii. An Act for making a Railway from Billingham to Metheringham in the County of Lincoln; and for other purposes.
- cxviii. An Act to confer further Powers upon the Cleator and Workington Junction Railway Company for the Extension of their Railways; and for other purposes.
- cxix. An Act to amend the Halesowen and Bromsgrove Branch Railways Act, 1866, and for other purposes.
- cx. An Act to confer further Powers on the Swindon and Cheltenham Extension Railway Company; and for other purposes.
- cx. An Act for granting further Powers to the Swindon Marlborough and Andover Railway Company; and for other purposes.
- cx. An Act to provide for the Sale and appropriation of portions of certain lands in the Township of Southcoates in the Parish of Drypool in the Borough of Kingston-upon-Hull known as the Drypool Parish Burial Ground and for the application of the moneys arising from such Sale and for other purposes.
- cx. An Act for making a Canal from the Harbour of East Tarbert to West Loch Tarbert, in the County of Argyll, and Works in connection therewith, and for other purposes.
- cx. An Act to provide for the abolition of the Vicar's Rate leviable in the Parish of the Holy Trinity, Coventry, in the County of Warwick; for securing an Income for the Vicar from other sources; and for other relative purposes.
- cx. An Act to enable the Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Cork to raise a further Sum of Money for the purposes of the Bridges and Works authorised by the Cork Improvement Act, 1875.
- cx. An Act to authorise the Saint Helens and District Tramways Company to construct additional Tramways to use Steam or Mechanical Power upon their Tramways to abandon parts of their authorised Tramways and for other purposes.
- cx. An Act to make further and other Provisions as to the Subscription by the Belfast and Northern Counties Railway Company to the Undertaking of the Limavady and Dungeness Railway Company; and as to the appointment of Directors of the Ballymena Cushendall and Redbay Railway Company; and for other purposes.
- cx. An Act to revive and extend the Time limited by the Ballymena Cushendall and Redbay Railway Act 1878 for the compulsory taking of Lands and to extend the Time limited by that Act for the completion of the Railway thereby authorised; and for other purposes.
- cx. An Act to consolidate the Capital of the Didcot Newbury and Southampton Junction Railway Company; to change the Name of the Company; and for other purposes.
- cx. An Act for Amalgamating the Londonderry and Enniskillen Railway Company with the Great Northern Railway Company (Ireland).
- P. cx. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Tramways Act, 1870, relating to Aldershot and Farnborough Tramways Extensions,

Bradford Corporation Tramways, Hartlepool Tramways, Liverpool Corporation Tramways, Macclesfield Tramways, and North Staffordshire Tramways.

P. cxxxii. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order made by the Education Department under the Elementary Education Act, 1870, to enable the School Board for London to put in force the Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845, and the Acts amending the same.

P. cxxxiii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Tramways Act, 1870, relating to Colchester Tramways, Halifax and Districts Tramways, Oxford Tramways Extensions, Rhyl, Voryd, and Plastirion Tramways, Spen Valley and District Tramways, and Yarmouth and Gorleston Tramways Extension.

P. cxxxiv. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board under the provisions of the Gas and Water Works Facilities Act, 1870, and the Public Health Act, 1875, relating to the Local Government District of Festiniog.

P. cxxxv. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Borough of Cheltenham, the Local Government District of Croydon, the Borough of Dorchester, the Rural Sanitary District of the Hendon Union, and the Local Government Districts of Malvern and Willenhall.

P. cxxxvi. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Local Government District of Ashton-in-Makerfield, the Borough of Ashton-under-Lyne and the Local Government Districts of Dukinfield and Hurst, the Boroughs of Burnley and Doncaster, the Town of Hove, the Local Government District of Hucknall-under-Huthwaite, the Improvement Act District of Llandudno, the Borough of Middlesbrough, the Port of Newport (Mon.), the Borough of Rochdale and the Local Government Districts of Sutton-in-Ashfield and West Ham.

P. cxxxvii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Local Government District of Bognor, the Borough of Cheltenham, the Improvement Act District of Chiswick, the Borough of Plymouth, the Local Government District of Skipton, the Borough of Stockton and the Local Government District of South Stockton, and the Local Government Districts of Stroud and Wallasey.

P. cxxxviii. An Act to confirm certain Orders of the Local Government Board under the Provisions of the Divided Parishes and Poor Law Amendment Act, 1876, as amended and extended by the Poor Law Act, 1879, relating to the Parishes of Black-Torrington, Bradford, Bridgerule-East, Carhampton, Dodington, Fulwood, High-Hampton, Hinders-Lanc-and-Dockham, Holford, Monksilver, Old-Cleve, Pancrasweek, Pleasley, Porlock, Pyworthy, Selworthy, Stogumber, Sutcombe, Upper-Langwith, and Withycombe; to the Townships of East-Dean, Hucknall-under-Huthwaite, and Sutton-in-Ashfield; and to the Tything of Lea-Bailey.

cxix. An Act for conferring further powers on the Plymouth and Dartmoor Railway

Company for the construction of Works the raising of Money and otherwise in relation to their Undertaking and for providing for the distribution of the proceeds of the sale of a portion of the Undertaking of the Company and for other purposes.

cx. An Act to extend the time for constructing the Coventry and District Tramways and to empower the Coventry and District Tramways Company to raise additional capital.

cxli. An Act to extend the time for constructing the Gateshead and District Tramways and to empower the Gateshead and District Tramways Company to raise additional capital.

cxlii. An Act for authorising the North London Tramways Company to abandon the Construction of a portion of their Authorised Undertaking and to use Steam or Mechanical Power for working their Tramways.

cxliii. An Act to authorise the Hull Barnsley and West Riding Junction Railway and Dock Company to construct New Railways and other works to amend the Acts relating to the Company and for other purposes.

cxliv. An Act for extending the Boundaries of the Borough of Hartlepool and for other purposes.

cxlv. An Act for conferring further Powers upon the London and North-western Railway Company in connexion with their own undertaking and upon that Company and the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Companies in respect of their North Union Railway and upon the Lancashire Union Railways Company in respect of their Undertaking and for other purposes.

cxlvi. An Act for authorising the Rhondda and Swansea Bay Railway Company to extend their Railway to Swansea and for other purposes.

cxlvii. An Act to amalgamate the Undertakings of the Norwood (Middlesex) and Sunningdale District Water Companies; and for other purposes.

cxlviii. An Act for authorising the Dumbarton Water Commissioners to make and maintain additional Waterworks; for regulating the Streets and Buildings within the Burgh of Dumbarton; and for other purposes.

cxlix. An Act to dissolve the Stoke-upon-Trent and Fenton Joint Gas Committee and for other purposes.

cl. An Act to extend the time limited for the compulsory purchase of lands and houses and completion of the railway and works authorised by the Ramsey and Somersham Junction Railway Act 1875 and for other purposes.

cli. An Act to authorise the Lydd Railway Company to make a Railway from Loose to Headcorn in the County of Kent to raise further money and for other purposes.

clii. An Act to authorise the Cork and Kenmare Railway Company to construct Railways in substitution for portions of those authorised by the Cork and Kenmare Railway Act 1881 to abandon so much of the Railways authorised by that Act as will be rendered unnecessary by reason of the construction of the substituted Railways to alter certain provisions of the said Acts as to Borrowing powers and Baronial Guarantee and for other purposes.

- cliii. An Act for making a Railway from Ballina to Killala and a Harbour at Killala in the County of Mayo and for other purposes.
- cliv. An Act to confer further powers on the Banbury and Cheltenham Direct Railway Company for the construction of Works and the raising of money; and for other purposes.
- clv. An Act to grant traffic facilities to the Central Wales and Carmarthen Junction Railway Company.
- clvi. An Act to authorise the Trustees of the Clyde Navigation to construct Docks, Quays, Roads, Tramways, a Railway, and other Works at and connected with the Harbour of Glasgow and the River Clyde, and to borrow Money; and for other purposes.
- clvii. An Act to authorise the Manchester Sheffield and Lincolnshire Railway Company to construct new Railways and other works and to confer further powers upon that Company in connexion with their undertaking and for other purposes.
- clviii. An Act for the Establishment and Regulation of a Market to be called Paddington Market in the parish of St. Mary Paddington in the County of Middlesex and for other purposes.
- clix. An Act to confer further powers upon the Borough of Portsmouth Waterworks Company for the construction of works and the raising of money to extend their limits for the supply of Water and for other purposes.
- clx. An Act to confer further powers on the Southsea Railway Company for the construction of new and the completion of their authorised Railways and to confirm an Agreement between that Company and the London and South Western Railway Company; To provide for the abandonment of certain Roads authorised by the London Brighton and South Coast Railway (Various Powers) Act 1882; and for other purposes.
- clxi. An Act to empower the Taff Vale Railway Company to construct a new Railway at Merthyr and to acquire additional Lands and to raise further Capital and for other purposes.
- clxii. An Act to enable the Limerick Waterworks Company to construct additional Works and to raise additional Capital and for other purposes.
- clxiii. An Act for incorporating the Newborough Drainage Commissioners and for conferring on them Powers for the Purchase of Land for Drainage Works and for the Borrowing of Money and for Amending the Newborough Drainage Acts and for other purposes.
- clxiv. An Act for constituting a separate Canal Undertaking and Capital of the Regent's Canal City and Docks Railway Company; and for other purposes.
- clxv. An Act for empowering the Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Portsmouth to construct a Wharf and other Works at Landport in the Borough of Portsmouth in the county of Southampton and for other purposes.
- clxvi. An Act for incorporating the East and West Yorkshire Union Railways Company and for other purposes.
- clxvii. An Act to confer further powers upon the South London Tramways Company and for other purposes.
- clxviii. An Act to authorise the Hastings and Saint Leonards Gas Company to raise further Capital and for other purposes.
- clxix. An Act for conferring further Powers with relation to the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway and the Preston and Wyre Railway and for other purposes.
- clxx. An Act for the Abandonment of the Market Deeping Railway.
- clxxi. An Act to amend the Powers of the Cork Harbour Commissioners with respect to Rates and Dues and for other purposes.
- clxxii. An Act for the granting of Further Powers to the Ipswich Gaslight Company.
- clxxiii. An Act for suppressing the sinecure Rectory of Sock Dennis in the County of Somerset and providing for the application of the Tithe Rent-charge thereof.
- clxxiv. An Act to amalgamate the Undertakings of the Croydon Tramways Company and the Norwood District Tramways Company, and to authorise the construction of new Tramways in and near Croydon and Norwood, in the county of Surrey; and for other purposes.
- clxxv. An Act to confer further Powers upon the Great Northern Railway Company with respect to their own and other Undertakings to enable them to acquire the Undertaking of the Hatfield and Saint Albans Railway Company and for other purposes.
- clxxvi. An Act for making a Railway to be called "The Lambourn Valley Railway," and for other purposes.
- clxxvii. An Act for enabling the Metropolitan Board of Works to alter and re-construct Hammersmith Bridge; for providing for the free use by the Public of the East and West Ferry Roads in the Parish of Poplar in the County of Middlesex; and for other purposes.
- clxxviii. An Act for enabling the Metropolitan Board of Works to make certain New Streets and Street Improvements in the Metropolis and for other purposes.
- clxxix. An Act for the transfer of the Newport Dock Company's Undertaking to the Alexandra (Newport and South Wales) Docks and Railway Company and to empower that Company to make a New Lock and other works and for other purposes.
- clxxx. An Act to authorise the Pontypridd Caerphilly and Newport Railway Company to construct a Railway in the County of Monmouth and for other purposes.
- clxxxi. An Act for incorporating the Hawarden and District Waterworks Company and for conferring Powers on that Company; and for other purposes.
- clxxxii. An Act to authorise the Staines and West Drayton Railway Company to divert a portion of their authorised Railway near Staines, and to extend the same into the Town of Staines; and for other purposes.
- clxxxiii. An Act for incorporating the Skegness Chapel St. Leonards and Alford Tramways Company and authorising them to construct a Tramway from Skegness to Bilsby in the parts of Lindsey in the County of Lincoln and for other purposes.

- P. clxxxiv. An Act to transfer to one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State the powers vested in the Admiralty and the Board of Ordnance in relation to gunpowder magazines and stores in the River Mersey, and amend the Acts relating to those magazines and stores.
- clxxxv. An Act for rendering valid certain Letters Patent granted to Herbert John Had-dan for Improvements in Electric Lamps.
- clxxxvi. An Act for authorizing the construction of a railway in the County of Kent to be called the Bexley Heath Railway and for other purposes.
- clxxxvii. An Act for incorporating the Borough of Portsmouth Kingston Fratton and South-sea Tramways Company: and for empowering them to construct Tramways: and for other purposes.
- clxxxviii. An Act for authorising the London and South-western Railway Company to construct new Railways in the Counties of Southampton and Dorset and to widen part of their Ringwood Christchurch and Bournemouth Railway and jointly with the Midland Railway Company to construct a new Railway in the County of Dorset; and for other purposes.
- clxxxix. An Act for authorising the London and South-western Railway Company to make new railways and deviations and widenings of railways and other works and to purchase additional lands and for conferring other powers upon them in relation to their own and other undertakings; for empowering the Company and the London Brighton and South Coast Railway Company to construct a railway and to acquire lands and to exercise other powers; for the sale or amalgamation to or with the undertaking of the Company of the Salisbury and Dorset Junction Railway; to empower the Company to construct certain railways of the North Cornwall Railway Company and to appoint a director of and take and hold part of the capital of that Company; for the sale or lease to the Company and the London Brighton and South Coast Railway of the Southsea Railway; for authorising and varying or annulling agreements between the Company and other Corporations bodies Companies and persons; and for other purposes.
- cxc. An Act to authorise the Mersey Railway Company to raise additional capital and for other purposes.
- cxc. i. An Act to amend the Metropolitan District Railway Act 1881; and for other purposes in relation thereto.
- cxcii. An Act for incorporating the Windsor and Eton Waterworks Company and for vesting in them the Windsor and Eton Waterworks and for other purposes.
- cxciii. An Act to authorise the Great Western Railway Company to make and maintain certain Railways and Works; For vesting in the Great Western Railway Company the Undertakings of the Stratford-upon-Avon Railway Company and the Watlington and Princes Risborough Railway Company; For confirming Agreements between the Great Western Railway Company and other Companies; and for other purposes.
- cxciv. An Act for making a Railway from Barr-mill to Kilwinning and for other purposes.
- cxcv. An Act to authorise the Construction and Maintenance of a Graving Dock, and other Works in connexion therewith, at King's Lynn, in the County of Norfolk.
- cxcvi. An Act to extend the time for the completion of the Freshwater Yarmouth and Newport Railway and for the purchase of land therefor; to authorise the Freshwater Yarmouth and Newport Company to raise additional capital and for other purposes.
- cxcvii. An Act to authorise the construction and maintenance of a Dock at the mouth of the River Ogmere and of a railway aqueduct and other works in connexion therewith in the County of Glamorgan and for other purposes.
- cxcviii. An Act for incorporating the South Hayling Bridge Company and for empowering them to construct a Bridge over the Langstone Channel between Hayling Island and Southsea with approach Roads thereto in the County of Southampton and for other purposes.
- cxcix. An Act to authorise the Eastern and Midlands Railway Company to construct new Works and for other purposes.
- cc. An Act to enable the Barnet District Gas and Water Company to extend their limits of Water Supply; to construct new Water Works; to extend their Gas Works; and to raise additional Capital; and for other purposes.
- cci. An Act to incorporate a Company for making a Pier Head and other works in connexion therewith at the seaward end of the Chain Pier Brighton in the county of Sussex; to enable the Company to hold shares in the Chain Pier Company; to acquire the undertaking of the Chain Pier Company; and for other purposes.
- ccii. An Act for incorporating Holsworthy and Bude Railway Company, and authorising them to make and maintain the Holsworthy and Bude Railway, and for other purposes.
- cciii. An Act for empowering the Brentford and Isleworth Tramways Company to construct new Tramways and Roads in the County of Middlesex, to extend the time for making and completing the Tramways authorised by the Brentford and Isleworth Tramways Extension Act, 1880, and for other purposes.
- cciv. An Act to enable the London Tilbury and Southend Railway Company to construct new Railways and for other purposes.
- ccv. An Act for authorising the Construction of Railways to connect the Teign Valley Railway and the town of Chagford with Exeter; and for other purposes.
- ccvi. An Act for authorising the construction of a Railway from Hornsey to Hendon and Harrow, to be called the London Hendon and Harrow Railway; and for other purposes.
- ccvii. An Act to confer further Powers on the Metropolitan District Railway Company.
- ccviii. An Act for granting further Powers to the Metropolitan Outer Circle Railway Company, and for other purposes.
- ccix. An Act to authorise the construction of Railways in Shropshire and Staffordshire and for facilitating communication between the

- Midland Counties of England and Milford Haven and Swansea respectively.
- ccx. An Act to authorise the Construction of a Railway from Oxford to Aylesbury and for other purposes.
- ccxi. An Act for making further provision respecting the borrowing of Money by the Corporation of Portsmouth; and for other purposes.
- ccxii. An Act for constituting a separate Undertaking of the Regent's Canal City and Docks Railway Company, for amending their Act of incorporation; and for other purposes.
- P. ccxiii. An Act for confirming certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Electric Lighting Act, 1882, relating to Cambridge, Canterbury, Chelsea, Finchley, Folkestone, Gravesend, Greenock, Greenwich, High Wycombe, Ipswich, Maidstone, and Sunderland.
- P. ccxiv. An Act for confirming certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Electric Lighting Act, 1882, relating to Aston, Birkdale, Dudley, Saltley, Ulverston, West Bromwich, and Wolverhampton.
- P. ccxv. An Act for confirming certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Electric Lighting Act, 1882, relating to Balsall Heath, Birmingham, Redditch, and Walsall.
- P. ccxvi. An Act for confirming certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Electric Lighting Act, 1882, relating to Barton Eccles Winton and Monton, Carlisle, Croydon, Luton, Margate, Nelson, Rochester, Scarborough, and Sudbury.
- P. ccxvii. An Act for confirming certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Electric Lighting Act, 1882, relating to Bermondsey, Clerkenwell, Hampstead, Holborn, Hornsey, St. George's-in-the-East, St. Giles' (Brush), St. James' and St. Martin's, St. Luke's, and Wandsworth.
- P. ccxviii. An Act for confirming certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Electric Lighting Act, 1882, relating to Limehouse, Poplar, Richmond (Surrey), Rotherhithe, St. Giles's (Pilsen Joel), St. Olave, St. Saviour's (Southwark), Shoreditch, and Wednesbury and Darlaston.
- P. ccxix. An Act for confirming certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Electric Lighting Act, 1882, relating to Barnes and Mortlake, Hackney, Islington, St. Pancras (Middlesex), and Whitechapel.
- P. ccxx. An Act for confirming certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Electric Lighting Act, 1882, relating to Bradford, Brighton, Hanover Square District (London), Norwich, South Kensington District (London), Strand District (London), and Victoria District (London).
- P. ccxxi. An Act for confirming certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Electric Lighting Act, 1882, relating to Bristol, Grantham, and Lowestoft.
- P. ccxxii. An Act for confirming certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Electric Lighting Act, 1882, relating to Chiswick and St. George's-the-Martyr, Southwark.
- P. ccxxiii. An Act for confirming a Provisional Order made by the Board of Trade under the Electric Lighting Act, 1882, relating to Dundee.
- P. ccxxiv. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board, relating to the Improvement Act District of West Hartlepool.
- P. ccxxv. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Local Government Districts of Haalingden, Ramabottom, and Rawtenstall.
- P. ccxxvi. An Act to amend the Law relating to Highways in the Isle of Wight, and for other purposes.
- ccxxvii. An Act to authorise the Peckham and East Dulwich Tramways Company to construct new Tramways in the County of Surrey and for other purposes.
- ccxxviii. An Act to confer further powers on the Stratford-upon-Avon, Worcester and Midland Junction Railway Company in reference to their own Undertaking and the Undertaking of the East and West Junction Railway Company; and for other purposes.
- ccxxix. An Act to enable the Milford Docks Company to create an additional amount of Debenture Stock in Place of other Capital, to effect a settlement of the affairs of the Company, and for other purposes.
- ccxxx. An Act for incorporating the Plymouth Devonport and South-Western Junction Railway and authorising them to make and maintain the Plymouth Devonport and South-Western Junction Railway and for authorising arrangements between them and the London and South-Western Railway Company and for other purposes.
- ccxxxi. An Act for the Abandonment of the Ennis and West Clare Railway.
- ccxxxii. An Act to empower the Dublin Southern District Tramways Company to double certain of their existing Tramways; and for other purposes.

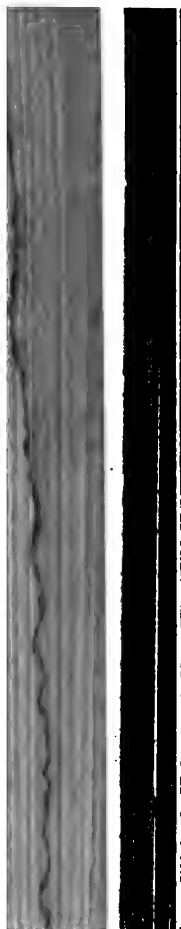
PRIVATE ACTS,

[PRINTED BY THE QUEEN'S PRINTER.]

AND WHEREOF THE PRINTED COPIES MAY BE GIVEN IN EVIDENCE.

1. **A**N Act to authorise the Trustees under the Settlement of Marriage between Sir George Douglas Clerk, of Penicuik, Bart., and Miss Aymée Elizabeth Georgina Napier, and the said George Douglas Clerk, to sell lands; to pay debts; and for other purposes.
2. An Act to enable the Trustees of Sir Robert Peel's Settled Estates to raise money for payment of his debts, and for vesting in such Trustees his life interest in and certain of his powers over the Settled Estates and for other purposes.
3. An Act to amend "The Earl of Aylesford's Estate Act, 1882."
4. An Act to enable Edward Cecil Guinness to sell and convey to the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland the fee simple of certain lands, situate in the Parish of St. Peter, in the City of Dublin, free from all incumbrances.
5. An Act to enable the Trustees of Captain John Harrison's Settled Estates to raise Money for Payment of Improvements made and to be made thereon and for Vesting in such Trustees his Life-interest in the Settled Estates and for other purposes in relation thereto.

[SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE.]



SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE, SESSION 1883.

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 17 August 1883;—for,

RETURN "of the Number of Days on which The House Sat in the Session of 1883, stating, for each Day, the Date of the Month, and Day of the Week, the Hour of the Meeting, and the Hour of Adjournment; and the Total Number of Hours occupied in the Sittings of The House, and the Average Time; and showing the Number of Hours on which The House Sat each Day, and the Number of Hours after Midnight; and the Number of Entries in each Day's Votes and Proceedings" (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper, No. 0.155, of Session 1882).

(Sir Charles Forster.)

Month.	Day.	House met.		House adjourned.		Hours of Sitting.		Hours after Midnight.		Entries in Votes.	Month.	Day.	House met.		House adjourned.		Hours of Sitting.		Hours after Midnight.		Entries in Votes.
		H.	M.	H.	M.	H.	M.	H.	M.				H.	M.	H.	M.	H.	M.	H.	M.	
1883											1883										
Feb. 15	Th	1	30	12	5	10	35	0	5	47	April 2	M	4	0	2	15	10	15	2	15	66
" 16	F	4	0	3	5	11	5	3	5	228	" 3	Tu	4	0	1	15	0	15	1	15	73
" 19	M	4	0	1	15	9	15	1	15	207	" 4	W	12	0	5	50	5	50	-	-	63
" 20	Tu	4	0	12	30	8	30	0	30	159	" 5	Th	4	0	1	0	9	0	1	0	68
" 21	W	12	0	5	50	5	50	-	-	41	" 6	F	4	0	1	15	9	15	1	15	72
" 22	Th	4	0	1	15	9	15	1	15	49	" 9	M	4	0	1	15	9	15	1	15	85
" 23	F	4	0	1	0	9	0	1	0	46	" 10	Tu	12	0	1	45	13	45	1	45	85
" 26	M	4	0	1	30	9	30	1	30	90	" 11	W	12	0	5	55	5	55	-	-	85
" 27	Tu	4	0	1	0	9	0	1	0	64	" 12	Th	4	0	2	30	10	30	2	30	70
" 28	W	12	0	5	50	5	50	-	-	41	" 13	F	2	0	9	15	7	15	-	-	60
Total...	10	-	-	-	-	87	50	9	40	972	" 16	M	4	0	1	30	9	30	1	30	92
											" 17	Tu	4	0	2	0	10	0	2	0	82
											" 18	W	12	0	5	50	5	50	-	-	64
											" 19	Th	4	0	1	30	9	30	1	30	76
											" 20	F	4	0	1	15	9	15	1	15	67
											" 23	M	4	0	1	0	9	0	1	0	98
											" 24	Tu	4	0	8	45	4	45	-	-	67
											" 25	W	12	0	5	50	5	50	-	-	80
											" 26	Th	4	0	2	0	10	0	2	0	77
											" 27	F	4	0	1	15	9	15	1	15	79
											" 30	M	4	0	2	15	10	15	2	15	112
Mar. 1	Th	4	0	12	45	8	45	0	45	55	Total...	21	-	-	-	-	183	25	24	0	1,598
" 2	F	4	0	1	45	9	45	1	45	44	May 1	Tu	4	0	2	0	10	0	2	0	81
" 5	M	4	0	2	0	10	0	2	0	90	" 2	W	12	0	5	55	5	55	-	-	74
" 6	Tu	4	0	8	30	4	30	-	-	56	" 3	Th	4	0	1	45	9	45	1	45	80
" 7	W	12	0	5	50	5	50	-	-	63	" 4	F	4	0	2	15	10	15	2	15	88
" 8	Th	4	0	2	15	10	15	2	15	57	" 7	M	4	0	1	45	9	45	1	45	103
" 9	F	4	0	3	45	11	45	3	45	52	" 8	Tu	4	0	2	0	10	0	2	0	92
" 10	S	12	0	10	30	10	30	-	-	20	" 9	W	12	0	5	58	5	58	-	-	80
" 12	M	4	0	2	0	10	0	2	0	77	" 10	Th	4	0	1	45	9	45	1	45	103
" 13	Tu	4	0	12	45	8	45	0	45	82	" 11	F	2	0	6	55	4	55	-	-	77
" 14	W	12	0	5	50	5	50	-	-	41	" 21	M	4	0	1	0	9	0	1	0	102
" 15	Th	4	0	1	30	9	30	1	30	63	" 22	Tu	4	0	7	30	3	30	-	-	84
" 16	F	2	0	9	5	7	5	-	-	40	" 24	Th	4	0	1	45	9	45	1	45	140
" 19	M	4	0	2	45	10	45	2	45	98	" 25	F	4	0	8	45	4	45	-	-	68
" 20	Tu	2	0	6	55	4	55	-	-	64	" 28	M	4	0	2	30	10	30	2	30	123
" 29	Th	4	0	1	0	9	0	1	0	72	" 29	Tu	4	0	1	0	9	0	1	0	79
" 30	F	4	0	7	45	3	45	-	-	34	" 30	W	12	0	5	55	5	55	-	-	84
Total...	17	-	-	-	-	140	55	18	30	1,014	" 31	Th	4	0	3	0	11	0	3	0	72
											Total...	17	-	-	-	-	139	43	20	45	1,598

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE, SESSION 1883.

Month.	Day.	House met.		House adjourned.		Hours of Sitting.		Hours after Midnight.		Entries in Votes.	Month.	Day.	House met.		House adjourned.		Hours of Sitting.		Hours after Midnight.		Entries in Votes.
		H.	M.	H.	M.	H.	M.	H.	M.				H.	M.	H.	M.	H.	M.	H.	M.	
1883											cont.										
June	1 F	4	0	1	0	9	0	1	0	80	July	18 W	12	0	5	55	5	55	-	-	60
"	4 M	4	0	1	0	9	0	1	0	109	"	19 Th	4	0	2	30	10	30	2	30	67
"	5 Tu	2	0	9	5	7	5	-	-	82	"	20 F	2	0	12	0	10	0	-	-	50
"	6 W	12	0	5	55	5	55	-	-	75	"	23 M	4	0	1	30	9	30	1	30	93
"	7 Th	4	0	2	45	10	45	2	45	90	"	24 Tu	4	0	2	30	10	30	2	30	64
"	8 F	2	0	2	15	12	15	2	15	72	"	25 W	12	0	5	50	5	50	-	-	41
"	11 M	4	0	2	15	10	15	2	15	132	"	28 Th	4	0	3	0	11	0	3	0	77
"	12 Tu	2	0	1	45	11	45	1	45	88	"	27 F	2	0	4	15	14	15	4	15	61
"	13 W	12	0	5	55	5	55	-	-	65	"	30 M	4	0	4	45	12	45	4	45	79
"	14 Th	4	0	1	45	9	45	1	45	80	"	31 Tu	4	0	2	15	10	15	2	15	49
"	15 F	2	0	9	15	7	15	-	-	58											
"	18 M	4	0	1	30	9	30	1	30	112	Total...	22	-	-	-	-	221	15	11	45	1,437
"	19 Tu	2	0	1	30	11	30	1	30	62	Aug	1 W	12	0	5	57	5	57	-	-	45
"	20 W	12	0	5	50	5	50	-	-	65	"	2 Th	4	0	2	0	10	0	2	0	61
"	21 Th	4	0	1	15	9	15	1	15	80	"	3 F	2	0	9	5	7	5	-	-	35
"	22 F	2	0	12	45	10	45	0	45	53	"	4 S	12	0	7	45	7	45	-	-	30
"	25 M	4	0	12	45	8	45	0	45	100	"	6 M	4	0	3	30	11	30	3	30	71
"	26 Tu	2	0	9	5	7	5	-	-	54	"	7 Tu	4	0	3	45	11	45	3	45	54
"	27 W	12	0	4	30	4	30	-	-	35	"	8 W	12	0	5	55	5	55	-	-	31
"	28 Th	4	0	2	0	10	0	2	0	82	"	9 Th	4	0	2	45	10	45	2	45	62
"	29 F	2	0	1	45	11	45	1	45	69	"	10 F	2	0	3	45	13	45	3	45	51
Total...	21	-	-	-	-	187	50	22	15	1,652	"	11 S	12	0	8	45	8	45	-	-	11
July	2 M	4	0	1	15	9	15	1	15	85	"	13 M	4	0	4	45	12	45	4	45	48
"	3 Tu	2	0	1	30	11	30	1	30	46	"	14 Tu	4	0	2	45	10	45	2	45	39
"	4 W	12	0	5	55	5	55	-	-	41	"	15 W	12	0	5	55	5	55	-	-	45
"	5 Th	4	0	4	15	12	15	4	15	68	"	16 Th	4	0	5	30	13	30	5	30	68
"	6 F	2	0	1	15	11	15	1	15	56	"	17 F	2	0	4	0	14	0	4	0	78
"	9 M	4	0	3	15	11	15	3	15	98	"	18 S	12	0	2	30	14	30	2	30	36
"	10 Tu	2	0	2	0	12	0	2	0	56	"	20 M	4	0	2	45	10	45	2	45	85
"	11 W	12	0	5	50	5	50	-	-	48	"	21 Tu	4	0	3	0	11	0	3	0	57
"	12 Th	4	0	2	15	10	15	2	15	71	"	22 W	12	0	5	55	5	55	-	-	41
"	13 F	2	0	1	15	11	15	1	15	70	"	23 Th	3	0	1	15	10	15	1	15	92
"	16 M	4	0	3	0	11	0	3	0	92	"	25 S	1	30	Prorogation.			-	-	46	
"	17 Tu	4	0	1	0	9	0	1	0	58	Total...	21	-	-	-	-	202	32	42	15	1,086

SUMMARY.

Month.	Days of Sitting.	Hours of Sitting.	Hours after Midnight.	Entries in Votes.
1883		H. M.	H. M.	
February	10	87 50	9 40	972
March	17	140 55	18 30	1,014
April	21	183 25	24 0	1,598
May	17	139 43	20 45	1,530
June	21	187 50	22 15	1,652
July	22	221 15	41 45	1,437
August	21	202 32	42 15	1,086
Total	129	1,163 30	179 10	9,289

Average Length of Sitting, Daily, 9 Hours 1 Minute.

DIVISIONS OF THE HOUSE, SESSION 1883,

**Distinguishing the DIVISIONS ON PUBLIC BUSINESS from PRIVATE; and also the
Number of Divisions before and after Midnight.—(PARL. PAPER 0.114.)**

SUMMARY.

Number of Divisions on Public Business before Midnight	...	...	159
Ditto " " after Midnight	...	...	137
Ditto—Private Business " before Midnight	...	...	18
Ditto " " after Midnight	...	...	—
Total Number of Divisions in Session 1883	...	...	<u>314</u>

PUBLIC BILLS.

**RETURN of the Number of PUBLIC BILLS introduced, and brought from the HOUSE OF LORDS;
and of Acts passed in the Session of 1883.**

Total Number of Bills which received the Royal Assent :			
(1.) Introduced into the House	...	...	108
(2.) Brought from the House of Lords	...	...	11
			<u>119</u>
Total Number of Bills introduced into, but not passed by, the Commons	...		146
Total Number of Bills brought from the Lords, but not passed by the Commons	...	...	14
Total Number of Bills passed by the Commons, but not by the Lords	...		3
			<u>282</u>
Total	...	...	<u>282</u>

PRIVATE BILLS.

**RETURN of the Number of PRIVATE BILLS introduced, and brought from the HOUSE OF LORDS;
and of Acts passed in the Session of 1883.**

Number of Private Bills, introduced in the House of Commons	...	...	164
Number of Private Bills (originating in the House of Lords under Standing Order 79)	...	...	85
Estate Bills, &c. brought from the Lords	...	...	5
Total	...	...	<u>254</u>

NUMBER of PRIVATE BILLS which have received the ROYAL ASSENT ... 180



GENERAL INDEX TO SESSION 1883.

EXPLANATION OF THE ABBREVIATIONS.

It being a principal object of this Index, that the proceedings on each Motion shall be completely recorded, some abbreviations of forms were necessary. Those who are accustomed to the proceedings of Parliament will readily fill up the voids. Those who are not so familiar, may find the following explanation useful, but will find the whole *formulae* set out at length in the "Contents."

The names which immediately follow the title of a Bill are those of the Peers or hon. Members who have charge of the Bill.

The numbers which are added at stages of Bills are the official numbers of the prints and reprints ordered at each stage, and, with the Statute, will enable the reader to follow all the changes the Bill has undergone.

The entries—Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^d;" Amendt. "this day six months;" Question put, "That 'now,' &c."—indicate the usual form of raising the issue—namely, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question."

"*The Ballot*, Amendt. on Committee of Supply" indicates that the Question was raised by means of an Amendment moved on the Motion (after the Order of the Day for the House to go into Committee of Supply had been read), "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair." In this case the issue is formally raised by the Motion "To leave out from the word 'That' to the end of the Question, in order to add" other words. The decision is taken on the Question, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question."

The Nos. added to the "Parliamentary Papers" are in most cases those given in the Commons' "List of Papers for Sale."



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TO

HANSARD'S PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES,

IN THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE

TWENTY-SECOND PARLIAMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

46° & 47° VICTORIÆ.

1883.

EXPLANATION OF THE ABBREVIATIONS.

In Bills, Read 1^o, 2^o, 3^o, or 1^a, 2^a, 3^a, Read the First, Second, or Third Time.—In Speeches, 1R., 2R., 3R., Speech delivered on the First, Second, or Third Reading.—*Amendt.*, Amendment.—*Res.*, Resolution.—*Comm.*, Committee.—*Re-Comm.*, Re-Committal.—*Rep.*, Report.—*Consid.*, Consideration.—*Adj.*, Adjournment or Adjourned.—*cl.*, Clause.—*add. cl.*, Additional Clause.—*neg.*, Negatived.—*M. Q.*, Main Question.—*O. Q.*, Original Question.—*O. M.*, Original Motion.—*P. Q.*, Previous Question.—*R. P.*, Report Progress.—*A.*, Ayes.—*N.*, Noes.—*M.*, Majority.—*1st. Div.*, *2nd. Div.*, First or Second Division.—*L.*, Lords.—*C.*, Commons.

When in this Index a * is added to the Reading of a Bill, it indicates that no Debate took place upon that stage of the measure.

When in the Text or in the Index a Speech is marked thus *, it indicates that the Speech is reprinted from a Pamphlet or some authorized Report.

When in the Index a † is prefixed to a Name or an Office (the Member having accepted or vacated office during the Session) and to Subjects of Debate thereunder, it indicates that the Speeches on those Subjects were delivered in the speaker's private or official character, as the case may be.

Some subjects of debate have been classified under the following "General Headings:"—
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Provision for the Displaced Chiefs—Fate in Supply, Questions, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach; Answers, Mr. Gladstone *May 8*, [279] 225; *May 20*, 1104; *June 7*, 1022

Africa (South)—Affairs in the Transvaal—Policy of Her Majesty's Government

Questions, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Mr. Ritchie; Answers, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. 277] Gort *Mar 12*, 247; Question, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answer, Mr. Gladstone; Observations, Mr. Gort, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach; y, Mr. Gladstone; Question, Mr. W. Foster; Answer, Mr. Gort *Mar 13*, Observations, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach 15, 265; Question, Mr. H. H. Fowler; ver, Mr. Gladstone *Mar 20*, 941; Question, Mr. Onslow, Lord George Hamilton, John Manners; Answers, Mr. Gladstone *April 5*, 1502; Observations, Mr. Gladstone; Question, Lord John Manners; ver, Mr. Gladstone *April 9*, 1819; stion, Mr. Onslow; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *April 10*, 1971; Questions, Lord George Hamilton, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Mr. Cropper; Answers, Mr. Evelyn Ashley 278] *April 12*, 86; Question, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *April 16*, 393; Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answers, Mr. Gladstone, Lord Richard Grosvenor *April 27*, 1279

Moved, "That, in view of the complicity of the Transvaal Government in the cruel and treacherous attacks upon the Chiefs Maitso and Mankorane, this House is of opinion that energetic steps should be immediately taken to secure the strict observance by the Transvaal Government of the Convention of 1883, so that these chiefs may be preserved from the destruction with which they are threatened" (Mr. Gort)

277] *Mar 13*, 613

Amend, to leave out from "The," add "very grave complication that must attend intervention in the affairs of the native population in the Western Frontier of the Transvaal, this House is of opinion that the action British authorities in those regions should be strictly confined within the limits of absolutely unavoidable obligations" (Mr. Campbell) c.; Question proposed, "That the do, &c.;" after debate, Moved, "That

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Africa (South)—Affairs in the Transvaal—Policy of Her Majesty's Government—cont.

after further long debate, Debate further adjourned

Order for resuming Adjourned Debate read, and discharged Aug 6

Parl. Papers—

Zululand and Cetewayo . [3466] [3616]

The Transvaal . [3486] [3654]
[3659] [3686]

Basutoland . . . [3493]

Bechuanaland . . . [3635]

Natal . . . [3796]

Cape Colony . . . [3717]

Africa (West Coast)

LORDS

The Church Missionary Society—Action of Agents on the River Niger, Observations, Question, The Duke of Somerset; Reply, The Earl of Derby; short debate thereon April 12, [278] 31

The River Congo—Claims of Portugal, Question, Observations, Lord Mount-Temple; Reply, Earl Granville Mar 9, [276] 1889

COMMONS (Questions)

Affairs of Ashantee, Questions, Sir Henry Holland; Answers, Mr. Evelyn Ashley April 19, [278] 611; June 7, [279] 1903

British Sherbro—Reported Massacres, Question, Mr. A. M'Arthur; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley June 14, [280] 546; Question, Sir Henry Holland; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley June 26, 1556; Question, Mr. M'Arthur; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley July 26, [282] 543

Hostilities at British Sherbro—Reported Slaughter, Questions, Sir Henry Holland, Mr. R. N. Fowler, Mr. Richard, Mr. Gorst; Answers, Mr. Evelyn Ashley July 2, [281] 29

Recall of Commandant Wall, of Sherbro—The Correspondence, Question, Mr. R. N. Fowler; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley April 19, [278] 628

Sierra Leone—Annexation of Neighbouring Territory, Questions, Sir George Campbell, Mr. W. H. Smith; Answers, Mr. Evelyn Ashley April 19, [278] 627

Slavery on the Niger, Question, Mr. Guy Dawnay; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley Feb 20, [276] 408

The Gaboon Colony, Question, Mr. Whitley; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 23, [282] 134

The Gold Coast—The French at Porto Novo, Question, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley May 29, [279] 1098

The River Congo

Action of Portugal, Questions, Mr. W. E. Forster, Mr. Bourke; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Feb 20, [276] 830; Question, Mr. Bourke; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Mar 5, 1429; Questions, Baron Henry De Worms, Mr. Bourke; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Mar 8, 1724; Questions, Baron Henry De Worms; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Mar 19, [277] 813; April 19,

Africa (West Coast)—COMMONS—The River Congo—cont.

[278] 608; Questions, Mr. Jacob Bright, Mr. Bourke; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice April 23, 911; Question, Mr. Bourke; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice May 7, [279] 18; Question, Mr. Slagg; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice May 31, 1326

Negotiations with Portugal, Question, Mr. Onslow; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 9, [281] 791; Question, Mr. Jacob Bright; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 19, 1888; Question, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach; Answer, Mr. Gladstone July 24, [282] 301

The French Expedition to the Congo, Question, Mr. Bourke; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Mar 8, [276] 1725

French Annexations, Questions, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice April 23, [278] 904; April 24, 1059

Africa (West Coast) (The River Congo)

Moved, "That, in the interests of civilisation and Commerce in South West Africa, this House is of opinion that no Treaty should be made by Her Majesty's Government that would sanction the annexation by any Power of territories on or adjacent to the Congo, or that would interfere with the freedom hitherto enjoyed by all civilising and commercial agencies at work in those regions" (Mr. Jacob Bright) April 3, [277] 1284

Amendt. to leave out from "Government," add "affecting territories on or adjacent to the Congo that would compromise any engagement into which Her Majesty may heretofore have entered, or would not afford adequate securities to all the civilising and commercial agencies at work in those regions" (Mr. Wodehouse) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Amendt. withdrawn; Motion withdrawn

Resolved, "That, in the interests of civilisation and Commerce in South West Africa, this House is of opinion that no Treaty should be made by Her Majesty's Government affecting territories on or adjacent to the Congo that would compromise any engagement into which Her Majesty may heretofore have entered, or would not afford adequate securities to all the civilising and commercial agencies at work in those regions" (Mr. Wodehouse)

AGNEW, Mr. W., *Lancashire, S.E.*

Parliament—Order—Impeding the Entrance to this House, [283] 587

Palace of Westminster—Houses of Parliament—Telephonic Communication, [283] 961, 962

Agricultural Holdings Bill

(Mr. Staveley Hill, Mr. Monckton)

e. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 42]

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o." May 9, [279] 321; after short debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (Mr. Heneage); Question put, and agreed to; Debate adjourned

Adjourned Debate on 2R. [Dropped]

[cont.]

Agricultural Holdings (No. 2) Bill

(*Mr. Peneage, Mr. Duckham, Mr. Foljambe, Mr. Gurdon, Mr. Mellor*)

- a. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 18 [Bill 73]
 Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"
 Mar 13, [277] 446; after short debate, Moved,
 "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Viscount Emlyn*); Question put, and agreed to;
 Debate adjourned
 Adjourned Debate on 2R. [Dropped]

Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill

[H.L.] (*The Lord Vernon*)

- l. Presented; read 1^a April 12 (No. 30)

Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill

Questions, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Sir Alexander Gordon; Answers, Mr. Dodson May 31, [278] 1328; Questions, Mr. James Howard, Sir John Hay; Answers, Mr. Dodson, Mr. Gladstone July 26, [282] 551

Clause 8—*Charges on Holdings obtained under County Court Judgments*, Question, Sir Alexander Gordon; Answer, Mr. Dodson July 9, [281] 793

Garden Lands, Question, Mr. Buchanan; Answer, Mr. Gladstone June 18, [280] 798

Incorporation of Clauses of the Act of 1875, Question, Mr. Newnam-Nicholson; Answer, Mr. Dodson June 7, [279] 1917

Leaseholders in Urban Districts, Questions, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Mr. Broadhurst; Answers, Mr. Gladstone June 7, [279] 1923

Rating on Tenants' Improvements, Question, Mr. Severne; Answer, Mr. Dodson June 14, [280] 555

Tenants' Compensation—Tenants on Mineral Properties, Question, Mr. Rolis; Answer, Mr. Gladstone July 30, [282] 951

Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill

(*Mr. Dodson, Mr. Shaw Lefevre, Mr. Solicitor General*)

- 279] c. Motion for Leave (*Mr. Dodson*) May 10, 512; Motion agreed to; Bill ordered
 . Read 1^o May 10, 519 [Bill 186]
 . Read 2^o, after long debate May 29, 1110

281] Committee—R.P. [First Night] July 17, 1683
 . Committee—R.P. [Second Night] July 18, 1798
 . Committee—R.P. [Third Night] July 19, 1919

282] Committee—R.P. [Fourth Night] July 20, 68
 . Committee—R.P. [Fifth Night] July 23, 164
 . Committee; Report [Sixth Night] July 24, 309
 Committee* (*on re comm*); Report July 25, [Bill 272]

. Considered July 27, 816; after short debate, further Consideration deferred
 . Further considered July 31, 1159
 . Read 3^o, after short debate Aug 1, 1228

- l. Read 1^a* (*Lord Carlisleford*) Aug 2 (No. 171)
 Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^a" Aug 7, 1796

Amendt. to leave out all after ("That") insert ("this House, while ready to promote a well-considered measure for the advancement of agriculture and the improvement, so far as possible by legislation, of the relations of landlord and tenant, is not prepared to give

Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill—cont.

its sanction to a Bill which, in agricultural tenancies, forbids free contract in the future and breaks it in the past, thus destroying the foundation upon which alone agricultural trade, and commerce can securely rest") (*The Earl of Wemyss*); after debate, Amendt. withdrawn

Amendt. to leave out all after ("That") insert ("this House is not prepared to give its sanction to a Bill which, in agricultural tenancies forbids free contract in the future and breaks it in the past, thus destroying the foundation upon which alone agriculture, trade, and commerce can securely rest") (*The Earl Wemyss*); on Question, "That the word &c.;" Cont. 55, Not-Content. 9; M. 46
 282] Div. List, Cont. and Not-Cont. 1836

Resolved in the affirmative; Bill read 2^a

283] Committee, after short debate Aug 10, 4
 . Report Aug 14, 439 (No. 186)

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3^a"
 Aug 16, 691

Amendt. to leave out ("now") add ("this during three months") (*The Earl of Wemyss*); after short debate, on Question, That ("now" &c.); resolved in the affirmative; Bill read 3^a further Amendts. made; Bill passed, as sent to the Commons (No. 192)

Protest against the passing of the *Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill*, 695

- c. Lords' Amendts. considered Aug 21, 1561
 several disagreed to; several agreed to

[Bill 209]

Committee appointed, "to draw up reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to certain of the amendts. made by the Lords to the Bill;" List of the Committee, 1580

Reasons for disagreeing to certain of the Lords' amendts. reported, and agreed to to be communicated to the Lords Aug 21

- l. Returned from the Commons with several of the amendts. agreed to, several agreed to with amendts., and several disagreed to, with reasons for such disagreement: the said amendts. and reasons to be printed, and to be considered To-morrow Aug 21 (No. 216)
 Commons' reasons for disagreeing to certain of the Lords' amendts., and Commons' amendts. to Lords' amendts. Considered Aug 23, 1610

Moved, That this House do not insist on the amendt. in page 2, line 11, to which the Commons have disagreed: objected to; an amendt. moved to leave out all the word after ("House") and insert ("do amend the amendt. in page 2, line 11"); on question, that the words proposed to be left on stand part of the motion, the numbers being equal, it was (according to ancient rule resolved in the negative; and, on question that the words ("do amend the amendt. in page 2, line 11") be there inserted, resolve in the affirmative: The said amendt. amended accordingly; Several of the amendts. to which the Commons have disagreed to insisted on; one insisted on; and the amendts. made by the Commons to certain of the amendts. made by the Lords agreed to: Moved not to insist on the amendt. in page 18, line 38, to which the Commons have disagreed; objected to; and, on question, resolved in the affirmative

[cont.]

[cont.]

Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill—cont.

- A Committee appointed to prepare a reason to be offered to the Commons for the Lords insisting on one of their amendts. to which the Commons have disagreed: The Committee to meet forthwith: Report from the Committee of the reason to be offered to the Commons; read, and agreed to: And a message sent to the Commons to return the said Bill, with an amendt. and reason
- c. Moved, "That the Lords' reason and amendt. to the Commons' amendts. be considered 283] forthwith" (*Mr. Dodson*) Aug 23, 1767; Motion agreed to
- One disagreed to; the Commons do not insist on their disagreement to the Lords' amendt., in page 3, line 5, on which the Lords do insist
- Committee appointed, "to draw up reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to one of the amendts. made by the Lords to the Bill:" List of the Committee, 1769
- Reasons for disagreeing to the amendt. made by the Lords reported, and agreed to: To be communicated to the Lords Aug 23
- l. Returned from the Commons with the amendt. made by the Lords to which the Commons had disagreed and on which the Lords have insisted agreed to; and with the further amendt. made by the Lords disagreed to, with a reason for such disagreement; the said reason to be printed, and to be considered To-morrow Aug 23 (No. 220)
- Commons' reason for disagreeing to Lords' further amendt. considered Aug 24, 1824
- Amendt. not insisted on
- Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 61]

Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Bill

(*The Lord Advocate, Mr. Solicitor General for Scotland*)

- c. Motion for Leave (*The Lord Advocate*) May 10, 279] 516; Motion agreed to; Bill ordered; read 1^o * [Bill 190]
- . Read 2^o, after long debate June 5, 1762
- 282] Committee—R.P. [First Night] July 25, 429
- Question, Mr. J. W. Barclay; Answer, Mr. Gladstone July 26, 560
- . Committee—R.P. [Second Night] July 27, 821
- . Committee—R.P. [Third Night] July 31, 1203
- Committee; Report [Fourth Night] Aug 1, 1230 [Bill 278]
- . Considered; read 3^o, after debate Aug 4, 1575
- l. Read 1^o * (*Lord Carlingford*) Aug 6 (No. 178)
- . Read 2^o, after debate Aug 9, 2036
- 283] Committee, after short debate Aug 13, 215
- . Report Aug 16, 684 (No. 190)
- Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3^a"
- . Aug 17, 048
- Amendt. to leave out ("now") add ("this day three months") (*The Earl of Wemyss*); on Question, That ("now,") &c. ? resolved in the affirmative; Bill read 3^a (No. 200)
- Further Amendts. made; Bill passed, and sent to the Commons
- c. . Lords' Amendts. considered Aug 21, 1581; several agreed to; several disagreed to
- Committee appointed, "to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to certain of the Amendts. made by the Lords to the Bill;" List of the Committee, 1592

Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Bill—cont.

- Reasons for disagreeing to certain of the Lords Amendts. reported, and agreed to; to be communicated to the Lords
- l. Returned from the Commons with several of the amendts. agreed to; several agreed to with amendts., and several disagreed to, with reasons for such disagreement; the said amendts. and reasons to be printed, and to be considered to-morrow (No. 217)
- Commons reasons for disagreeing to certain of the Lords Amendts. and Commons amendts. 283] considered Aug 22, 1640
- Moved, That this House do not insist on the amendt. in page 2, line 3, to which the Commons have disagreed; objected to; and an amendt. moved to leave out all the words after ("House") and insert ("do amend the amendt. in page 2, line 3"); on question, agreed to; amendt. amended accordingly; one of the amendts. to which the Commons have disagreed not insisted on; an amendt. made by the Commons to an amendt. made by the Lords agreed to; and one disagreed to; an amendt. to which the Commons have disagreed insisted on; several not insisted on; several of the amendts. made by the Commons to certain of the amendts. made by the Lords agreed to; an amendment made by the Commons agreed to, with an amendt.; an amendt. to which the Commons have disagreed not insisted on
- A Committee appointed to prepare reasons to be offered to the Commons for the Lords disagreeing to one of the Commons amendts. to the Lords amendts. and insisting on one of the amendts. to which the Commons have disagreed: The Committee to meet forthwith: Report from the Committee of the reasons to be offered to the Commons; read, and agreed to: And a message sent to the Commons to return the said Bill, with the amendts. and reasons
- c. Reasons for disagreeing to the amendt. made by the Lords reported, and agreed to: To be communicated to the Lords
- l. Returned from the Commons with the amendt. made by the Lords to which the Commons had disagreed and on which the Lords have insisted agreed to; with the amendt. made by the Commons to an amendt. made by the Lords to which the Lords have disagreed not insisted on; with the amendt. made by the Lords to the Lords amendts. agreed to; and with the further amendt. made by the Lords disagreed to, with a reason for such disagreement: The said reason to be printed, and to be considered To-morrow (No. 221)
- c. Lords Reason and Amendt. considered forthwith Aug 23, 1769 [Bill 307]
- One disagreed to; the Commons do not insist on the second amendt. made by the Commons to the Lords amendt., page 2, line 39, to which the Lords have disagreed
- The Commons do not insist on the disagreement to the Lords amendt., page 3, line 14, on which the Lords do insist
- The Commons agree to the amendt. made by the Lords to Clause 29, as re-inserted by the Commons

Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Bill—cont.

Committee appointed, "to draw up reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to one of the amendts. made by the Lords to 283] the Bill;" List of the Committee, 1770

l. Commons reasons for disagreeing to Lords further amendt. considered Aug 24, 1835; amendt. not insisted on

Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Viet. c. 62]

Agricultural Tenants' Compensation Bill

Mr. Chaplin, Mr. Edward Stanhope, Lord Randolph Churchill, Mr. Birkbeck, Mr. Pell, Mr. Coven, Mr. Ritchie, Mr. Dawney, Mr. Lawrence)

o. Ordered; read 1st Feb 16 [Bill 71]
2R. [Dropped]

Agriculture

Agricultural Department — Statistics, Question, Mr. Duckham; Answer, Mr. Dodson July 6, [281] 800

Agricultural and Commercial Depression, Question, Mr. Henenage; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Mar 8, [276] 1755

Agricultural Depression — Legislation, Observations, The Duke of Rutland; Reply, The Earl of Kimberley; short debate thereon June 8, [280] 3

Agricultural Improvements, Compensation for — Legislation, Questions, Mr. Duckham, Mr. O'Donnell; Answers, Mr. Gladstone April 19, [278] 629

Agricultural Returns, Question, Mr. Duckham; Answer, Mr. Dodson July 9, [281] 788

Chambers of Agriculture and Farmers' Clubs (England and Scotland)—Deputation to the Lord President of the Council, Question, Mr. Henenage; Answer, Mr. Gladstone July 19, [281] 1911

Cultivation of Tobacco for Sale by Farmers, Question, Lord John Manners; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer April 19, [278] 621

Report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture, Question, Mr. Round; Answer, Mr. Dodson May 24, [279] 770

Agriculture and Commerce, Minister of

Question, Colonel Walrond; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington Feb 16, [276] 176; Questions, Mr. Monk, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. R. H. Paget; Answers, Mr. Gladstone Mar 12, [277] 216; Question, Sir Massey Lopes; Answer, Mr. Gladstone April 12, [278] 76; Questions, Mr. Duckham, Mr. Monk, Mr. R. H. Paget, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answers, Mr. Gladstone April 26, 1165; Question, Lord George Hamilton; Answer, Mr. Gladstone May 4, 1877

Agriculture

Order appointing a Committee of Council for the consideration of all matters relating to Agriculture P.P. [3595]

AINSWORTH, Mr. D., Cumberland, W.

Ennerdale Railway, 2R. Amendt. [281] 444

ALCESTER, Lord (Lord of the Admiralty)

Naval Discipline and Enlistment Acts Amendment, Comm. cl. 7, [279] 1462

Navy—Questions

Appointment of First Lieutenants, [278] 272

Warrant Officers, [280] 1253;—Regulations, [281] 932

ALEXANDER, Colonel C., Ayrshire, S.

Agricultural Holdings (Scotland), Comm. cl. 26, [282] 1255; add. cl. 1290

Army—Questions

Army Returns, [276] 1610

Re-Appointments—Lieutenant Hon. A. F. G. Hay, [282] 1848

Royal Warrant, 1882—Pensions of Officers' Widows, [279] 1742

Army (India)—Indian Staff Corps, [279] 1099
Quartermasters, [283] 1487

Army Estimates—Administration of Military Law, [279] 803, 814

Army Reserve Force, [283] 1258

Clothing Establishments, Services, and Supplies, [280] 1761

Establishments for Military Education, [280] 1798, 1801

Land Forces, [277] 259

Medical Establishments, [283] 1231

Militia Pay and Allowances, [279] 844

War Office, [283] 1293, 1297, 1299

Constabulary and Police Administration (Ireland), Motion for Leave, [282] 884

Constabulary and Police (Ireland) (Pay and Pensions), Comm. cl. 8, [279] 1088

Education (Scotland), Comm. Motion for Adjournment, [283] 138

Local Government Board (Scotland), 2R. [282] 1553

Lord Alcester's Grant, Comm. cl. 2, [280] 287

Morocco — Ill-treatment of Jewesses, [276] 1434; [277] 558

Navy—The "Clyde" Court Martial, [283] 1513

Parliament—Questions

Business of the House, [277] 1280; [283] 749; Ministerial Statement, [280] 1429;

—Order of Business, [281] 58

Lord Wolseley's Annuity Bill, [278] 748

Public Business, [282] 1852

Parliamentary Elections (Closing of Public-Houses), 2R. Motion for Adjournment, [277] 922

Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. cl. 1, [280] 596; cl. 15, [281] 284, 298; add. cl. Motion for reporting Progress, 1333; Consid. Schedule 2, [283] 137

Parliamentary Reform, Res. [277] 1137

Scotland—Court of Criminal Appeal, [279] 1484, 1485

Universities—Return of Pensions of Officials, [280] 795

Southport Foreshore, Motion for the Adjournment of the House, [279] 263

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276—277—278—279—280—281—282—283.

ALEXANDER, Colonel C.—cont.

Supply—Fishery Board, Scotland, [282] 1379
Maintenance of Disturnpiked, &c., Roads in
England and Wales, [279] 1032
Martial Law, [283] 1415, 1428
Queen's and Lord Treasurer's Remem-
brancer in Exchequer, Scotland, &c. [282]
1377

*Alkali Works Act, 1881 — Reports of
Inspectors*

Question, Sir R. Assheton Cross; Answer, Sir
Charles W. Dilke June 11, [280] 196
Report for 1882 . . . P.P. [3715]

ALLEN, Mr. H. G., Pembroke, &c.

Maintenance of Main Roads (South Wales),
[279] 1904
Navy—Dockyards—Committee on Professional
Officers, [282] 1476
"Hope" Hospital Ship, [282] 940
Parliamentary Registration (Ireland), Comm.
cl. 4, Amendt. [283] 491, 492, 493, 494

*Alloa, Dunfermline, and Kirkcaldy Rail-
way Bill (by Order)*

c. Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^a" (Mr.
Dodds) Feb 27, [276] 954

Amendt. to leave out "now," add "upon
this day six months" (Mr. Chaplin); Ques-
tion proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" after
short debate, Moved, "That the Debate be
now adjourned" (Mr. E. Stanhope); after
further short debate, Motion agreed to; De-
bate adjourned

Debate resumed Mar 6, 1887; Moved, "That
the Debate be further adjourned till Tuesday
next" (Mr. Chamberlain); after short de-
bate, Motion agreed to

Read 2^a Mar 13, [277] 349

ANDERSON, Mr. G., Glasgow

Africa (River Congo), Res. [277] 1327
Agricultural Holdings (Scotland), Comm. cl. 1,
[282] 438; cl. 4, 475; cl. 5, 499; cl. 23,
1236; cl. 24, 1249, 1250; cl. 26, 1270
Banking Laws (Scotland), 2R. [280] 1632,
1649
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[277] 201
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[276] 1648, 1657, 1688, 1690, 1691, 1692;
Comm. [282] 1598, 1600; cl. 2, 1664
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High Court of Justice (Service of Writs), 2R.
[280] 468, 471
Imprisonment for Debt, 2R. [280] 1626
Local Government Board (Scotland), 2R. [282]
1620, 1521; Comm. [283] 612, 622
London Commissioners of Sewers (Ventilation
of Railways), 2R. [280] 188
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Metropolitan Board of Works—Charing Cross
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Metropolitan Board of Works (District
Railway), [279] 1617

ANDERSON, Mr. G.—cont.

Metropolitan District Railway, 2R. [278] 1013;
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Naturalization—Fees on Certificates, [281]
1226

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[282] 1540; Motion for Adjournment,
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ing Notices, [279] 49, 1756

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out," Res. [277] 1977

Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal
Practices), Comm. add. cl. [281] 1010, 1323,
1326; Schedule 1, 1424, 1437; Consid.
cl. 44, [283] 97

Parochial Boards (Scotland), 2R. [278] 584

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Patents for Inventions (No. 3), 2R. [276]
1096; Comm. Motion for Adjournment,
[277] 2052

Post Office—American Mails, [279] 1634

Public Health—Drainage, &c.—Certificates,
[283] 1335

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Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Dur-
ham), Comm. [283] 142

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Crofters—Destitution in the Highlands and
Islands, [277] 960

Lunacy Act, 1862—Perth Prison—Trans-
ference of Criminal Lunatics, [280] 225

Royal Commission—Unauthorized Publica-
tion of the names of the Commissioners,
[277] 943

Stamp Duties—Marine Insurance, [277] 1501

Stock Exchange—Report of Royal Commis-
sion, [279] 1627

Suez Canal Report, No. 41, [276] 1258

Supply—Public Education in Scotland, [282]
660

Treasury Solicitor Act, 1876—The Goods of
Felon, [281] 792

Ways and Means, Comm. [277] 1887, 1892

ARCHDALE, Mr. W. H., Fermanagh

Supply—Public Works in Ireland, [279] 1360

ARGYLL, Duke of

Agricultural Holdings (England), 2R. [282]
1810, 1811, 1812; Comm. cl. 1, [283] 10,
13; cl. 2, 17, 19, 21; cl. 4, 23, 24, 26; cl. 5,
31; cl. 6, 32, 34; Report, cl. 5, 445; Motion
that the Bill do Pass, cl. 4, Amendt. 692,
693; Commons' Reasons Consid. 1622,
1633, 1830

Agricultural Holdings (Scotland), 2R. [282]
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The Martini-Henry Rifle—Issue to the Volunteers, Question, Viscount Lewisham; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington Mar 5, [276] 1418

The Musketry Regulations for the Volunteer Force, Question, Observations, Viscount Hardinge, The Earl of Limerick; Reply, The Earl of Morley May 4, [278] 1830

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Volunteer Uniforms, Question, Earl Percy; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington Mar 1, [276] 1164

Army (Auxiliary Forces)—Militia Permanent Staffs

Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty for Return by battalions of the number of sergeants wanting to complete Militia permanent staffs" (*The Earl of Limerick*) July 24, [282] 276; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Army (Auxiliary Forces)—Militia Surgeons

Amendt. on Committee of Supply June 8, To leave out from "That," add "the continual refusal by the Administration of pensions to Militia Surgeons, compulsorily retired at 65 years of age, after long periods of service, and of compensation to those surgeons who have been deprived of a large amount of their incomes by the establishment of Brigade Depôts, to which pensions or compensation they consider themselves justly entitled; as also their complaints and great dissatisfaction thereat, embodied in a Petition from them lately presented to this Honourable House, be referred to a Committee to inquire into the reasonableness and justice of their complaints" (*Sir Eardley Wilmot*) v., [280] 85; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after short debate, Question put; A. 61, N. 48; M. 13 (D. L. 122)

Army (Auxiliary Forces)—The Militia

Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty for Return, showing the loss in numbers occasioned to Militia battalions trained at the brigade depôts under the new system compared with those Militia battalions detached from depôts, and, in consequence, permitted to train as heretofore" (*The Earl of Galloway*) Mar 15, [277] 527; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Army and Navy Expenditure—"Extra Receipts"

Questions, Mr. Salt, Mr. W. H. Smith; Answers, The Chancellor of the Exchequer May 31, [279] 1330
Appropriation Account, 1881-2. P.P. 20

Army Medical Department—Hospital Services

Moved to resolve, "That while the individual medical officers in Egypt behaved admirably well, the system under which they worked did not successfully stand the strain put upon it; that the military authority exercised by medical officers is inconvenient, and that discipline in hospitals ought to be administered by combatant officers, leaving to the medical officers medical duties only; also that medical officers ought to be attached to regiments instead of being detailed for duty day by day from station and other hospitals" (*Viscount Pury*) July 20, [282] 1; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Army Organization—The Militia and Militia Reserve

Moved to resolve, "That having regard to the present defective military organization and to the great importance of the Militia force, it is essential that the Militia be forthwith recruited up to their established strength; and that the 'Militia Reserve' should, as intended by its originator the late General Peel, and as recommended by the Militia Committee of 1877, be borne in excess of the Militia establishment" (*The Earl of Wemyss*) July 9, [281] 730; after debate, on Question? Cont. 29, Not-Cont. 25; M. 4; resolved in the affirmative
Division List, Cont. and Not-Cont. 765

Army (Annual) Bill

(*The Marquess of Hartington, The Judge Advocate General, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman*)

c. Ordered; read 1st Mar 16 [Bill 123]
277] Read 2nd, after short debate April 2, 1255
Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" April 5, 1598

Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "this House will, upon this day six months, resolve itself into the said Committee" (*Mr. Sexton*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after short debate, Amendt. withdrawn

Main Question, "That Mr. Speaker, &c.," put, and agreed to; Committee; Report

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Army (Annual) Bill—cont.

- 277] Considered, after short debate *April 6, 1715*
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3^o;"
after short debate, Moved, "That the De-
bate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Onslow*);
Question put, and agreed to; Debate ad-
journed
Read 3^o * *April 9*
l. Read 1^a * (*Earl of Morley*) *April 10* (No. 25)
Read 2^a * *April 12*
Committee *; Report *April 13*
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- 282] Consid. 1989; *add. cl.* 1991, 1997, 1998,
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- 283] 71, 75; *cl.* 10, 76; *cl.* 13, Amendt. *ib.*;
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- 283] Lords' Amendts. Consid. 1581, 1582;
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663; *cl.* 4, 664, 665; *cl.* 5, 670, 672, 674,
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281] Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. 1, 1727, 1779; Amendt. 1785, 1818, 1820; cl. 2, Amendt. 1843, 1845; cl. 4, 1947, 1949, 1993; cl. 5, 2010

282] 171; add. cl. 401, 404; Schedule 1, 409; Consid. add. cl. 819, 821; cl. 1, 1165, 1173; cl. 4, 1180; Amendt. 1181; cl. 5, 1183; Schedule 1, 1197

283] Lords Amendts. Consid. 1566; Lords Reasons and Amendt. Consid. 1767

282] Agricultural Holdings (Scotland), Comm. cl. 1, 434, 446; cl. 2, 452; cl. 3, 464; cl. 4, 467; Amendt. 468, 469, 470, 473; cl. 5, 494, 495, 499; cl. 6, Motion for Adjournment, 821, 822, 827; cl. 7, 1207; Amendt. 1209, 1210; cl. 16, 1213; cl. 23, 1240; cl. 24, 1247; cl. 26, 1252, 1256, 1257; add. cl. 1289

283] Lords Amendts. Consid. 1582

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[279] 1424Harbours, &c. under the Board of Trade,
[279] 985, 992Houses of Parliament, Buildings of, [279]
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[282] 1354

Tunis—Arrest of a British Subject, [281] 1238

**Ballot Act Continuance and Amendment
Bill**(Sir Charles Dilke, Secretary Sir
William Harcourt, Mr. Chamberlain, Mr.
Attorney General)c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 18 [Bill 5]Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"277] Mar 19, 912; Moved, "That the Debate
be now adjourned" (Mr. Arthur O'Connor);
after short debate, Question put; A. 41, N.
76; M. 35 (D. L. 30)Original Question again proposed, 917; after
short debate, Debate adjournedQuestion, Mr. Onslow; Answer, Sir Charles
W. Dilke Mar 20, 944Debate resumed April 6, 1723; after short de-
bate, Moved, "That the Debate be now ad-
journed" (Mr. Warton); after further short
debate, Question put; A. 41, N. 74; M. 33
(D. L. 53)Original Question again proposed, 1731; Moved,
"That this House do now adjourn" (Mr.
Onslow); after short debate, Motion with-
drawnOriginal Question again proposed; Question
put, and agreed to; Bill read 2^o

Question, Mr. Rylands; Answer, Sir Charles

279] W. Dilke May 10, 388

Committee deferred, after short debate June 1,
1871Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr.
Speaker do now leave the Chair" June 5,1806; after short debate, Debate adjourned
Bill withdrawn * Aug 15**Banking Laws (Scotland) Bill**

(Mr. Anderson, Mr. Barclay, Mr. M'Laren)

c. Considered in Committee; Resolution agreed
to, and reported; Bill ordered; read 1^o *
Feb 16 [Bill 78]Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"
June 27, [280] 1632Amendt. to leave out "now," add "upon this
day three months" (Mr. Williamson);
Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;"
after debate, Amendt. withdrawn; Motion
withdrawn; Bill withdrawn**Bankruptcy Bill**Extension to Ireland, Questions, Mr. Gray, Mr.
Gibson, Mr. Healy; Answers, The Attorney
General for Ireland, Mr. Chamberlain Aug 6,
[282] 1645Bankruptcy Bill—*cont.*Memorandum of Amendments, Question, Mr.
W. H. Smith; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain
Mar 8, [276] 1737Official Receivers, Question, Mr. F. Stanhope;
Answer, Mr. Chamberlain Mar 12, [277] 197The Irish Clauses, Question, Mr. Gregory;
Answer, Mr. Chamberlain Aug 10, [283] 70**Bankruptcy Bill** (Mr. Chamberlain, Mr.
Solicitor General, Mr. John Holms)c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 18 [Bill 4]277] Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"
Mar 19, 818Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "this
House, while anxious to remedy the proved
defects in the existing Law and practice in
Bankruptcy, is not prepared to entrust the
powers proposed in the Bill to any depart-
ment of the Government" (Mr. Stanhope) v.;
Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;"
after long debate, Moved, "That the De-
bate be now adjourned" (Mr. Tomlinson);
after further short debate, Question put;
A. 45, N. 89; M. 44 (D. L. 38)Original Question again proposed, 908; after
short debate, Amendt. withdrawn; Bill
read 2^o; further Proceedings after 2R. de-
ferredOrder read, for resuming Further Proceedings
after 2R. Mar 20, 962Moved, "That the Bill be committed to the
Standing Committee on Trade, Shipping,
and Manufactures"Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "in
the absence of any definite regulations for
the transaction of public business by the
Standing Committees, it is inexpedient to
transfer to those bodies the jurisdiction
hitherto exercised over Public Bills by Com-
mittees of the Whole House" (Mr. Raikes) v.;
Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;"
after debate, Amendt. withdrawnMain Question again proposed, 936; after
short debate, main Question put, and agreed
to; Bill committed to the Standing Com-
mittee on Trade, Shipping, and Manufac-
turesOrdered, That the Committee do sit and pro-
ceed on Monday 9th April, at Twelve of the
clock.For List of Standing Committee see under
ParliamentReported from the Standing Committee on
Trade, Shipping, and Manufactures June 25
[No. 224] [Bill 243]281] Order for Consideration, as amended, read
July 9, 892Moved, "That the Bill be re-committed in
respect of six clauses relating to the aboli-
tion of offices and compensation to existing
officers" (Mr. Chamberlain); Question put,
and agreed to; Committee; Report283] Order for Consideration, as amended, read
Aug 11, 187Moved, "That the Bill be re-committed in
respect of Clause 24;" Moved, "That this
House do now adjourn" (Mr. Arthur
O'Connor); after short debate, Motion
withdrawn

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Bankruptcy Bill—cont.

- Original Question put, and agreed to
 283] Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair," 190; after debate, Motion withdrawn;
 Order for re-committal of Bill discharged
 . Considered, after short debate Aug 14, 522;
 . read 3^o, after long debate, 526
 l. Read 1^o * (The Lord Chancellor) Aug 16
 . Read 2^o, after debate Aug 17, 940 (No. 195)
 . Committee, after short debate Aug 20, 1321
 . Report Aug 22, 1605 (No. 211)
 Read 3^o * Aug 23
 c. Lords Amendts. considered Aug 23, 1770;
 one amended, and agreed to; subsequent
 Amendts. agreed to [Bill 306]
 l. Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 52]

Bankruptcy [Compensation for Abolition of Office]

- c. Considered in Committee Mar 29, [277] 1102
 Moved, "That it is expedient to authorise the payment, out of moneys to be provided by Parliament, of compensation to persons whose office may be abolished, under the provisions of any Act of the present Session to amend and consolidate the Law of Bankruptcy;" Resolution agreed to
 Questions, Mr. Labouchere, Mr. Carbutt; Answers, Mr. Chamberlain April 2, 1178
 Resolution reported April 2, 1280
 Moved, "That this House doth agree with the Committee in the said Resolution;" after short debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (Captain Aylmer); after further short debate, Motion withdrawn
 Original Question put; A. 70, N. 13; M. 57 (D. L. 47)

Bankruptcy [Salaries]

- c. Resolution considered in Committee, and agreed to July 27, [282] 892
 Resolution reported July 30, 1090
 Resolution read 2^o; Moved, "That the House do agree with the Committee in the said Resolution;" after short debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (Mr. Callan); after further short debate, Motion withdrawn
 Original Question put, and agreed to

Bankruptcy (No. 2) Bill

(Sir John Lubbock, Mr. Baring, Mr. Davey, Mr. Samuel Morley, Mr. Whitley)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o * Feb 16 [Bill 82]
 Read 2^o Mar 19, [277] 922
 Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" Mar 20, 988; after short debate, Question put; A. 65, N. 55; M. 10 (D. L. 42); Committee—R.P.
 Bill withdrawn * Aug 15

Bankruptcy Law Amendment Bill

(Mr. Dixon-Hartland, Mr. Gorst, Sir Edmund Lechmere)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o * Feb 16 [Bill 43]
 Read 2^o * Feb 28
 Committee [Dropped]

Bankruptcy Trustees—Statement of Mr. Daniel, Q.C., County Court Judge, Leeds District

Question, Mr. Coleridge Kennard; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain June 21, [280] 1132

BARCLAY, Mr. J. W., Forfarshire

- Agricultural Holdings, 2R. [279] 331
 281] Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. 1,
 . 1693, 1699, 1724, 1727, 1730, 1735, 1736,
 . 1782, 1783, 1787, 1803, 1807, 1816, 1826;
 . cl. 2, 1832, 1846, 1850, 1861, 1863; cl. 3,
 . 1927, 1929, 1929, 1932; cl. 4, 1961, 1964,
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 282] 73; Amendt. 88, 91, 179; cl. 6, 183, 188;
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 283] Lords Amendts. Consid. 1562, 1566, 1571,
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 279] Agricultural Holdings (Scotland), Leave,
 . 516, 518; 2R. 1770, 1771, 1786
 282] Comm. cl. 1, Amendt. 429, 437, 442, 443,
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 . 1283; cl. 31, ib.; add. cl. 1291; Amendt.
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 283] Lords Amendts. Consid. Amendt. 1581,
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 swer to, [276] 351
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- Fishery Board—Inquiry as to the Injurious Effects of Trawling, [277] 1480
- Fishery Board and Post Office (Telegraph) Department—Extension of Telegraph to Outlying Fishing Stations, [279] 1479
- Supply—Supplementary Estimates, 1882-3—Fishery Board (Scotland), [276] 1786, 1787, 1790, 1793; [282] 1381, 1385, 1387, 1383
- Windsor, Ascot, and Aldershot Railway, Report of Select Committee, [279] 1299, 1301; Consid. 1830

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- Bankruptcy, Consid. [283] 190
- Great Eastern Railway (High Beech Extension), 2R. [277] 179
- Partnerships, 2R. [278] 585

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Baron Alcester

LORDS

- 278] Message from the Queen April 13, 166
- Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, to thank Her Majesty for the gracious Message, and to inform Her Majesty that, taking into consideration the important services rendered by Frederick Beauchamp Paget Lord Alcester, Admiral in Her Majesty's Navy, in the course of the recent Expedition to Egypt, and that Her Majesty is desirous to confer some signal mark of Her favour for those distinguished services, this House will cheerfully concur in enabling Her Majesty to make provision for securing to the said Frederick Beauchamp Paget Lord Alcester, and to the next surviving heir male of his body, a pension of Two Thousand pounds per annum" (*The Earl Granville*) April 16, 261; after short debate, Motion agreed to

COMMONS

- Message from Her Majesty brought up, and read April 13, 200
- Moved, "That the House will, on Monday next, resolve itself into the said Committee" (*Mr. Gladstone*); Motion agreed to; Question, Mr. Labouchere; Answer, Mr. Gladstone
- Message from Her Majesty considered in Committee April 16, 327
- Moved, "That the annual sum of Two Thousand Pounds be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, to be settled upon Admiral Frederick Beauchamp Paget, Lord Alcester, and the next surviving heir male of his body, for the term of their natural lives" (*Mr. Gladstone*); after short debate, Question put, and agreed to
- Lords Alcester's and Wolseley's Annuity Bills*, Question, Mr. Arthur Arnold; Answer, Mr. Gladstone April 19, 629; Question, Mr. Stewart MacLiver; Answer, Mr. Gladstone May 1, 1674
- [See title *Lord Alcester's Annuity Bill*]

Baron Wolseley of Cairo

LORDS

- 278] Message from the Queen April 13, 166
- Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, to thank Her Majesty for the gracious Message, and to inform Her Majesty that, taking into consideration the important services rendered by Garnet Joseph Lord Wolseley of Cairo, General in Her Majesty's Army, in the course of the recent expedition to Egypt, and that Her Majesty is desirous to confer some signal mark of Her favour for those distinguished services, this House will cheerfully concur in enabling Her Majesty to make provision for securing to the said Garnet Joseph Lord Wolseley of Cairo, and to the next surviving heir male of his body, a pension of Two Thousand pounds per annum" (*The Earl Granville*) April 16, 261; Motion agreed to

COMMONS

- Message from the Queen brought up, and read by Mr. Speaker April 13, 200
- Moved, "That this House will, on Monday next, resolve itself into the said Committee" (*Mr. Gladstone*); Motion agreed to; Question, Mr. Labouchere; Answer, Mr. Gladstone
- Message from Her Majesty considered in Committee April 16, 328
- Moved, "That the annual sum of Two Thousand Pounds be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, to be settled upon General Garnet Joseph, Lord Wolseley, and the next surviving heir male of his body, for the term of their natural lives" (*Mr. Gladstone*); after short debate, Question put, and agreed to
- [See title *Lord Wolseley's Annuity Bill*]

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- Constabulary and Police Administration (Ireland), Motion for Leave, [282] 1083
- Customs Department—Collector of Customs, [283] 746
- Elective Councils (Ireland), 2R. [278] 3, 9
- Ireland—Tramways Bill, [282] 1343
- Parliament—Queen's Speech, Address in Answer to, [276] 637
- Supply—Constabulary Force in Ireland, [283] 850
- Irish Land Commission, [283] 827
- Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland), Comm. [283] 974; cl. 1, 1003

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- c. Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" (*Mr. Dodds*) Feb 27, [276] 966; Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Viscount Folkestone*); Motion agreed to; Debate adjourned
- Observations, Viscount Folkestone Mar 2, 1252
- Debate resumed Mar 6, 1598; Debate further adjourned

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 281] Comm. *cl.* 15, 204; *cl.* 23, 378, 379; *cl.* 31,
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- Africa (River Congo)—Negotiations with Portugal, [282] 301
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c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 58]
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c. Moved, "That the Bill, as amended, be now considered" June 12, [280] 343

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struction to the Committee, 596, 597, 599

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281] 70; cl. 8, 97, 101; cl. 13, 120; cl. 14, 140;
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c. Ordered; read 1^o April 30 [Bill 157]
2R. [Dropped]

Bills of Sale (Ireland) Act (1879) Amend- ment Bill

(Mr. Monk, Mr. Patrick
Martin, Mr. Corry, Mr. Eugene Collins)

c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 26 [Bill 105]
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l. Read 1^o (Lord Fitzgerald) April 12 (No. 29)
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[See titles *Lighthouse Illuminants and Mercantile Marine*]

Board of Works (Ireland) Bill

(*Mr. Courtney, Mr. Herbert Gladstone*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o * May 8 [Bill 178]

Bill withdrawn * Aug 9

BOLTON, Mr. J. O., *Stirling*

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(*Mr. Biggar, Mr. Dawson, Mr. Gray, Mr. Callan, Mr. Leamy*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o * Feb 16 [Bill 22]
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"
Mar 7, [276] 1692

Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "it is inexpedient, in the present unsettled condition of Ireland, to introduce any measure making large changes in the present Irish Parliamentary Franchise" (*Mr. Mulholland*) *v.*; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Debate adjourned
Adjourned Debate resumed Mar 8, 1879; after short debate, Debate further adjourned
Bill withdrawn * Mar 19

Borough Franchise (Ireland) (No. 2) Bill

(*Mr. Dawson, Mr. Biggar, Mr. Lalor, Mr. Kenny*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o * Mar 9 [Bill 115]
2R. [Dropped]

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Braithwaite and Buttermere Railway Bill

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 Read 2^o, and referred to the Select Committee
 on Canals May 21, [279] 694
 Reported from Select Committee July 12

Canals

- Select Committee appointed, "to inquire into the
 condition and the position of the Canals and
 internal Navigation of the Country, to report
 thereupon, and to make such recommenda-
 tions as may appear necessary" (Mr. Salt)
 Feb 22
 And, on April 9, Committee nominated as
 follows:—Mr. Salt (Chairman), Mr. Barnes,
 Mr. Bolton, Mr. Carington, Mr. John Cor-
 bett, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Rowley Hill, Mr.
 Staveley Hill, Mr. John Holms, Mr. Jack-
 son, Sir Edmund Lechmere, Mr. Peel, Mr.
 Sheil, and Mr. Isaac Wilson
 April 18, Mr. Pickering Phipps, Mr. Slagg
 added
 April 26, Mr. Harcourt disch.; Sir Henry
 Holland added
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 [282] 904
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- Army (India)—Civil Pay of Military Officers,
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- Cathedral Churches—Royal Commission, [277]
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- 282] Agricultural Holdings (England), 2R. 1796,
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 283] Comm. 4, 5; cl. 1, 6, 7, 10, 11; cl. 2, 14;
 . Amendt. 15, 16, 18, 21; cl. 3, Amendt. 21;
 . cl. 4, 22, 24, 25, 26; cl. 5, Amendt. 28;
 . cl. 6, Amendt. 32, 33; cl. 9, 40; cl. 23,
 . Amendt. 42; cl. 25, Amendt. id.; cl. 26,
 . Amendt. 43; cl. 29, Amendt. id.; cl. 33,
 . Amendt. id.; cl. 38, Amendt. id.; cl. 39,
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- 283] 48; *cl.* 45, Amendt. *ib.*; *cl.* 53, 49; *cl.* 60, Amendt. 50; *cl.* 61, Amendt. *ib.*; Schedule 1, 51; Report, *cl.* 1, 439; *cl.* 4, Amendt. 440, 441; *cl.* 5, 442; *cl.* 7, 446; Amendt. *ib.*; *cl.* 60, Amendt. 448; Motion that the Bill do pass, *cl.* 4, 693; *cl.* 30, Amendt. *ib.*; Commons Reasons Consid. 1610; Amendt. 1613, 1631, 1634, 1635, 1636, 1637, 1624
- 282] Agricultural Holdings (Scotland), 2R. 2036, 2041, 2050
- 283] Comm. *cl.* 1, 217, 219; *cl.* 2, 223; *cl.* 4, *ib.*, 224, 225, 228; *cl.* 6, 234, 235, 236; *cl.* 7, 238; *cl.* 10, 239; *cl.* 20, Amendt. 240; *cl.* 24, Amendt. *ib.*; *cl.* 28, *ib.*; *cl.* 29, Amendt. 241, 242; *cl.* 35, Amendt. 244; *cl.* 36, Amendt. 245; Report, *cl.* 2, 684; *cl.* 4, Amendt. 685; *cl.* 5, 687; *cl.* 6, *ib.*; *cl.* 17, Amendt. 688; *cl.* 29, *ib.*; *cl.* 34, 689; *cl.* 35, 690; *cl.* 36, *ib.*; Motion that the Bill do pass, Amendt. 949, 950; Commons Reasons Consid. 1641
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- Ireland—National Education, Motion for a Paper, [278] 1009
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- Labourers (Ireland), Comm. [283] 1484
- Land Law (Ireland)—Landlords under the Irish Land Act, Motion for an Address, [278] 1398, 1403
- Land Law (Ireland)—Select Committee—Motion to Summon a Witness, [278] 1117
- †Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881, Res. [276] 699, 700; Motion for a Select Committee, 1584
- Lunatic Poor (Ireland), 2R. [281] 160, 164, 168; Comm. 1653, 1655
- 277] Medical Act Amendment, 2R. 1450, 1465
- 278] Comm. *cl.* 3, 587; *cl.* 9, 588, 591, 594; Amendt. 595; *cl.* 10, 597; Amendt. 598; *cl.* 14, Amendt. *ib.*; *cl.* 15, Amendt. *ib.*; *cl.* 20, 599; *cl.* 22, Amendt. *ib.*, 600; *cl.* 23, Amendt. *ib.*; *cl.* 24, Amendt. *ib.*; *cl.* 25, Amendt. 601; *cl.* 28, Amendt. *ib.*; *cl.* 38, Amendt. 602; Report, *cl.* 9, Amendt. 1120, 1122, 1124; *cl.* 20, Amendt. 1125; *cl.* 26, Amendt. *ib.*; *cl.* 26, 1127; *cl.* 27, Amendt. *ib.*; *cl.* 36, Amendt. *ib.*, 1128; *cl.* 40, Amendt. *ib.*; *cl.* 41, Amendt. *ib.*; *cl.* 51, Amendt. 1129; *cl.* 53, Amendt. *ib.*; *cl.* 55, 1130; *cl.* 71, Amendt. *ib.*; First Schedule, Amendt. *ib.*; 3R. 1262
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- Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Act, 1882—Compensations, Motion for Papers, [279] 1473, 1476
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- Sale of Liquors on Sunday (Ireland), 2R. [277] 519; Comm. *cl.* 2, 771, 773
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- Trinity College, Dublin, Leasing and Perpetuity Act, 1851, Motion for an Address, [281] 25

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- Criminal Law Amendment, Comm. *cl.* 6, [280] 1392; Report, *cl.* 6, 1357
- Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister, Comm. [280] 912
- Tithe Rent-Charge, 2R. [279] 1282

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 London and North-Western Railway (Additional Powers), 2R. [279] 1268
 Malta—Refugees from Egypt, Motion for Papers, [279] 1899
 Naval Discipline and Enlistment Acts Amendment, Comm. cl. 2, [279] 1459
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 Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. 1, [281] 1716; cl. 2, Amendt. 1816, 1845, 1859; cl. 4, Amendt. 1933, 1949, 1956; cl. 5, [282] 90; cl. 7, 225
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Cathedral Churches—The Royal Commission

Question, Mr. Carington; Answer, Sir William Harcourt Mar 19, [277] 781

Cathedral Statutes Bill

(Mr. Baresford Hope, Mr. Cropper, Mr. Dalrymple, Mr. George Russell, Mr. John Talbot)
 c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 67]
 Bill withdrawn * June 12

Cathedral Statutes Bill [H.L.]

(The Lord Bishop of Carlisle)

l. Presented; read 1^o May 10 (No. 58)
 Read 2^o, after debate June 5, [279] 1717
 Committee*; Report June 12
 Read 3^o, after short debate June 14, [280] 519
 c. Read 1^o June 18 [Bill 235]
 Bill withdrawn * Aug 7

Cattle Diseases: Acts—Importation of Foreign Animals

Moved, "That this House desires to urge on Her Majesty's Government the importance of taking effectual measures for the suppression of foot and mouth disease throughout the United Kingdom, and it is of opinion that, while for this purpose it is necessary that adequate restrictions, under the powers vested in the Privy Council, should be imposed on the movements and transit of cattle at home, it is even more important, with a view to its permanent extinction, that the landing of Foreign live animals should not be permitted in future from any Countries as to which the Privy Council are not satisfied that the laws thereof relating to the importation and exportation of animals, and to the prevention of the introduction or spreading of disease, and the general sanitary condition of animals therein, are such as to afford reasonable security against the importation therefrom of animals which are diseased" (Mr. Chaplin) July 10, [281] 1020
 Amendt. to leave out after "That," add "the recent prevalence of foot and mouth disease calls for the continued and vigilant exercise on the part of Her Majesty's Government of the powers entrusted to it, not only with reference to the movement of live animals at home, but in regard to their importation from abroad, but this House does not consider it necessary, under present circumstances, to make further provision by legislation on the subject" (Mr.

[cont.]

Cattle Diseases Acts—Importation of Foreign Animals—cont.

Arthur Arnold v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after long debate, Amendt. withdrawn

Amendt. to leave out after "That," add "a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the working of the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Acts 1869 and 1878, and specially as to whether it is possible to take further steps for preventing the introduction of contagious diseases from Abroad, without unduly interfering with the supply of food; and also whether the provisions for preventing the spread of disease can be made more effective" (*Mr. J. W. Barclay*) v., 1083; Question put, "That the words, &c.;" A. 200, N. 192; M. 8

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Endowed Schools Commission—The Ashton Charity, Dunstable, [281] 466

Inland Postal Telegrams, Res. [277] 1006

Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. cl. 15, [281] 242; Consid. cl. 1, [282] 2003

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Army (India)—Indian Establishment, [279] 957, 958

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Great Eastern Railway (High Beech Extension), 2R. [277] 181

Lord Wolsey's Annuity, 2R. [278] 709, 710, 711, 712

Cemeteries Bill

(*Mr. Richard, Mr. Illingworth, Mr. Henry H. Fowler, Mr. George Russell, Mr. Woodall, Mr. Casne*)

c. Considered in Committee; Resolution agreed and reported; Bill ordered; read 1st 18 [Bill 45]

M "That the Bill be now read 2nd" 725, [278] 1084

A. debate, Amendt. to leave out "now," "upon this day six months" (*Mr. J. H. Hope*); Question proposed, "That ' &c.;" after further debate, Moved, at the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Russell*); after further debate, Question A. 121, N. 150; M. 20 (D. L. 71)

N Question again proposed, 1112; after debate, Debate adjourned

Adjourned Debate on 2R. [Dropped]

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Question, Mr. Rylands; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke Feb 23, [276] 711; Question, Mr. W. H. James; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke Feb 26, 831; Question, Mr. W. H. Smith; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke April 26, [278] 1158

The Casual Population, Question, Mr. Salt; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke June 7, [279] 1927

Central Asia

Russia and Afghanistan, Question, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answer, Mr. J. K. Cross Aug 6, [282] 1642

Russian Advance, Question, Mr. E. Stanhope; Answer, Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice April 2, [277] 1153; Question, Viscount Cranbrook; Answer, Earl Granville April 20, [276] 719

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- 277] Bankruptcy, 2R. 816, 861, 905, 912, 985, 986
- 281] Consid. Amendt. 893
- 283] 188, 524; *add. cl.* 527; *cl.* 4, 528, 529, 530, 531; *cl.* 6, 533, 534; *cl.* 12, 535; *cl.* 28, 536; *cl.* 30, 537; *cl.* 55, 538; *cl.* 66, 539; *cl.* 122, 541; *cl.* 127, 542; Amendt. 543; *cl.* 154, 544; Schedule 1, 546; 3R. *ib.*; Lords Amendments. Consid. 1770, 1771; *cl.* 116, 1772, 1778
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- Bankruptcy [Compensation for Abolition of Office], Res. [277] 1178, 1179, 1264, 1265, 1270
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- 277] 2R. 1954, 1961
- 278] Comm. 1828, 1830
- 279] cl. 1, Amendt. 1079; cl. 2, Amendt. 1080; cl. 4, Amendt. 1081; cl. 5, *ib.*, 1082; cl. 7, 1083, 1084, 1085, 1036, 1087; cl. 8, Amendt. *ib.*, 1089, 1090, 1091; Schedule, 1093; Report, *ib.*
- 280] cl. 1, Amendt. 15; cl. 2, *ib.*, 18; Amendt. 22; cl. 4, Amendt. 23; cl. 5, Amendt. *ib.*; cl. 8, Amendt. 24; 3R. 326, 329
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- Fisheries*, Question, Sir R. Assheton Cross;
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 1924
French Claims on certain Islands, Questions,
 Sir R. Assheton Cross; Answers, Sir Wil-
 liam Harcourt June 4, [279] 1620

Channel Tunnel Railway Bill (by Order)

- 276] *a. R.* deferred, after short debate July 17, [281]
 1677
 Order for 2R. read July 24, [282] 281
 Moved, "That the 2R. be deferred till Friday"
 (Sir Charles Forster)
 Amendt. to leave out "Friday," insert "this
 day three months" (*Mr. J. Louth*) v.;
 Question proposed, "That 'Friday,' &c.;"
 after short debate, Amendt. withdrawn;
 Motion withdrawn
 Motion made, and Question, "That the Order
 for 2R. be discharged" (*Mr. Chamberlain*)
 put, and agreed to; Order discharged; Bill
 withdrawn

Channel Tunnel Scheme

- Question, Lord Eustace Cecil; Answer, Mr.
 276] Chamberlain Feb 22, 578; Question, Ob-
 servations, Lord Stanley of Alderley, The
 Marquess of Salisbury; Reply, Earl Gran-
 ville Feb 26, 813; Question, Mr. W. H.
 James; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain Mar 5,
 1435; Question, Sir Stafford Northcote;
 Answer, Mr. Chamberlain Mar 5, 1437;
 Question, Sir R. Assheton Cross; Answer,
 Mr. Chamberlain Mar 6, 1609; Question,
 Sir Henry Holland; Answer, Mr. Chamber-
 283] lain Aug 16, 718; Observations, Sir John
 Hay, Sir Edward J. Reed, General Sir
 George Balfour, Sir Henry Holland; Reply,
 Mr. Campbell-Bannerman Aug 20, 1368
Channel Tunnel Committee—Memorandum of
H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, Question,
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{*cont.*}Channel Tunnel Scheme—*cont.*

- Reply, Earl Granville June 22, [280] 1264;
 —*The Paper "Hostilities without Declara-*
tion of War," Question, Mr. Gibson; An-
 swer, Sir Arthur Hayter July 24, [282] 288
Official Documents, Question, Sir Edward
 Watkin; Answer, The Marquess of Hart-
 ington Aug 16, [283] 730

Channel Tunnel—The Joint Committee

COMMONS

- Question, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answer, Sir
 277] William Harcourt Mar 29, 994
 Moved, "That a Committee of Five Members
 of this House be appointed to join with a
 Committee of the House of Lords, to inquire
 whether it is expedient that Parliamentary
 sanction should be given to a submarine com-
 munication between England and France;
 and to consider whether any or what con-
 ditions should be imposed by Parliament in
 the event of such communication being sanc-
 tioned" (*Mr. Chamberlain*) April 3, 1363
 Amendt. to leave out from "That," add
 "before entering upon the questions whe-
 ther it is expedient that Parliamentary sanc-
 tion should be given to the establishment of
 submarine communication between England
 and France, and upon what conditions (if
 any) such sanction should be granted, it
 is desirable that the House should be put in
 possession of the views of Her Majesty's
 Government on these subjects" (*Sir Stafford*
Northcote) v.; Question proposed, "That
 the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put;
 A. 106, N. 74; M. 32 (D. L. 49)
 Main Question put; A. 106, N. 72; M. 34
 (D. L. 50)
 Moved, "That the Correspondence with re-
 ference to the proposed construction of a
 Channel Tunnel, presented to Parliament in
 1882, be referred to the Committee" (*Mr.*
Chamberlain); Motion agreed to
 Message to the Lords
 Question, Captain Aylmer; Answer, Mr.
 278] Chamberlain April 16, 312
 Moved, "That the Five Members of this House
 to be appointed to serve on the Joint Com-
 mittee of Lords and Commons on the Channel
 Tunnel be nominated by the Committee of
 Selection" (*Mr. Chamberlain*) April 16,
 399; after short debate, Question put, and
 agreed to
 And, on April 17, the following were named of
 the Joint Committee:—Mr. Baxter, Mr.
 Harcourt, Sir Massey Lopes, Mr. Arthur
 Peel, Sir Henry Hussey Vivian
 Lords Message [19th April] considered—and
 Orders made thereon (*Mr. Chamberlain*)
 April 19, 718

LORDS

- 277] Message from the Commons April 5, 1449
 Message considered April 6, 1621
 Moved, "That a Committee of five Lords be
 appointed to join with the Committee ap-
 pointed by the House of Commons, as men-
 tioned in the said Message, to inquire whe-
 ther it is expedient that Parliamentary sanc-
 tion should be given to a submarine com-
 munication between England and France;

{*cont.*}

Channel Tunnel—The Joint Committee—Lords—cont.

and to consider whether any or what conditions should be imposed by Parliament in the event of such communication being sanctioned" (*The Lord Sudeley*); after short debate, Motion agreed to

277] Message to the Commons April 9, 1738

And, on April 19, the Lords following were named of the Joint Committee:—M. Lansdowne, E. Devon, E. Camperdown, L. Aberdare, L. Shute

Message to the Commons

278] Message from the Commons April 20, 719

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281] Comm. cl. 1, 1694, 1735, 1736, 1756, 1757, 1790, 1806, 1815, 1823; cl. 2, 1831, 1833, 1857, 1862; cl. 4, 1943, 1950, 1962, 1966, 1980; Amendt. 1987, 1988, 1989, 1998; cl. 5, Amendt. 2012, 2022; Motion for reporting Progress, 2023

282] 72, 91, 169; cl. 6, 196, 198; cl. 7, 215, 216; Amendt. 218, 220, 222; cl. 11, 233; cl. 15, 311, 318, 321, 336; cl. 16, Amendt. 342, 343, 344, 347; cl. 17, 350; cl. 22, 355; cl. 23, 364, 377, 383; add. cl. 402; Schedule 1, 411, 414, 415; Consol. add. cl. Amendt. 816, 820; cl. 1, 1169, 1171, 1178; cl. 18, 1186; cl. 41, 1199; Schedule 1, 1202, 1203

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Ministerial Statement, [280] 565, 695;
[281] 1115; [282] 565

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Charitable Trusts Bill

(*Mr. Shaw Lefevre, Secretary Sir William Harcourt*)

c. Ordered; read 1st May 8

[Bill 179]

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i addurst; Answer, Mr. Mundella Feb 27, 5] 381

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[See title *Opium Duties (China)*]

Cholera Hospitals (Ireland) Bill

(Colonel Nolan, Mr. O'Kelly, Mr. Findlater, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Macfarlane)

- e. Ordered; read 1^o * *Aug* 6 [Bill 282]
Read 2^o * *Aug* 9, [282] 2247
Committee; Report *Aug* 10, [283] 142
Considered; read 3^o, after short debate *Aug* 13, 430
- l. Read 1^a * (*Earl of Dalhousie*) *Aug* 14 (No. 193)
Read 2^a * *Aug* 16
Committee * *Aug* 17
Report * *Aug* 20
Read 3^a * *Aug* 21
Royal Assent *Aug* 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 48]

Church Boards Bill

(Mr. Albert Grey, Mr. Reid, Mr. Buxton, Mr. Stuart Wortley, Mr. Stafford Howard)

- e. Ordered; read 1^o * *Feb* 16 [Bill 80]
2R. [Dropped]

Church Discipline, &c. Acts Amendment Bill

(Mr. Morgan Lloyd, Sir Henry Hussey Vivian, Baron De Ferrières, Mr. Greer)

- e. Ordered; read 1^o * *Feb* 16 [Bill 75]
2R. [Dropped]

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- Business of the House, Ministerial Statement, [279] 409; [280] 1711
- Contagious Diseases Acts, [278] 910, 1805, 1806
- Inland Revenue Department—Grievances of Officers—Right of Petition, [278] 1103, 1164, 1272, 1273
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- Parliamentary Oath (Standing Orders)—Withdrawal of Motion, [279] 1335
- Patents for Inventions, Motion for Commitment, [278] 388
- Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Act (1862) (Audience of Solicitors), Comm. cl. 2, Motion for reporting Progress, [278] 395, 396
- Spain—Expulsion of certain Cuban Refugees from Gibraltar, Motion for Adjournment, [277] 948
- Supply, Amendt. [278] 1915, 1919, 1925, 1932
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- Marlborough House, [277] 1070
- Public Buildings in Great Britain and the Isle of Man, &c. [279] 453, 456, 458; Amendt. 468
- Report, [279] 1707
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- Parks and Pleasure Gardens, Motion for reporting Progress, [276] 1336, 1337
- Stationery, Printing, &c. [276] 1780
- Transvaal, [276] 1510, 1629, 1624

Church of England

- Free and Appropriated Sittings in Churches—Alteration of a Parliamentary Paper, Question, Mr. A. Grey; Answer, Sir John R. Mowbray Mar 8, [276] 1723*
- The Anglican Bishopric of Jerusalem, Question, Observations, The Bishop of Rochester; Reply, Earl Granville Aug 19, [283] 3*
- Training Colleges—Admission of Dissenters, Question, Mr. Morgan Lloyd; Answer, Sir Iam Harcourt April 3, [277] 1276*

Church of England (Patronage) Bill

- (Mr. E. Leatham, Mr. Henry H. Fowler, Mr. George Russell, Mr. Shield)

- e. Order; read 1st Feb 16 [Bill 41]
- Bill withdrawn * July 18

Churchwardens' Admission Bill

- Sir Gabriel Goldney, Mr. Mund

- e. Order; read 1st Feb 16 [Bill 11]
- Bill dropped

Ice-cream Companies, The—The Royal Commission

- Question, Mr. Broadhurst; Answer, Sir William Harcourt Feb 22, [276] 632; Question, Mr. J. R. Yeoke; Answer, Sir William Harcourt May 31, [279] 1308; Questions, Mr. Broadhurst; Answers, Sir William Harcourt, Mr. Mundella, 1326

Civil List Pensions—Prince Lucien Bonaparte

- Question, Mr. Croyke; Answer, Mr. Gladstone July 12, [281] 1237

Civil Servants of the Crown in connection with Financial Undertakings

- Question, Sir George Campbell; Answer, The Secretary of the Exchequer May 25, [279]
- Engagement in other employments, Question, Sir George Campbell; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer Aug 23, [28] 1726

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- Comptroller-in-Chief, Question, Mr. Biggar; Answer, Mr. Courtney April 2, [277] 1161
- Service Commissioners—Recs and Cus, Question, Mr. Biggar; Answer,

Civil Service—cont.

Private Secretaries to Ministers, Question, Mr. Arthur O'Connor; Answer, Mr. Gladstone July 16, [281] 1521

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Local Government Board (Scotland), Comm. cl. 6, [283] 906, 907; Schedule, 913

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Madagascar—Action of the French at Tamatave, [283] 1362

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Parliament—Queen's Speech, Address in Answer to, [276] 201

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[280] Comm. cl. 2, 877; cl. 3, 972; cl. 4, 1207, 1209, 1244, 1291, 1298; cl. 5, 1342

[281] cl. 24, 489; cl. 31, 528; Amendt. 531, 541; cl. 44, 842; cl. 49, 885; add. cl. 994, 1130, 1132, 1150, 1151, 1165, 1170, 1292, 1306, 1314, 1325, 1331

[282] Consid. cl. 2, 2004, 2009

[283] cl. 44, 94

Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Amendment, 2R. [278] 1619

Statute Law Revision and Civil Procedure, 2R. [283] 921

Supply, [278] 1921

Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice, &c. [282] 1426

Works and Public Buildings, [281] 1265

Trial of Lunatics, 2R. [283] 922

Clerical Disabilities (House of Commons)

Bill (Mr. Roundell, Mr. Lyon Playfair, Sir Gabriel Goldney, Mr. Trevor Rogers, Mr. Gregory)

o. Ordered; read 1^o * Mar 5 [Bill 111]
Bill withdrawn * June 12

CLIFFORD OF CHUDLEIGH, Lord

Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister, Report, cl. 1, Amendt. [280] 1402

OLIVE, Colonel Hon. G. W., Ludlow
Army—Infantry Colonels, [277] 784**COHEN, Mr. A., Southwark**

Suez Canal Company (Future Negotiations), Motion for an Address, [282] 1015

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Education—Higher Board Schools, Motion for a Select Committee, [277] 664

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Agricultural Holdings (Scotland), Comm. cl. 1, [282] 438; cl. 4, 481; cl. 5, 483, 497; Amendt. 500; cl. 6, 822; cl. 24, 1250; cl. 26, 1253, 1260, 1269, 1270

East India (Financial Statement), Res. [279] 724

Local Government Board (Scotland), 2R. [282] 1505

London and North-Western Railway (Additional Powers), 3R. [279] 219

Parliament—Adjournment—Derby Day, [279] 713

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Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. cl. 3, [280] 1176

Parochial Boards (Scotland), 2R. [278] 556, 558, 914

Rivers Conservancy and Floods Prevention, Bill withdrawn, [281] 829

Seed Advances (Scotland) (No. 2), 2R. [276] 1562

COLERIDGE, Lord

Contempts of Court, 2R. [277] 1614

Criminal Law Amendment, Comm. cl. 5, [280] 1389; cl. 10, 1398; cl. 15, Amendt. 1400; Motion that the Bill do pass, cl. 14, [281] 419

Law and Justice (England and Wales)—Assizes and Quarter Sessions, [280] 1116

Law and Justice (Ireland)—“Regina v. Matthew Smyth,” [277] 671

Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister, 2R. [280] 178

COLLINGS, Mr. J., Ipswich

Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. 1, [281] 1823; cl. 23, [282] 362, 364, 366; Amendt. 368, 376, 380; cl. 28, Amendt. 386, 388; Lords Amendts. Consid. [283] 1563

Agricultural Holdings (Scotland), Comm. cl. 1, [282] 440

Factory and Education Acts (Scotland), Res. [276] 1935

International Arbitration, [282] 1340

Ireland—Law and Police—Trial of Fitzharris for Murder, [278] 1578

Law and Police—Calm Magistrates—Case of Thomas Smart, [280] 84, 1137

Literature, Science, and Art—The Ashburnham MSS., [283] 468

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Parliament—Business of the House, [282] 45, 48; Ministerial Statement, [279] 408, 409; [281] 1114

Public Business, [277] 807

Parliament—Queen's Speech, Address in Answer to, [276] 552

Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. [279] 1938; *cl.* 3, [280] 1179; *cl.* 4, 1305; *cl.* 6, 1510; *add. cl.* [281] 992, 1003, 1158; Schedule 1, 1447; *Consid. cl.* 3, [281] 2020; *cl.* 4, 2022; *cl.* 19, Amendt. [283] 82; Schedule 1, 113, 117, 126, 132

Ribble Navigation, Preston Dock and Borough Extension, Lords Amendts. *Consid. Amendt.* [281] 421, 440

Southport Foreshore, [279] 38, 39, 40, 230, 231; Motion for the Adjournment of the House, 238, 239, 252, 255, 257

Supply—Civil Services and Revenue Departments, [279] 1418

Public Education in England and Wales, &c. [282] 645

Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues, &c. [282] 1366

Tenure of Land—Peasant Proprietary, Res. [282] 95, 109

COLLINS, Mr. E., *Kinsale*

Navy—Marine Pensioners—Auxiliary Forces, [277] 1273

Royal Marines, Res. [277] 580

COLLINS, Mr. T., *Knaresborough*

Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. *cl.* 2, [281] 1845, 1858; *cl.* 4, 1956, 1965, 1971, 1984, 1989, 2004

Cemeteries, 2R. [278] 1094, 1111, 1112

Hull, Barnsley, and West Riding Junction Railway and Dock (Interest), *Consid.* [282] 28

Parliament—Business of the House—Parliamentary Oaths Act, &c., Postponement of Orders of the Day, [278] 1597

Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. *cl.* 1, [280] 589, 596; *add. cl.* [281] 1015, 1153, 1395

Supply—Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues, &c. [282] 1365

Vaccination, Res. [280] 1042

Colonial Prisoners Removal Bill [H.L.]

(*The Earl of Derby*)

1. Presented; read 1st * June 12 (No. 86)

Colonies, *The*

Colonial Defences—Report of the Royal Commission, Question, Mr. A. F. Egerton; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley April 6, [277] 1639

Incidence of Cost of Defensive Military Operations, Question, Sir George Campbell; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Aug 2, [282] 1341

Self-governing Colonies—Power of raising Military and Naval Forces, Questions, Sir George Campbell, Mr. O'Kelly; Answers, Mr. Evelyn Ashley, Mr. Gladstone Aug 20, [283] 1345

Colonies, *Defence of the—Colonial Naval Forces*

Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty for Correspondence between Her Majesty's Government and the Australasian or other Colonies with reference to the formation of colonial naval forces" (*The Viscount Sidmouth*) July 10, [281] 932; after debate, on Question resolved in the negative

COLTHURST, Col. D. La Zouche, *Cork Co.*

Army—Questions

Enniskillen Dragoons, [276] 1152

Governors of Military Prisons, [283] 56

Parading of Roman Catholic Soldiers for Divine Service on Holy Days, [279] 1907

Recruiting—"Waste" of the Army, [279] 1544

Time-expired Soldiers, [283] 55, 56

Army (India)—Roman Catholic Soldiers, [282] 293

Army Estimates—Divine Service, [279] 792, 799

Compulsory Education (Ireland), Res. [276] 1298

Constabulary and Police (Ireland) (Pay and Pensions), Comm. *cl.* 7, [279] 1053; *add. cl.* 1439

Distress (Ireland), Res. [277] 2014

Ireland—Questions

Assisted Emigration, [278] 1430

Fishery Piers and Harbours—Rossclare Pier and Harbour, [279] 23, 386

Inland Navigation and Drainage—Lower Bann, [281] 1893

Irish Land Commission—Appointment of Additional Commissioners, [279] 28;—Payment of Arrears, [276] 594

Land Improvement and Arterial Drainage, [280] 563

Land Law Act, 1881—Sec. 31—Applications for Loans, [276] 575

Law and Police—Cost of Conveying Prisoners, [278] 625

State of—Distress in the West and North-West, [278] 1407, 1408

Ireland—Poor Law—Questions

Bantry—Election of Guardians, [278] 420

Catholics in Donegal Workhouse, [283] 54

Out-door Relief, [276] 1418; [278] 1706; [279] 521, 522;—Unions of Glenties and Dunfanaghy, [278] 1863

Workhouse Test, [278] 59

Labourers (Ireland), 2R. [279] 1245

Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881 (Purchase Clauses), Res. [280] 441

Local Government Board (Ireland), Res. [280] 1343

Parliament—Business of the House, [282] 1328

Parliament—Queen's Speech, Address in Answer to, [276] 1044, 1107

Supply—Irish Land Commission, [283] 790, 803

Public Education, Ireland, [283] 1046

Queen's Colleges in Ireland, [283] 1089

Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland), 2R. [283] 579

Tramway Loans, [281] 1893

COLVILLE of CULROSS, Lord

London and North-Western Railway (Additional Powers), 2R. [279] 1268
 Railway Servants (Hours of Duty), [281] 590

COMMINS, Dr. A., Roscommon

Belfast Harbour, Consid. [280] 365
 Criminal Code (Indictable Offences Procedure), 2R. [278] 124, 126
 Parliament—Queen's Speech, Address in Answer to, [276] 896, 1145
 Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. [279] 1964; [280] 630; cl. 2, 736, 882
 Supply—Prisons, Ireland, [283] 870
 Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland), Comm. [283] 976

Commons

Select Committee appointed and nominated April 10, as follows:—Sir Henry Selwin-Ibbetson (Chairman), Mr. Acland, Sir Walter B. Barttelot, Mr. Broadhurst, Mr. Bryce, Mr. Pell, Mr. Richard Power:—Sir Joseph Bailey, Mr. Henry Cowper, Mr. Hollond, Lord Henry Scott, Mr. Tillett, nominated by the Committee of Selection
 Report of Select Comm. (P.P. 186)

Commons and Inclosure Acts Amendment Bill

(Mr. James, Mr. Bryce, Mr. Chestham)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 63]
 2R. [Dropped]

Commons and Inclosure Acts Amendment (No. 2) Bill

(Mr. Bryce, Mr. Story-Maskelyne)

- c. Ordered * May 30
 Read 1^o June 18 [Bill 234]
 2R. [Dropped]

Commons and Open Spaces—Chatham

Question, Mr. Gorst; Answer, Mr. Brand
 June 28, [280] 1699
 [See title *Metropolis*]

Comoro Islands, The—The Slave Trade

Question, Sir John Hay; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Feb 26, [276] 838

Companies Acts Amendment Bill

(Sir John Jenkins, Mr. Dillwyn, Mr. Stuart-Wortley)

- c. Considered in Committee; Resolution agreed to, and reported; Bill ordered; read 1^o June 28 [Bill 246]
 Read 2^o July 4
 Committee*; Report July 12
 Considered*; read 3^o July 17
 l. Read 1^o (Lord Aberdare) July 19 (No. 148)
 Read 2^o July 24, [282] 273
 Committee* July 26
 Report* July 27
 Read 3^o July 30
 Royal Assent Aug 20 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 28]

Companies (Colonial Registers) Bill

(Sir John Lubbock, Mr. Macnaghten, Mr. Salt)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o May 9 [Bill 185]
 Read 2^o June 25
 Committee*; Report July 6 [Bill 260]
 Committee* (on re-comm.); Report July 16
 Read 3^o July 18
 l. Read 1^o (The Earl of Longford) July 19
 Read 2^o July 26 (No. 150)
 Committee* July 31
 Report* Aug 2
 Read 3^o Aug 3
 Royal Assent Aug 20 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 30]

COMPTON, Mr. F., Hants, S.

New Forest (Highways) Bill—Crown Contributions in lieu of Highway Rates, [278] 65

Consolidated Fund (No. 1) Bill

(Sir Arthur Otway, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Courtney)

- c. Resolution in Committee* Mar 10
 Resolution reported, and, after short debate, agreed to; Bill ordered; read 1^o Mar 12, [277] 809
 Read 2^o Mar 13
 Committee*; Report Mar 14
 Considered* Mar 15
 Read 3^o Mar 16
 l. Read 1^o (Earl Granville) Mar 16
 Read 2^o; Committee negatived; read 3^o Mar 19
 Royal Assent Mar 20 [46 Vict. c. 2]

Consolidated Fund (No. 2) Bill

(Sir Arthur Otway, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Courtney)

- c. Resolution in Committee* Mar 15
 Resolution reported, and agreed to; Bill ordered; read 1^o Mar 16
 Read 2^o Mar 19
 Committee*; Report Mar 20
 Read 3^o Mar 29
 l. Read 1^o (Earl Granville) April 3
 Read 2^o April 5
 Committee*; Report April 6
 Read 3^o April 9
 Royal Assent April 10 [46 Vict. c. 5]

Consolidated Fund (No. 3) Bill

(Sir Arthur Otway, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Courtney)

- c. Resolution in Committee* June 4
 Resolution reported, and agreed to; Bill ordered* June 5
 Read 1^o June 6
 Read 2^o June 7
 Committee*; Report June 8
 Read 3^o June 11
 l. Read 1^o (Earl Granville) June 12
 Read 2^o; Committee negatived June 14
 Read 3^o June 15
 Royal Assent June 18 [46 Vict. c. 18]

Consolidated Fund (No. 4) Bill*(Sir Arthur Otway, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Courtney)*

- c. Resolution in Committee * July 18
Resolution reported, and agreed to; Bill ordered; read 1^o * July 19
Read 2^o * July 23
Committee *; Report July 24
Read 3^o * July 25
- l. Read 1^o * (*Earl Granville*) July 26
Read 2^o * July 27
Committee *; Report July 30
Read 3^o * July 31
Royal Assent Aug 2 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 23]

Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill*(Sir Arthur Otway, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Courtney)*

- c. Resolution in Committee Aug 18
Resolution reported, and agreed to; Bill ordered; read 1^o * Aug 20
Read 2^o Aug 21, [283] 1814
Committee; Report Aug 22, 1847
Read 3^o, after debate Aug 23, 1774
- l. Read 1^o * (*Earl Granville*) Aug 23
Read 2^o *; Committee negatived; read 3^o Aug 24
Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 50]

Consolidated Fund, &c. (Permanent Charges Redemption) Act (1873) Amendment Bill*(Mr. Playfair, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Courtney)*

- c. Resolution in Committee * Feb 23
Resolution reported, and agreed to; Bill ordered; read 1^o * Feb 26 [Bill 107]
Read 2^o * Mar 1
Committee *; Report Mar 2
Read 3^o * Mar 5
- l. Read 1^o * (*Lord Thurlow*) Mar 6 (No. 13)
Read 2^o *; Committee negatived Mar 8
Read 3^o * Mar 9
Royal Assent Mar 20 [46 Vict. c. 1]

Constabulary and Police Administration (Ireland) Bill

- c. Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" 282 (*Colonel Nolan*) July 27, 884; after short debate, Motion withdrawn
- . Motion for Leave (*Mr. Trevelyan*) 891; Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Arthur O'Connor*); Motion agreed to; Debate adjourned
- . Debate resumed July 30, 1855; after debate, Question put; A. 84, N. 13; M. 72; (D. L. 245)
Bill ordered; read 1^o, after short debate July 30, 1104 [Bill 274]
Questions, Mr. Healy; Answers, The Attorney General for Ireland, Lord Richard Grosvenor Aug 1, 1294
Bill withdrawn * Aug 6

Constabulary and Police (Ireland) (Pay and Pensions) Bill*(Mr. Trevelyan, Mr. Courtney, Mr. Herbert Gladstone)*

- c. Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr. Deputy Speaker do now leave the Chair" (*Sir William Harcourt*) May 1, 278] 1668; Motion agreed to
Resolution considered in Committee; after short debate, Resolution agreed to
Resolution reported, and agreed to May 3, 1826; Moved, "That a Bill be brought in upon the said Resolution" (*Mr. Trevelyan*); Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Parnell*); after short debate, Motion agreed to; Debate adjourned
- . Debate resumed May 4, 1941; Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (*Mr. O'Brien*); Motion withdrawn; after debate, Question put, and agreed to; Bill ordered; read 1^o *
"That the Bill be now read 2^o *"
27 21, 687; after short debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. McCarthy*); after further short debate, Motion withdrawn
- 0 1 Question put, and agreed to; Bill 2^o [Bill 171]
C 2^o—n.p., after short debate May 25, 1826; Report May 31, 1439
2^o, after short debate June 1, 1568
l. Moved * * (*The Earl of Kimberley*) June 4
Read * June 7, 1895 (No. 73)
Committee *; Report June 8
Read * June 11
Royal Assent June 18 [46 Vict. c. 14]

Contagious Diseases Acts**Compulsory Clauses**

- Question, Observations, The Earl of Miltown; Reply, The Earl of Northbrook Aug 13, 7282] 214
- Ni enforcement of the Compulsory Clauses—
in of the Government, Question, Observations, Lord Oranmore and Browne; Reply, The Earl of Northbrook; short debate thereon May 10, [279] 371
- Withdrawal of the Police from Protected Districts; Questions, Mr. J. G. Talbot, Mr. Hup; Answers, Sir William Harcourt May 10, 1881; Questions, Sir H. Drummond, Mr. Puleston; Answers, Sir William Harcourt, 401
- Suppression of Compulsory Clauses, Question, Observations, Viscount Lifford; Reply, The Earl of Northbrook; short debate thereon 12, [280] 336
- A present in the Seaports, Questions, Lord George Cecil, Captain Price; Answers, Mr. Gladstone July 31, [283] 1149

*Mr. Gladstone**Mr. Gladstone**Mr. Gladstone**Mr. Gladstone**Mr. Gladstone**Mr. Gladstone*

Contagious Diseases Acts—cont.

Returns, Questions, Dr. Farquharson, Mr. Hopwood, Mr. Stewart MacIver, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answers, The Marquess of Hartington July 30, [282] 942

Return of Admissions to Hospital, Question, Mr. Tottenham; Answer, Sir Arthur Hayter April 17, [278] 425

Provisional Arrangements, Questions, Mr. Puleston, Lord Randolph Churchill, Sir R. Assheton Cross, Mr. Gorst; Answers, The Marquess of Hartington, Sir William Harcourt May 7, [279] 40; Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (Mr. Puleston), 52; after debate, Motion withdrawn

Petition from Aldershot, Petition presented; Observations, The Earl of Carnarvon, The Lord Chancellor June 22, [280] 1245

Portsmouth, Question, Mr. Hopwood; Answer, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman June 25, [280] 1421

Legislation, Question, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington April 23, [278] 910; Questions, Lord Randolph Churchill, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Mr. Warton; Answers, The Marquess of Hartington, Sir William Harcourt May 4, [278] 1865

Protection of Women and Young Persons—Legislation, Question, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answer, Sir William Harcourt May 21, [279] 584

Naval and Military Hospitals, Questions, Mr. Hopwood; Answers, The Marquess of Hartington Aug 3, [282] 1474

The Metropolitan Police, Questions, Mr. Gorst, Sir Walter B. Barttelot; Answers, Sir William Harcourt May 7, [279] 23

The Metropolitan Police at Plymouth, Question, Captain Price; Answer, Sir William Harcourt July 31, [282] 1143

Detention in Hospitals Bill, Questions, Lord Eustace Cecil, Mr. Hopwood, Captain Price, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answers, Sir William Harcourt, Mr. Gladstone July 30, [282] 954

Contagious Diseases Acts

Amendt. on Committee of Supply April 20, To leave out from "That," add "this House disapproves of the compulsory examination of women under the Contagious Diseases Acts" (Mr. Stansfeld) *v.*, [278] 749; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.," after long debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (Mr. Gorst); Motion withdrawn; after further short debate, Question put: A. 110, N. 182; M. 72

Div. List, A. and N. 855

Words added; main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to

Resolved, That this House disapproves of the compulsory examination of women under the Contagious Diseases Acts

Contagious Diseases Acts

Moved for, "An Address to Her Most Gracious Majesty for, Copy of all orders given with respect to the operation of the Con-

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tagious Diseases Acts since the vote of the House of Commons in reference to compulsory examination" (*The Marquess of Salisbury*) June 14, [280] 531; after short debate, Motion agreed to

Orders given in reference to Compulsory Examination . . . P.P. (126)
Memorial relative to Acts . . . 316

Contagious Diseases Acts Committee—The Judge Advocate General

Question, Mr. Cavendish Bentinck; Answer, Mr. Gladstone April 27, [278] 1275

Contagious Diseases (Animals) Acts

Detached Districts, Question, Mr. Hastings; Answer, Mr. Dodson June 7, [279] 1912

Disinfection of Hides and Offal of Animals slaughtered under the Acts, Question, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answer, Mr. Dodson April 9, [277] 1819

Foot-and-Mouth Disease, Question, Sir Walter B. Barttelot; Answer, Mr. Mundella Mar 16, [277] 696; Question, Mr. Harrington; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan April 30, [278] 1433; Question, Mr. Guy Dawnay; Answer, Mr. Dodson May 3, 1710; Question, Mr. Duckham; Answer, Mr. Dodson May 24, [279] 764

Importation of Cattle affected with Foot-and-Mouth Disease from the United States, Question, Mr. Birkbeck; Answer, Mr. Mundella Feb 19, [276] 299

Resolution of the House of 10th July last, Question, Mr. Chaplin; Answer, Mr. Gladstone July 16, [281] 1520

[See title *Cattle Diseases Acts—Importation of Foreign Animals*]

The United States, Question, Mr. Arthur Arnold; Answer, Mr. Dodson Aug 3, [282] 1468

Importation of Canadian Cattle, Question, Mr. Duckham; Answer, Mr. Dodson Aug 17, [283] 958

Importation of Cattle from France, Question, Viscount Newport; Answer, Mr. Dodson June 14, [280] 538

Letter of Mr. Moffat, United States Agent, Question, Mr. Duckham; Answer, Mr. Dodson Aug 17, [283] 958

Metropolitan Cattle Market, Question, Sir Sydney Waterlow; Answer, Mr. Dodson May 28, [279] 943

Orders in Council, Questions, Mr. Heneage, Mr. James Howard, Mr. Chaplin; Answers, Mr. Dodson May 23, [279] 945; Question, Observations, Lord Henniker; Reply, Lord Carlisle; Observations, The Marquess of Lothian June 21, [280] 1118; Question, Mr. R. H. Paget; Answer, Mr. Dodson, 1122

Proposed Committee, Question, Mr. J. W. Barelay; Answer, Mr. Dodson July 30, [282] 948

Removal of Animals from Scotland and Ireland, Question, Mr. Duckham; Answer, Mr. Dodson Aug 21, [283] 1496

**Contagious Diseases (Animals) Acts—
Foot-and-Mouth Disease**

Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty for any correspondence with Foreign Governments on the subject of the continued importation of foot-and-mouth disease from abroad" (*The Duke of Richmond and Gordon*) April 18, [278] 273; after debate, Motion agreed to

Contagious Diseases (Animals) (Ireland) Acts

Foot-and-Mouth Disease, Question, Mr. Henry Tollemache; Answer, Mr. Mundella Feb 23, [276] 711; Question, Mr. R. H. Paget; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Aug 2, [282] 1319
Infected Districts in the Counties of Louth and Meath, Question, Mr. Sholl; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan May 31, [279] 1324
Pleuro-Pneumonia in Ireland, Question, Mr. Healy; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan July 24, [282] 291
Veterinary Inspectors—Commander S. Turtle, R.N., Question, Mr. Bigger; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan July 23, [282] 129
Westport, Question, Mr. O'Connor Power; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan June 4, [279] 1627

Contempt of Court Bill

(*Mr. Sexton, Mr. Henry H. Fowler, Mr. Parnell, Mr. Dillwyn, Mr. Justin McCarthy*)

a. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 18 [Bill 54]
2R. [Dropped]

Contempts of Court Bill [a.l.]

(*The Lord Chancellor*)

1. Presented; read 1^o, after short debate Mar 8, [276] 1707 (No. 15)
Read 2^o, after short debate April 6, [277] 1609
Committee April 23, [278] 836
Report April 27 (No. 43)
Read 3^o April 30
c. Read 1^o Aug 16 [Bill 300]
Bill withdrawn Aug 22

Contempts of Court [Stamp Duty]

a. Resolution considered in Committee, and agreed to Aug 20, [283] 1447

Convict Prisons—Pay and Position of Warders—Report of the Committee

Question, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answer, Sir William Harcourt May 24, [279] 771

Coolie (Indian) Labour

La Réunion, Question, Mr. O'Donnell; Answer, Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice Feb 26, [276] 843
Queensland, Question, Sir George Campbell; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley Feb 22, [276] 873

COOPE, Mr. O. E., Middlesex

Criminal Law—Wife-Beating, [279] 757
Literature, Science, and Art—Extension of the National Gallery, [280] 1556;—Insufficiency of Space, [276] 577

COOPS, Mr. O. E.—cont.

Metropolis—Metropolitan Fire Brigade, [276] 578
Wellington Statue, [276] 167
National Gallery and British Museum—Electric Lighting, [279] 758
Science and Art Museum (Dublin), [277] 378, 1276, 1277

Copyhold Enfranchisement Bill

(*Mr. Waugh, Mr. George Howard, Mr. Stafford Howard, Mr. Ainsworth, Mr. Ferganah*)

a. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 50]
Bill withdrawn July 4

Phot Acts—Photographs

on, Mr. Macfarlane; Answer, The Attorney General Aug 6, [282] 1044

Phot Bill

ittings, Mr. Hanbury-Tracy, Sir Gabriel Goldney, Mr. Agnew

a. rd; read 1^o April 11 [Bill 141]
2^o May 24
thdrawn July 11

Phot of Photographs Bill

(*Mr. M'Lenn, Mr. Lewis*)

a. Or. rd; read 1^o Aug 15 [Bill 294]
2R. Dropped]

CORBET, Mr. W. J., Wicklow Co.

Ireland—Questions

Arterial Drainage Acts, [278] 1702
Crime—Murder of John Flanagan, [278] 1132;—Wicklow Co., [278] 1133
Criminal Lunatic Asylum, Dandrum, [277] 594; [278] 1708;—Inquest, [277] 704;—Post-Mortem Examination, [278] 1033, 1408, 1409
Land Commission—Sittings of the Sub-Commissioners at Wicklow, [280] 3078
Land Law Act, 1881—The Land Commission—"Fair Rents," [280] 1695
Law and Justice—Wicklow Amuse., [276] 1428, 1429; [279] 889
Local Government Commissioners' Reports for 1902, [280] 1418
Mental Asylum, [280] 790, 927
Magistery—Grand Jury of Wicklow, [280] 1077
Mr. J. E. L. McFarlane, J.P., [279] 34, 942
Public Health—Outbreak of Fever in Dublin, [277] 708; [278] 1032, 1071

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Ireland—Poor Law—Questions
Industrial Instruction of Pauper Children,
[277] 550, 799
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M'Mahon Eviction Case, [277] 791
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[278] 1133; — Shillelagh Union, Co.
Wicklow—Election of Guardians, [278]
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*Corea—Treaties with Great Britain and
the United States*

Question, Sir Edward Reed; Answer, Lord
Edmond Fitzmaurice Feb 22, [276] 584

CORK, Earl of

London and North-Western Railway (Addi-
tional Powers), [279] 1270
Manchester Ship Canal—Select Committee,
Notice of Motion, [282] 512, 513

Corn Sales Bill (Mr. Rankin, Sir Joseph
Bailey, Mr. Duckham, Mr. Biddell, Mr. H.
T. Davenport, Mr. Williamson)

c. Ordered * Feb 20 [Bill 95]
Read 1^o * Feb 21
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"
June 4, [279] 1712; after short debate,
Moved, "That the Debate be now ad-
journd" (Mr. J. G. Talbot); after further
short debate, Motion agreed to; Debate ad-
journd
Bill withdrawn * July 10

*Cornwall, Duchy of—Lease of Land for
Convict Prisons*

Question, Mr. Acland; Answer, Sir William
Harcourt April 23, [278] 911

Corporation Lands (Ireland) Bill

(Mr. Molloy, Mr. Sexton, Mr. Richard Power)
c. Ordered; read 1^o * Feb 16 [Bill 48]
2R. [Dropped]

*Corrupt Practices at Elections—Bribery,
&c. at Elections Act, 17 & 18 Vict. c.
102*

Question, Mr. Newdegate; Answer, The Attor-
ney General July 19, [281] 1891

Corrupt Practices (Suspension of Elec-
tions) Bill

(Mr. Attorney General, Mr. Solicitor General)
c. Ordered; read 1^o * Aug 6 [Bill 281]
Read 2^o Aug 7, [282] 1959
Committee *; Report Aug 14
Considered *; read 3^o Aug 15
l. Read 1^o * (Lord Monson) Aug 16 (No. 198)
Read 2^o * Aug 21
Committee *; Report Aug 22
Read 3^o * Aug 23
Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 51]

CORRY, Mr. J. P., *Belfast*

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[282] 1688

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COTTON, Mr. Alderman W. J. R., *London*

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ploring Party and Boat's Crew, [280] 1269
Public Health (Metropolis)—Infectious Dis-
eases, [280] 536
Straits Settlements—Opium Smuggling, [277]
1632

County Court Judges Bill

(Mr. Hastings, Sir Eardley Wilmot, Mr. Hinde
Palmer)

c. Ordered; read 1^o * Mar 7 [Bill 112]
2R. [Dropped]

County Court Registrars

Question, Sir Charles Forster; Answer, Mr.
Chamberlain July 30, [282] 959

County Courts Bill

(Mr. Norwood, Mr. Henry H. Fowler, Mr.
Rowley Hill, Sir Eardley Wilmot)

c. Ordered; read 1^o * Feb 22 [Bill 103]
2R. [Dropped]

COURTAULD, Mr. G., *Maldon*

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2R. [278] 1200

COURTNEY, Mr. L. H. (Financial Secre-
tary to the Treasury), *Liskeard*

Acts of Parliament—Printing and Distribution,
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Cetewayo, [282] 502
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Customs Clerks, [277] 1162

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- The Playfair Scheme, [281] 783
- Constabulary and Police Administration (Ireland), Motion for Leave, [282] 891
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- Criminal Code (Indictable Offences Procedure), Motion for Commitment, [278] 348
- Crown Lands—New Forest—Fuel Rights, [280] 534, 1129
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- Customs and Inland Revenue Act, 1881—District Registrars, [280] 1493
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 - Case of Samuel Hutin, [282] 930, 931
 - Collectors of Customs, [283] 747
 - Customs Imports—Tabulation of Butter Substitutes, [278] 1703
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- Dominion of Canada—Detention of the "Atalaya," [276] 1903
- East India—Return of Claims for Recruits, [282] 1350
- Education Department—Assistant Clerks, [280] 223
- Excise—Distillers and their Employés, [276] 403
- Retirement of Officers, [276] 1255
- Friendly Societies Act, 1875—Section 31, Sub-Section 2—The Independent Mutual Brethren Friendly Society, [276] 709
- Friendly, &c. Societies (Nominations), 2R. [278] 1666; Comm. [280] 651; *cl.* 8, Amendt. 652; *cl.* 9, Amendt. *ib.*; *add. cl.* 653; Consid. 1827; Amendt. 1828; *cl.* 1, Amendt. 1829; *cl.* 2, Amendt. *ib.*; *cl.* 4, Amendt. *ib.*; *cl.* 9, [281] 1336; Re-comm. 2041; *cl.* 1, [282] 417; *cl.* 10, 420; Report, 422; Consid. *cl.* 10, 682, 693
- Government Annuities and Assurance Act, 1882—The Tables, [277] 1866
- Harbour of Refuge (Dover), [280] 1706
- Highways—Forest of Dean, [278] 1272
- Income and Expenditure—Finance Accounts for 1882-3, [282] 127
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 - Bowling Green Mills (Galway)—Compensation Case, [279] 1744
 - Customs Duties—Port of Galway, [279] 599
 - Dispensary Houses Act, 1879—Sec. 8—Pallaskenry Dispensary, [279] 1903
 - District Probate Registrars, [280] 938
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- Fisheries—Shannon Fisheries, [281] 1911; —Inland Fisheries—Fish Pass, Killaloe, [283] 261
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- Labourers' Cottages—Lord Orielton's Committee, [277] 1274
- Land Commission and the Board of Works —Loans for Labourers' Cottages, [277] 1160
- Land Law Act, 1881—Sec. 31—Applications for Loans, [276] 575, 584, 1419; [277] 299; [278] 1157; [280] 1274; —Practice of the Board of Works, [277] 1160
- National School Teachers' Pension Fund—Annual Statement, [277] 1829
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- Post Office—Maghera Postmistress, [283] 1730
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- Sale of Crown Lands—Maryborough Heath, [279] 950
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 - Action of the Board of Works, [277] 363
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 - Narrow Drainage Works, [276] 402, 1743; [282] 781; [283] 1859
 - Board of Works—Drainage, [278] 905
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 - Drainage Loans—Payment of Instalments, [278] 897
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Court of Chancery of Lancaster Bill [M.L.]

(The Lord Chancellor)

- I.* Presented; read 1^o April 23 (No. 43)
Read 2^o April 30
Committee • May 1
Report • May 4
Read 3^o May 7
c. Brought from the Lords, May 9

Court of Criminal Appeal Bill

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366; Questions, Mr. Stanley Leighton; An-
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torney General June 4, [279] 1631; Question,
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ney General June 11, [280] 211; Questions,
Sir George Campbell, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett;
Answers, The Attorney General for Ireland,
Mr. Trevelyan Aug 4, [282] 1638; Question,
Mr. Morgan Lloyd; Answer, The Attorney
General Aug 11, [283] 144
Mr. Justice Hawkins, Question, Mr. Warton;
Answer, The Attorney General July 19,
[281] 1996

Court of Criminal Appeal Bill

(Mr. Attorney General, Secretary Sir William
Harcourt, Mr. Solicitor General)

c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 18 [Bill 9]
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"
April 2, [277] 1181
Amendt. to leave out "now," add "upon this
day six months" (Sir Hardinge Gifford);
Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;"
after long debate, Question put; A. 132,
N 78; M. 84 (D. 1. 46)
Mr. Question put, and agreed to; Bill
read 2^o
Mr. J., "That the Bill be committed to the
standing Committee on Law and Courts of
Justice, and Legal Procedure," 1244; after
her short debate, Question put, and
read to
Ordered, That the Committee do sit and pro-
ceed on Thursday 12th April, at Twelve of
the clock
[Fg. list of Standing Committee see under
Parliament]
Repealed from the Standing Committee on
Law and Courts of Justice, and Legal Pro-
cedure June 26 [Bill 244]
Moved, "That the Bill be considered To-mor-
row" Aug 20, [283] 1443; after short de-
bate, Question put, and agreed to
Bill withdrawn • Aug 21

**Court of Criminal Appeal [Payment of
Costs]**

c. Considered in Committee April 10, [278] 298;
Resolution agreed to
Resolution reported April 17

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Labourers (Ireland), Comm. [283] 1428
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tional Powers), 2R. [279] 1270
National Education (Ireland), Motion for
Papers, [276] 392

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A. Minister—Subsidy to the Amer., [282] 243;
[3] 269, 270, 724
A. • (South)—Transvaal Convention, 1891.

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- Egypt—Law and Justice—Trial of Suleiman Sami, [280] 36, 208
- Re-organization—Mr. Clifford Lloyd, [282] 1480, 1632
- Explosive Substances Acts—Certificates, [279] 1327, 1328
- Orders in Council, [279] 771, 1909
- Explosive Substances, Comm. cl. 5, Amendt. [277] 1863
- High Court of Justice (Continuous Sittings), [281] 794
- Ireland—Questions
- Law and Police — Threatening Letters, [283] 1764
- Pauper Emigrants to the United States, [280] 1700, 1702, 1703, 1866 : [281] 469
- Prevention of Crime Act, 1882—Seizure of the "Kerry Sentinel," [279] 977
- Prisons—Mr. Healy, M.P., Mr. Davitt, and Mr. Quinn, Prisoners in Richmond Gaol, [279] 759
- State-aided Emigration, [282] 779, 780
- Law and Justice—Execution at Durham, [282] 2101, 2102
- Law and Police—Dynamite and Explosive Materials—Rewards to Officers, [278] 296
- Licensing (Metropolis) — Sporting News—Betting, [283] 1761
- Lord Alcester's Annuity, 2R. [278] 662
- Lord Alcester's Grant, [280] 51
- Madagascar—Action of the French at Tamatave, [283] 1363
- Navy—"Doterel" Explosion, [280] 1420
- Papal See—Diplomatic Communications with the Vatican—Mr. Errington, [279] 765, 769, 952, 1314, 1315, 1993
- Parliament—Business of the House [283] 1114
- "Count-out" of Friday, May 25, [279] 964
- Easter Recess, [277] 564
- Grand Committees—Reporting, [277] 1613
- Introduction of Measures in the House of Lords, [283] 278
- Ministerial Statement, [281] 1102 ; [282] 1345
- Parliamentary Oaths Act, &c.—Postponement of Orders of the Day, [278] 1586
- Public Bills—Memorandum of Purposes and Enactments, [276] 1437
- Standing Committee on Law, &c.—Criminal Code (Indictable Offences Procedure), [280] 786, 1148
- Standing Committees—Procedure, [280] 565
- Parliament—Business of the House—"Count-out," Res. [277] 1981
- Parliamentary Elections, &c. Bill—Municipal and School Board Elections, [282] 953
- Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal [279] Practices), 2R. 1668
- [280] Comm. cl. 1, 392, 584 ; cl. 2, 713, 739, 748, 873 ; cl. 3, 966, 1155, 1164, 1169, 1181, 1187 ; cl. 4, 1193, 1221, 1289, 1314, 1316, 1326 ; cl. 5, 1454 ; cl. 6, 1482, 1496, 1591, 1601 ; Amendt. 1608, 1612, 1865, 1890, 1898, 1899, 1914
- [281] cl. 8, 97, 102 ; cl. 13, 114 ; cl. 15, 206, 270, 280 ; cl. 19, 336 ; cl. 23, 382, 383 ; cl. 24, 396, 483, 490 ; cl. 26, 504 ; cl. 35, 624 ; cl. 39, 650 ; cl. 40, 654 ; cl. 44, Amendt. 834, 836, 843 ; cl. 60, 892 ; add. cl. 1007
- [282] Consid. cl. 2, 2018 ; cl. 5, 2023

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- Southern Islands of the Pacific—Annexation to the Australian Colonies, [280] 552
- Spain—Expulsion of certain Cuban Refugees from Gibraltar, [277] 189 ;—Colonel Maceo, [283] 66
- Supply—Civil Services and Revenue Departments, [269] 1415, 1417, 1420, 1425
- Criminal Prosecutions, &c. in Ireland, [283] 303
- Embassies and Missions Abroad, [282] 2147
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- Land Commissioners for England, &c. [279] 1385
- Local Government Board, [279] 1402
- Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, &c. [283] 1130, 1158, 1186
- Mercantile Marine Fund (Grant in Aid), [282] 1374, 1375
- Public Offices Site, [279] 592
- Revenue Department Buildings, [279] 621
- Royal Palaces, [277] 1054
- Supplementary Estimates, 1882-3—Irish Land Commission, [277] 22
- Treaty of Berlin—Article 10—Varna Railway—British Agent, Sofia, [280] 691
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- Parliament—Queen's Speech, Address in Answer to, [276] 49
- Royal Irish Constabulary—Report of Committee of Inquiry, [278] 415
- Sunday Opening of National Museums and Galleries, Res. [279] 173

CRAIG, Mr. W. Y., *Staffordshire, N.*

- Law and Police—Case of Francis Redfern (Uttoxeter), [279] 1330
- Railway Commission, Res. [278] 1904
- Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Durham), 2R. [279] 1219

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- Africa (South)—Transvaal—Policy of H.M. Government, [277] 315, 323
- Use of Dynamite by the Boers, [276] 1716
- Africa (South)—Transvaal Convention of 1881—Native States, Motion for an Address, [280] 676, 677, 678
- Army (Auxiliary Forces), [279] 1582
- Army (Auxiliary Forces)—The Militia, Motion for an Address, [277] 537
- Army Organization—Militia and Militia Reserve, Res. [281] 756
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- Cathedral Statutes, 2R. [279] 1731
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 Land Law (Ireland)—Landlords under the Irish Land Act, Motion for an Address, [278] 1406
 Law and Justice (Ireland)—“*Regina v. Matthew Smyth*,” [277] 671
 Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister, Comm. *cl.* 1, [280] 913
 Medical Act Amendment, 2R. [277] 1459
 Merchant Shipping (Fishing Boats), 2R. [281] 1659; [282] 264
 Parliament—Parliamentary Procedure, Res. [279] 7, 8
 Pawnbrokers, Comm. *cl.* 4, [281] 170
 Poor Law (England and Wales)—Boarded-out Children, [281] 397
 Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Cornwall), Comm. [281] 1875
 Stage Plays in Aid of Charities, 3R. [278] 722

CREYKE, Mr. R., York

- Civil List Pensions—Prince Lucien Bonaparte, [281] 1227
 Hull and Lincoln Railway, 3R. Amendt. [276] 1598, 1599
 National Debt—Reduction of Interest, [280] 1135

Criminal Code (Indictable Offences Procedure) Bill—Formerly**Indictable Offences (Procedure) Bill**

(*Mr. Attorney General, Mr. Solicitor General, Mr. Attorney General for Ireland*)

- c.* Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 8]
 Questions, Mr. Stanley Leighton; Answers, The Attorney General, Mr. Speaker Mar 19, [277] 813
 Moved, “That the Bill be now read 2^o”
 278] April 12, 90
 Amendt. to leave out from “That,” add “no Bill on Criminal Procedure will be satisfactory to this House which does not provide for the return of the verdict by a majority of the jurors; the public interrogation of the accused before committal and before conviction; and the assignment of counsel to prisoners” (*Mr. Stanley Leighton*) &c.; Question, “That the words, &c.,” put, and agreed to
 Main Question again proposed, “That the Bill be now read 2^o,” after long debate, Moved, “That the Debate be now adjourned” (*Mr. Sexton*); after further debate, Question put; A. 19, N. 128; M. 109 (D. L. 56)

Criminal Code (Indictable Offences Procedure) Bill—cont.

- Main Question again proposed, “That the Bill be now read 2^o,” 156; Moved, “That this House do now adjourn” (*Mr. Kenny*); after short debate, Question put; A. 19, N. 131; M. 116 (D. L. 57)
 Main Question put, “That the Bill be now read 2^o,” A. 132, N. 16; M. 116 (D. L. 53)
 Moved, “That the Bill be committed to the Standing Committee on Law, and Courts of Justice, and Legal Procedure” (*Mr. Attorney General*); Moved, “That the Debate be now adjourned” (*Mr. T. P. O'Connor*); Question put, and agreed to; Debate adjourned
 Debate resumed April 16, 322
 Amendt. to leave out from “committed,” add “a Committee of the Whole House” (*Mr. T. P. O'Connor*); Question proposed, “That the words, &c.,” after debate, Question put; A. 98, N. 27; M. 71 (D. L. 89)
 Main Question put, and agreed to; Bill committed to the Standing Committee on Law, and Courts of Justice, and Legal Procedure
 Mr. A. “That it be an Instruction to the said committee that they have power to consider the said Bill as one Bill,” 347; after short debate, Question put; A. 97, N. 17; M. 50 (D. L. 50)
 [For List of Standing Committee see under Parliament]
 Exclusion of Ireland, Question, Mr. Sexton; Answer, The Attorney General May 11, [279] 625
 Reported from the Standing Committee on Law and Courts of Justice, and Legal Procedure June 26 [No. 215]

Criminal Law

- Assaults on Irish Harvestmen, Question, Mr. O'Brien; Answer, Mr. Hibbert Aug 6, [282] 1621
 Case of Foote and Ramsey, Imprisoned on a Charge of Blasphemy, Question, Mr. P. A. Taylor; Answer, Sir William Harcourt J y 24, [282] 295
 Case of Thomas Perryman, Question, Mr. Macfarlane; Answer, Sir William Harcourt April 2, [277] 1153
 Conviction of a Nonconformist Minister for publicly quinquering a Religious Service, Question, Mr. Hingworth; Answer, Sir William Harcourt Mar 12, [277] 391
 Criminal Law Amendment—Bill for the Better Protection of Young Girls, Question, Earl Russell; Answer, Earl Granville May 29, [277] 1677
 Criminal Lunatics—Report of the Commission on Legislation, Question, Mr. B. H. Paget; Answer, Sir William Harcourt Aug 2, [282] 1621
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Criminal Law—cont.

West Riding—Trials for Rape, Question, Mr. Healy; Answer, Sir William Harcourt Aug 2, [282] 1327

Wife-Beating, Questions, Mr. Coope, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answers, Sir William Harcourt May 24, [279] 757

Criminal Law Amendment Bill

(*The Earl of Rosebery*)

l. Presented; read 1^a, after short debate May 31.

[279] 1294 (No. 69)

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^a" 280] June 18, 766

Amendt. to leave out ("now," add ("this day six months") (*The Earl of Milltown*); after short debate, Amendt. withdrawn

Original Motion agreed to; Bill read 2^a

Committee June 25, 1382

Report June 29, 1850 (No. 128)

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3^a" July 5, [281] 398

Amendt. to leave out ("now," add ("this day three months") (*The Earl of Longford*); on Question, That ("now," &c. ? resolved in the affirmative; Bill read 3^a accordingly; Moved, "That the Bill do pass;" after debate, Bill passed (No. 134)

c. Brought from the Lords, July 6

CROPPER, Mr. J., Kendal

Africa (South)—Transvaal—Questions

Pondoland, [276] 1163

Transvaal and Bechuanaland, [277] 926

Transvaal—Supplies of Ammunition, [277] 1636, 1637, 1638; [278] 58

Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. 15, [282] 319; Schedule I, 412

Bankruptcy, 2R. [277] 904

Brazil—Chinese Coolies, [278] 620

Cemeteries, 2R. [278] 1091

Great Britain and Madagascar, Governments of—Agreement for Regulating the Traffic in Spirituous Liquors, [279] 894

Hull, Barnsley, and West Junction Railway and Dock (Interest), Consid. [282] 23

Local Option, Res. [278] 1358, 1359

London and North Western Railway (Additional Powers), Consid. [278] 1555

London Commissioners of Sewers (Ventilation of Railways), 2R. [280] 192

Madagascar—Security of British Residents, [277] 1832

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Metropolitan District Railway—Ventilators—Metropolitan Board of Works (District Railway), [279] 1618

Metropolitan District Railway, 2R. [278] 1025

Navy Estimates—Dockyards and Naval Yards, [281] 1619

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Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. cl. 3, [280] 962; cl. 31, [281] 617; Consid. cl. 62, [283] 104

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Maintenance of Disturnpiked, &c. Roads in England and Wales, [279] 1034

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Africa (South)—Zululand—Reported Defeat of Usibepu, [283] 1112

Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. 14, [282] 249

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Channel Islands—Fisheries, [279] 1924

French Claims, [279] 1620

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Channel Tunnel Scheme, [276] 1609

Channel Tunnel—Joint Committee, Res. [277] 1376

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Criminal Code (Indictable Offences Procedure), 2R. [278] 104

Criminal Law—The Convicts Hardwick and Walford, [277] 781

Duchy of Lancaster—Foreshores—Corporation of Southport, [278] 1719

Lands Act, 1875—Council of the Duchy, [279] 526

East India (Expenditure), Res. [279] 310, 311

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Explosive Substances, Leave, [277] 1851; Comm. cl. 4, 1859

Factory and Workshop Act (1878) Amendment, 2R. [279] 352

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Prisons—Spiko Island, [277] 190; [278] 1413

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Law and Police—Disaster at Sunderland, [280] 799

Leaseholders (Facilities for Purchase of Fee Simple), 2R. Amendt. [283] 141

Local Government Board (Scotland)—Esti- mates of Cost, [282] 1338

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Local Government Board (Scotland) [Salaries], Res. [282] 1942, 1952, 1953

Local Option, Res. [278] 1367

Madagascar—Capture of Tamatave by the French, [280] 985

Manchester Ship Canal, 2R. [277] 689

Mercantile Marine—Harbour Accommodation on the East Coast, Motion for a Select Com- mittee, [277] 408

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280) Comm. cl. 1, 387, 393, 405, 578; cl. 2, 627, 740, 741, 802, 804, 806, 870, 871, 873, 876, 893, 895; cl. 3, 936, 947, 949, 1157, 1158, 1169, 1173, 1188; cl. 4, 1180, 1223; Amendt. 1227, 1246, 1313; cl. 5, 1438, 1452; Amendt. 1465, 1467, 1473; cl. 6, 1595, 1597, 1631, 1598, 1577, 1597, 1601, 1595, 1879, 1691, 1916; cl. 7, 1921

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281) Amendt. 62, 63, 67; cl. 8, Amendt. 89, 90, 96; cl. 10, 106, 107, 111; cl. 13, 113, 117, 124, 125; cl. 14, Amendt. 127, 146, 147; cl. 15, 189, 224, 245, 256, 259, 262, 263, 268, 269; cl. 17, Amendt. 370, 382; cl. 18, 379; cl. 19, Amendt. 337, 338; cl. 23, Amendt. 359, 352, 353, 355, 358; cl. 23, Amendt. 360, 361, 367, 380; cl. 24, 488; cl. 26, Amendt. 501; cl. 44, 833; cl. 45, 872, 876; cl. 60, Amendt. 827, 828, 889, 891, 892; cl. 67, 976; add. cl. 1010, 1014; Amendt. 1123, 1123, 1127, 1130, 1131, 1169, 1165, 1267, 1291, 1308, 1314, 1319, 1321, 1323, 1332, 1333, 1394, 1399; Schedule 1, Amendt. 6, 1409, 1410, 1412, 1416, 1417, 1421, 1423, 1426, 1427, 1431, 1439, 1446, 1452, 1450, 1458

282) Consid. 1990; add. cl. 1996, 1999; cl. 4, Amendt. 2020; cl. 5, Amendt. 2024, 2028; cl. 6, Amendt. 2029; cl. 8, Amendt. 20

283) cl. 10, Amendt. 75; cl. 13, 77, 78, 80; cl. 17, Amendt. 82; cl. 25, Amendt. 84; cl. 31, Amendt. 87; cl. 44, 98; cl. 59, Amendt. 1; cl. 62, Amendt. 102, 103, 106, 107, 9; Schedule 1, Amendt. 131; Schedule 2, Amendt. 136; 3R. 138

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- Sales of Crown Lands—The Masters of Escher and Milbourne*, Questions, Mr. Bryce : Answers, The Chancellor of the Exchequer July 12, [281] 1210
- The New Brighton Foreshore*, Questions, Mr. Higgar : Answers, Mr. Courtney Aug 13, [283] 272 : Aug 20, 1931
- [See title *Duchy of Lancaster Lands Act, 1835*]

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- The New Forest—Fuel Rights*, Questions, Lord Henry Scott, Mr. W. H. James : Answers, Mr. Courtney June 14, [280] 537 :—*Common Rights*, Question, Mr. Story-Maskeyline : Answer, Mr. Courtney June 21, 1128

Crown Lands Bill

- (Mr. Courtney, Mr. Herbert Gladstone)
- a. Order read 1st Mar 15 [Bill 192]
- Res. 2nd April 6
- Com. Not discharged : Bill referred to a Select Committee of Five Members, Three to be nominated by the House, and Two by the Committee of Selection April 19
- A
- Mr.
- Mr.
- Rep.
- Bill

Cruelty to Animals Acts Amendment Bill

(*Mr. Anderson, Sir Frederick Milbank, Mr. Samuel Morley, Mr. Jacob Bright, Mr. Passmore Edwards, Mr. Buchanan*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 13]
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"
Mar 7, [276] 1648

Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "although the Legislature is willing and anxious to give further assistance in the suppression of Cruelty to Animals, this House cannot approve of a Bill which threatens seriously to interfere with recognised and legitimate sport" (*Sir Herbert Maxwell*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after long debate, Question put; A. 195, N. 40; M. 155 (D. L. 19)

Main Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 2^o Committee^o; Report Mar 13 [Bill 118]

Order for Committee (on re-comm.) read; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" Aug 4, [282] 1595

Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "this House will, upon this day three months, resolve itself into the said Committee" (*Mr. Tottenham*); Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after short debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Warton*); Question put, and negatived

Question put, "That the words, &c.;" A. 56, N. 3; M. 53 (D. L. 262)

Main Question put, and agreed to; Committee —R.F.

Committee; Report Aug 7, 1860

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3^o"

Amendt. to leave out "now," insert "upon Thursday" (*Mr. Warton*) v.; Question, "That 'now,' &c.," put, and agreed to

Main Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 3^o

l. Read 1^o (Lord Balfour) Aug 9 (No. 182)

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" Aug 17, [283] 931

Amendt. to leave out ("now,") add ("this day three months") (*The Earl of Redesdale*); after short debate, on Question, That ("now,") &c.? Cont. 17, Not-Cont. 30; M. 13; resolved in the negative

Div. L. Cont. and Not-Cont. 940

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—Prosecutions for Pigeon-Shooting

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Question, Mr. Marum; Answer, Mr. Courtney June 25, [280] 1422

Customs and Inland Revenue Bill

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Duty on Tramways, Question, Mr. W. M. Torrens; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer June 14, [280] 555

Local Collectors of Income Tax, Questions, Sir R. Assheton Cross, Mr. J. G. Hubbard, Mr. Ritchie, Mr. Hicks; Answers, The Chancellor of the Exchequer May 7, [279] 48

Customs and Inland Revenue Bill

(*Sir Arthur Otway, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Courtney*)

c. Read 1^o April 11 [Bill 140]

Question, Mr. Macfarlane; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer April 23, 914

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"

April 23, 988; Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (*Mr. Hicks*); after short debate, Question put; A. 81, N. 102; M. 21 (D. L. 69)

Question again proposed, "That the Bill be now read 2^o;" Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Chaplin*); after short debate, Question put, and agreed to; Debate adjourned

Debate resumed April 26, 1223

Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "in view of the growing injury inflicted upon our industries by Foreign Tariffs, and the consequent importance of more rapidly developing the resources of India and the Colonies, it is expedient to free ourselves as early as possible from the restraints of Commercial Treaties to abolish the Duties upon tea, coffee, cocoa, and dried fruits imported from British possessions; to levy specific Duties (in no case equal to more than 10 per cent upon ordinary average values) upon the like articles, as well as upon wheat, flour, and sugar imported from Foreign Countries; and also to impose an Import Duty upon Foreign manufactures, with the notification that it shall cease to operate, as against each Nation, from the day on which such Nation should admit British manufactures Duty free" (*Mr. Ecroyd*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put, and agreed to

Customs and Inland Revenue Bill—cont.

Main Question, "That the Bill be now read 2^d," put, and agreed to
 Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr. Deputy Speaker do now leave the 278] Chair" April 27, 1880
 Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "this House earnestly commends to Her Majesty's Government the provision of a general Valuation Bill (in extension of 'The Metropolis Valuation Act, 1869'), and the adjustment of the Income Tax, so as to bring Local and Imperial Taxes under the same principle of assessment, a more effective administration, and under a simpler and more acceptable system of collection" (*Mr. J. G. Hubbard*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after short debate, Amendt. withdrawn
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 Original Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 3^d
 l. Read 1st • (*Earl Granville*) May 24
 Read 2^d •; Committee negatived May 25
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- Leave given to present another Bill instead thereof

Detention in Hospitals (No. 2) Bill

(*The Marquess of Hartington, Secretary Sir William Harcourt, Sir Arthur Hayter*)

- c. Presented; read 1st * July 5 [Bill 259]
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- Considered; read 3^o, after short debate Aug
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- l.* Read 1^o * (*Lord Carrington*) Aug 9 (No. 1)
- Read 2^o * Aug 13, [283] 245
- Committee *; Report Aug 14
- Read 3^o * Aug 16
- Royal Assent Aug 20 [46 & 47 *Fict c.* 3]

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- (*Sir Henry Holland, Mr. Heneage, Sir William Barttelot, Mr. Cropper, Sir Joseph Pease*)
- c.* Ordered; read 1^o * Feb 16 [Bill 4]
- Read 2^o, after short debate Mar 12, [277] 5
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Education Act, 1870—The School Rate

Amendt. on Committee of Supply July 27, To leave out from "That," add "the unforeseen and growing amount of the school rate; its unequal pressure upon various districts and various classes of the community; its failure in some cases to meet the requirements of the most necessitous classes; and the circumstance that it involves expenditure not originally anticipated, call for the serious consideration of Her Majesty's Government with a view to the relief of the burdens of the ratepayers, while maintaining, in accordance with the original intention of 'The Education Act, 1870,' the efficiency of elementary education" (*Mr. Salt*) v., [282] 830; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put; A. 102, N. 74; M. 28 (D. L. 238)

Education—Higher Board Schools

Moved, "That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the working of the higher schools now being established by several school boards in England" (*Lord Norton*) Mar 16, [277] 654; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Education, Minister of

Amendt. on Committee of Supply June 29, To leave out from "That," add "in the opinion of this House, it is desirable that there should be a separate Department of Education" (*Sir John Lubbock*) v., [280] 1933; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after long debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Sir Herbert Maxwell*); after further short debate, Motion withdrawn; Amendt. withdrawn

Original Question again proposed, 173

Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "a Select Committee be appointed to consider how the Ministerial responsibility, under which the Votes for Education, Science, and Art are administered, may be best secured" (*Sir Lyon Playfair*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after short debate,

[cont.]

Education, Minister of—cont.

Question proposed, "That the words 'a Select Committee be appointed to consider how the Ministerial responsibility, under which the Votes for Education, Science, and Art are administered, may be best secured,' be there added"

Amendt. at end of proposed Amendt. add "and how such other duties as would fall within the province of a Minister of Public Instruction may be best discharged" (*Mr. Illingworth*); Question proposed, "That those words be there added;" after further short debate, Question put; A. 8, N. 104; M. 96 (D. L. 156)

Question, "That the words 'a Select Committee be appointed to consider how the Ministerial responsibility, under which the Votes for Education, Science, and Art are administered, may be best secured,' be added after the word 'That' in the original Question," put, and agreed to

Main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to
Select Committee nominated Aug 9, as follows:—Mr. Childers (Chairman), Mr. James Campbell, Mr. Dawson, Viscount Emllyn, Mr. Errington, Mr. Herbert Gladstone, Mr. Herbert, Sir John Lubbock, Viscount Lynton, Mr. Samuel Morley, Mr. Pell, Sir Lyon Playfair, Mr. Raikes, Mr. J. N. Richardson, Mr. Salt

Aug 13, Mr. Jesse Collings and Mr. Solater-Booth, added

Report (P.P. 341)

Education—School Boards (England and Wales)—Religious Teaching

Moved, That there be laid before the House, "Return of the provisions, if any, made by each school board in England and Wales respecting religious teaching and religious observances by children in board schools, stating cases in which no such provision is made by the Board; and copy of the bye-laws, if any, by which such provisions are enacted and regulated" (*Lord Colchester*) July 5, [281] 420; Motion agreed to

Education, Science and Art

The National Gallery—Insufficiency of Space, Question, Mr. Coope; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre Feb 22, [276] 577

The Royal Commission on Technical Education—The Report, Question, Mr. Lea; Answer, Sir William Harcourt Feb 23, [276] 711

Education, Science and Art (Administration of the Votes)—[See title Education, Minister of]

Education (Scotland) Acts—The Compulsory Clauses

Questions, Mr. J. A. Campbell, Mr. Preston Bruce; Answers, Mr. Mundella Feb 22, [276] 585

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Education (Scotland) Bill

(*Mr. Mundella, The Lord Advocate, Mr. Solicitor General for Scotland*)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o June 13 [Bill 226]
Unauthorized Publication, Questions, Mr. J. A. Campbell, Sir Herbert Maxwell; Answers, Mr. Mundella June 18, [280] 791;
 Question, Mr. Dick-Peddie; Answer, Mr. Mundella Aug 6, [282] 1658
 Read 2^o, after debate Aug 6, 1871
 Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" Aug 10, [283] 138
 Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (*Colonel Alexander*); after short debate, Motion withdrawn
 Original Question again proposed; after short debate, original Question put, and agreed to; Committee—R.P.
 Committee; Report Aug 13, 416
 Considered; read 3^o Aug 14
 l. Read 1^o (*The Lord President*) Aug 18
 Read 2^o, after debate Aug 20, 1310 (No. 199)
 Committee; Report Aug 21
 Read 3^o Aug 22
 Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 56]

Education (Scotland) Act (1872) Amendment Bill

(*Dr. Cameron, Mr. Buchanan, Mr. Henderson*)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o Aug 1 [Bill 276]
 2R. [Dropped]

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- Egypt—Re-organization—Cadastral Survey, [276] 1725
 India—"The Spoliation of India" (*The "Nineteenth Century,"*) [282] 926
 Ireland—English Policy—"Echo" Newspaper, [276] 841
 Magistracy (England and Wales)—Newspaper Proprietors, [278] 1153

EGERTON, Hon. A. F., Wigan

- Africa (South)—Zululand—Reported Fighting, [278] 1057
 Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. 4, [281] 1967; cl. 5, [282] 93
 Army Estimates—Yeomanry Cavalry Pay and Allowances, [279] 866
 Colonial Defences—Report of the Royal Commission, [277] 1639
 East India (Expenditure), Res. [279] 313
 Egypt—Cholera—Introduction from India, [282] 782
 Mercantile Marine—Harbour Accommodation on the East Coast, Motion for a Select Committee, [277] 398
 Navy Estimates—Coastguard Service and Royal Naval Reserves, &c. [281] 1588
 Military Pensions and Allowances, [280] 1805
 Naval Stores for Building and Repairing the Fleet, &c. [281] 1647
 Scientific Departments, [281] 1591, 1599
 Sea and Coastguard Services, &c. [277] 634
 Seamen and Marines, [281] 1572
 Supplementary Estimates, 1882-3—Military Operations in Egypt, [276] 1460

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- Victuals and Clothing for Seamen at Marines, [279] 143
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 Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Amendment 2R. [278] 937
 Supply—Egyptian Expedition (Grant in Aid 1882-3, [276] 1347
 Report, [281] 2036

EGERTON, Hon. Alan de Tatton, Cheshire

- Mid*
 Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. [281] 2001
 Army—Rifle Ranges at Wormwood Scrubb [279] 1317
 Army (Auxiliary Forces)—Aldershot, [277] 744
 Cemeteries, 2R. [278] 1110
 Contagious Diseases Act, Res. [278] 853
 Local Option, Res. [278] 1372
 Metropolis—Water Supply—Southwark Water Company, [282] 1471
 Municipal Corporations (Unreformed), Consol. Schedule 2, Amendment. [279] 148
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 Parliamentary Registration (Ireland), Comm. cl. 6, Amendment. [283] 500
 Theatres Regulation, 2R. [279] 339

EGERTON, Admiral Hon. F., Derbyshire

- E.*
 Army (Auxiliary Forces)—Use by the Volunteers of the Butts at Wormwood Scrubb [279] 784
 Navy Pensions, [278] 425
 Navy—Royal Marines, Res. [277] 590
 North Metropolitan Tramways, 2R. [277] 354

EGERTON of TATTON, Lord

- Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. Amendment. [283] 25; cl. 5, 27; cl. 40, Amendment. 44

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- Question, The Marquess of Salisbury: Answer, The Earl of Morley July 24, [282] 27
Cholera among the British Troops, Question Lord Ellenborough; Answer, The Earl of Morley July 27, [282] 689
Quarantine Regulations, &c., Question, Earl de la Warr; Answer, Lord Carrington July 30, [282] 893

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Despatch, Question, Lord Lawrence: Answer, Earl Granville Mar 2, [276] 1251

Expeditionary Force—Field Allowances, Question, Observations, Viscount Enfield; Reply The Earl of Kimberley May 4, [278] 1836

[cont.]

[cont.]

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The Manchester Regiment and the Seaforth Highlanders—Field Allowance, Question, Viscount Enfield; Answer, The Earl of Kimberley June 14, [280] 515

Law and Justice—Trial of Suliman Sami—The Telegram, Question, Earl De La Warr; Answer, Earl Granville June 11, [280] 143

Slave Trade in Upper Egypt, Question, Observations, The Earl of Fife; Reply, Earl Granville July 17, [281] 1675

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Questions, Sir George Campbell, Mr. T. P. O'Connor; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice April 5, [277] 1489

Sale of the Egyptian Domain Lands, Question, Sir George Campbell; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Feb 19, [276] 302; Question, Mr. O'Donnell; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Feb 22, 500

The Daira Lands, Question, Mr. Molloy; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice May 29, [279] 1102

Revenue Accounts of the Egyptian Government, Questions, Mr. Molloy, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Mar 5, [276] 1432

New Egyptian Indemnity Loan, Questions, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Mar 6, [276] 1607; Mar 8, 1754

New Loans, Questions, Mr. Labouchere, Mr. Buxton, Sir Wilfrid Lawson, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice, Mr. Gladstone Mar 20, [277] 929; Question, Mr. Labouchere; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice April 5, 1479; Question, Sir George Campbell; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice April 9, 1826

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Arabi Pasha—Conditions of Detention at Ceylon, Questions, Mr. Labouchere, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Feb 19, 305; Question, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley Feb 23, 706; Question, Mr. Labouchere; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Mar 1, 1153; Questions, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Mr. Labouchere; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Mar 8, 1737; Question, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice April 6, 1640;—*His Parole*, Question, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice April 5, 1601

Egypt—Law and Justice—COMMONS—cont.

The Egyptian Exiles in Ceylon, Question, Mr. Labouchere; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley June 4, [279] 1633; Questions, Mr. Labouchere, Mr. E. Stanhope, Sir Henry Holland; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice June 11, [280] 197; Question, Sir Henry Holland; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice June 14, 533;—*Personal Maintenance*, Question, Mr. Labouchere; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 2, [281] 39

Hassan Bey Sadyk, Question, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice May 28, [279] 950

Omar Pasha Lufti, Question, Mr. Labouchere; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Feb 22, [276] 590; Question, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice June 29, [280] 1887; Question, Mr. Gorst; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 2, [281] 46

Treatment of Prisoners, Question, Mr. Bourke; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice April 5, [277] 1477; Question, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Aug 7, [282] 1844

Political Trials

Trial of Said Bey Khandeel—Complicity of the Khedive and Arabi Pasha, Question, Mr. Labouchere; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice June 29, [280] 1873; Questions, Mr. Labouchere, Sir Wilfrid Lawson, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 2, [281] 47; Questions, Mr. Gorst; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 12, 1223; July 13, 1365

Trial of Suleiman Sami, Questions, Lord Randolph Churchill, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Mr. Joseph Cowen, Mr. Waddy; Answers, Mr. Gladstone June 8, 35; Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote, Lord Randolph Churchill, Mr. O'Kelly, Mr. Edward Clarke, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Sir R. Assheton Cross; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice, Mr. Gladstone; Question, Mr. Henly; [no reply], 81; Observations, Sir Stafford Northcote; Reply, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice; debate thereon, 109; Questions, Lord Randolph Churchill, Sir Stafford Northcote, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Mr. McCoan, Mr. Bourke; Answers, Mr. Gladstone, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice June 11, 229; Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (*Sir Stafford Northcote*); after long debate, Question put, and negatived; Questions, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice June 18, 793; June 28, 1692; Question, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 5, [281] 471

Trials of Said Bey Khandeel and Suleiman Sami, Questions, Mr. Gorst, Sir Wilfrid Lawson, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Baron Henry De Worms; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice, Mr. Gladstone June 12, [280] 352;—*Procedure*, Question, Sir George Campbell; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 5, [281] 468

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The Army Medical Department, Questions, Dr. Cameron, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answers, The Marquess of Hartington June 8, [280] 27

The Army Hospital Corps—Deficiency in Men and Supplies, Question, Sir Trevor Lawrence; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington June 11, [280] 218

Field Allowance, Question, Sir William Hart Dyke; Answer, Mr. J. K. Cross April 26, [278] 1152

Military Expedition

Army Hospital Services Inquiry Committee, Question, Mr. Heneage; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington June 14, [280] 541;—*Appendix No. 33*, Question, Mr. Guy Dawnay; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington June 25, [280] 1410

Army Medical Commission—Supplies for the Army in Egypt, Question, Dr. Cameron; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington May 29, [279] 1095

Army Medical Department—Medals for Nursing Sisters, Question, Dr. Farquharson; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington Mar 12, [277] 213; Question, Mr. Greer; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington April 5, 1483

Army Pay Department—Reward for Services, Question, Mr. Whitley; Answer, Sir Arthur Hayter April 12, [278] 68

Charges of Expedition—Distribution of Expenses, &c.—The Indian Contribution, Observations, Mr. Onslow; Reply, The Marquess of Hartington Feb 19, [276] 390; Questions, Mr. R. N. Fowler, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answers, The Marquess of Hartington, Mr. Brand Feb 20, 409

Commissariat Supplies (Hay), Question, Dr. Cameron; Answer, Mr. Brand June 28, [280] 1694;—*Supply of Flour for the Troops*, Questions, Dr. Cameron, Sir Henry Tyler; Answers, Mr. Brand June 7, [279] 1901

Compensation for Breaking Contracts—Muleteers, Question, Dr. Cameron; Answer, Sir Arthur Hayter May 29, [279] 1096

Glanders, Question, Dr. Cameron; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington Mar 13, [277] 360

Graves of Soldiers and Sailors, Question, Sir Henry Wilmot; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington Mar 1, [276] 1157

Military Hospitals in Cyprus, Questions, Dr. Cameron, Lord Randolph Churchill, Mr. Gorst, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answers, Sir Arthur Hayter June 7, [279] 1927

Murder of Professor Palmer and Party, Questions, Mr. O'Donnell; Answers, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman Feb 16, [276] 172; Mar 5, 1427; Questions, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Mr. O'Kelly; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Aug 16, [283] 718

Purchase of a Building at Port Said, Questions, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answers, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman Mar 8, [276] 1753

Purchase of Camels, Question, Dr. Cameron; Answer, Mr. Brand Mar 16, [277] 697

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Purchase of Mules, Question, Dr. Cameron; Answer, Mr. Brand Mar 30, [277] 11

Questions, Dr. Cameron; Answers, Arthur Hayter April 16, [278] 298

Supply of Mules for the Indian Contingent, Question, Mr. Salt; Answer, Mr. J. Cross Aug 7, [282] 1844

Purchase of Saddlery—Major Carré, Question, Dr. Cameron; Answer, Mr. Brand May [279] 1325

The Veterinary Report, Question, Dr. Cameron; Answer, Sir Arthur Hayter May [279] 886

Vote of Thanks to Her Majesty's Naval & Military Forces, Letter received by the L. Chancellor from Sir Beauchamp Seymour now Lord Alcester Feb 16, [276] 164

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Payment of Indian Troops in Egypt, Note of Question, Mr. Onslow; Observations, The Marquess of Hartington, Mr. Onslow Mar 2, [276] 1253

Army of Occupation

Cholera among the British Troops, Question, Viscount Folkestone; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington July 26, [282] 5. Question, Dr. Farquharson; Answer, Arthur Hayter Aug 2, 1446

Health of the Troops, Question, Lord Eust Cecil; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington July 31, 1156; Questions, Viscount Folkestone, Mr. O'Kelly; Answers, Arthur Hayter Aug 1, 1294; Question, Lyon Playfair; Answer, Sir Arthur Hayter Aug 3, 1535; Question, Sir Walter Bartlett; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington Aug 6, 1658; Question, Viscount Folkestone; Answer, Sir Arthur Hayter Aug 8, 2032

Precautionary Measures against Cholera, Question, Viscount Folkestone; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington June 23, [280] 1

Families of Soldiers, Question, Sir George Campbell; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington Aug 9, [282] 2098

Presbyterian Chaplains, Question, Mr. Chanan; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington Aug 7, [282] 1849

The Debate on Thursday, August 9, on Occupation of Egypt, Explanation, Charles W. Dilke Aug 10, [283] 72

Withdrawal of Army of Occupation, Question, Baron Henry De Worms, Mr. Ritchie; Answers, Mr. Gladstone Aug 2, [282] 1340

Re-organization

Questions, Mr. Molloy, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice May [278] 1571

[cont.]

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Appointment of Mr. Clifford Lloyd, Question, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Aug 2, 1350; Questions, Mr. Biggar, Mr. Healy, Mr. Joseph Cowen, Sir George Campbell; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan Aug 3, 1480; Questions, Sir Wilfrid Lawson, Mr. Healy, Mr. Joseph Cowen; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Aug 6, 1632; Question, Mr. Healy; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Aug 9, 2116

Correspondence with Foreign Powers—Further Papers, Questions, Mr. Bourke, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Aug 7, [282] 1843

The Earl of Dufferin's Despatch, Questions, Mr. Bourke, Mr. A. J. Balfour, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Mr. Gorst, Mr. Labouchere; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Mar 1, [276] 1167; Question, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Mar 9, 1910

Irrigation Works, Questions, Mr. Carbutt; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice April 23, [278] 891; June 7, [279] 1909

Proposed Reforms, Question, Sir William Hart Dyke; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Mar 13, 376; Questions, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Mr. Bourke; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice April 2, 1164; Question, Mr. Bourke; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice April 5, 1478; Question, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answer, Mr. Gladstone, 1504; Question, Sir George Campbell; Answer, Mr. Gladstone April 9, 1837; Questions, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice, Mr. Gladstone May 8, 232

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Mr. Sheldon Amos, Questions, Mr. Molloy; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice April 23, [278] 900; April 26, 1145; May 7, [279] 50; May 8, 230

Reform of Criminal Procedure, Questions, Mr. Gorst, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice May 28, [279] 950; Question, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice May 31, 1331

Representative Government, Question, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Feb 22, [276] 679

Sir Auckland Colvin, Question, Captain Aylmer; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Mar 19, [277] 780

Taxation of Foreigners, Question, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Aug 9, [282] 2106

The Budget and Control, Question, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice; Question, Mr. O'Donnell; [no reply] Mar 6, [276] 1423

The Cadastrol Survey, Question, Mr. Passmore Edwards; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Mar 8, [276] 1725

Army Re-organisation

British Officers, Question, Mr. McCoan; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Mar 12, [277] 208

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Case of Colonel Dulier, Questions, Mr. Arthur O'Connor, Mr. A. Elliot; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Mar 19, [277] 778

The Cholera

Question, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answer, 281] Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 2, 87; Question, Mr. Gourley; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 3, 180; Questions, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Sir Walter B. Barttelot; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 6, 611; Questions, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Mr. Onslow, Mr. O'Donnell; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 9, 788; Question, Viscount Folkestone; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 12, 1233; Ministerial Statement, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 13, 1383; Question, Lord Eustace Cecil; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 16, 1522; Question, Lord Eustace Cecil; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice, The Marquess of Hartington July 19, 1914; Questions, Mr. Onslow, Lord Henry Lennox Viscount Folkestone; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 20, 282] 41; Questions, Mr. Onslow, Lord Eustace Cecil; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 23, 161; Question, Sir Walter B. Barttelot; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 24, 306; Question, Viscount Folkestone; Answer, Sir Arthur Hayter July 25, 502; Questions, Mr. Guy Dawnay, Lord Eustace Cecil, Mr. Healy; Answers, The Marquess of Hartington July 26, 529; Question, Mr. Macfarlane; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 30, 946; Questions, Sir Walter B. Barttelot, Mr. J. Lowther; Answers, The Marquess of Hartington, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 30, 961; Question, Mr. O'Donnell; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 31, 1141; Question, Sir Walter B. Barttelot; Answer, 283] Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Aug 13, 283; Questions, Mr. D. Grant; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Aug 16, 747; Aug 23, 1725

Hospital Ships, Questions, Mr. Gourley, Baron Henry De Worms; Answers, The Marquess of Hartington, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman Aug 6, [282] 1629

Medical Officers, Question, Dr. Lyons; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 30, [282] 958

International Sanitary Board—Quarantine, Question, Baron Henry De Worms; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice May 28, [279] 956; Question, Mr. Pugh; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice June 18, [280] 777

Reported Cholera at Damietta, Questions, Mr. Cartwright, Mr. J. Lowther; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice June 28, [280] 1706

Supposed Introduction from India, Questions, Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Macfarlane, Mr. A. F. Egerton, Mr. Villiers Stuart, Sir Walter B. Barttelot; Answers, Mr. J. K. Cross, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice, The Marquess of Hartington July 27, [282] 781

The Evictions at Boulak, Questions, Sir Walter B. Barttelot, Mr. Gorst, Viscount Folkestone, Mr. O'Donnell; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 26, [282] 541

Miscellaneous

The Massacres at Alexandria, Questions, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice *May* 22. [279] 701;—*Alleged Complicity of the Khediv*, Question, Mr. McCoan; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *July* 2, [281] 60; Questions, Sir George Campbell, Mr. O'Donnell; Answers, Mr. Gladstone *July* 27. [282] 788

[See titles—*Suez Canal*
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*Egypt (Military Expedition)—Mission of
the Late Professor Palmer*

Moved, "That there be laid before this House papers and correspondence respecting Professor Palmer's Expedition" (*The Los Angeles Times*, Mar 16, 1872; after short debate on Question? resolved in the negative

Egypt (Military Operations)

Amend. on Committee of Supply *Mar 2, 1890*.
leave out from "That," add "this House
regrets that it should be called on to place
increased burdens upon the people, in conse-
quence of the late Military operations in
Egypt" (*Sir Wilfrid Lawson*) v. [276] 1300
Question proposed, "That the words, &c.:
after debate, Question put; A. 94, N. 24
M. 70 (D. L. 15)

ELCHO, Lord, *Haddingtonshire*
Fisheries—Trawlers, [278] 1421
Fishery Reports, [279] 699

ELCHO, Lord—cont.

Ireland—Poor Law—Bantry—Election of Guardians, [278] 418
Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Amendment, 2R. [278] 965

Elective Councils (Ireland) Bill

(Mr. Barry, Mr. Healy, Mr. Justin M'Carthy, Mr. T. P. O'Connor, Mr. Sexton)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 16]
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"
April 11, [278] 3
Amendt. to leave out "now," add "upon this day six months" (*Colonel King-Harman*);
Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;"
after debate, Question put; A. 58, N. 231;
M. 173 (D. L. 55)
Words added; main Question, as amended,
put, and agreed to; 2R. put off

Electric Lighting Provisional Orders Bills

- c. Ordered, That the Electric Lighting Provisional Orders Bill, the Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 4) Bill, and the Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 5) Bill, be committed to a Select Committee to consist of Seven Members, Four to be nominated by the House, and Three to be added by the Committee of Selection July 5, [281] 446
Moved, "That, subject to the Rules, Orders, and Practice of the House, all Petitions against the Bills, or Orders, be referred to the Select Committee on the Bills, and that such of the Petitioners as pray to be heard by themselves, their Counsel, or Agents, be heard upon their Petition, if they think fit, and Counsel heard in favour of the Bills, against such Petitions" (*Mr. Chamberlain*)
Amendt. to leave out "subject to the Rules, Orders, and Practice of the House" (*Sir Hussey Vivian*); Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put, and negatived
Main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to
Ordered, That Three be the quorum of the Committee
Ordered, That the Report and Minutes of Evidence of the Select Committee on "The Electric Lighting Bill, 1882," be referred to the Committee
And, on July 10, Committee nominated as follows:—Sir Arthur Bass, Mr. Holms, Mr. Selater-Booth
July 11, Mr. Whitley added

Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 1) (Cambridge, &c.) Bill

(Mr. John Holms, Mr. Chamberlain)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o June 7 [Bill 216]
2R., after short debate, Debate adjourned June 26, [280] 1549
Read 2^o June 27
Considered June 24
Read 3^o, after short debate July 25, [282] 423
l. Read 1^o (*Lord Thurlow*) July 27 (No. 157)
Order for 2R. read Aug 3, 1443
Moved, "That the Order made on the 2nd day of March last 'That no Bill brought from

[cont.]

Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 1) (Cambridge, &c.) Bill—cont.

- the House of Commons confirming any Provisional Order or Provisional Certificate shall be read a second time after Tuesday the 26th day of June next,' be dispensed with, and that the Bill be now read 2^a" (*The Earl of Redesdale*); after short debate, Motion agreed to; Bill read 2^a, and committed: The Committee to be proposed by the Committee of Selection
Committee June 16
Report June 17
Read 3^o Aug 20
Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. ccxiii]

Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (Nos. 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 2, 9) Bills

- c. Lords Amendments. considered and agreed to Aug 22, [283] 1644

Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 2) (Ashton, &c.) Bill

(Mr. John Holms, Mr. Chamberlain)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o June 7 [Bill 217]
2R., Debate adjourned June 26, [280] 1549
Read 2^o June 27
Report July 13
Considered July 16
Read 3^o July 17
l. Read 1^o (*Lord Thurlow*) July 19 (No. 151)
Order for 2R. read Aug 3, [282] 1455
Moved, "That the Order made on the 2nd day of March last 'That no Bill brought from the House of Commons confirming any Provisional Order or Provisional Certificate shall be read a second time after Tuesday the 26th day of June next,' be dispensed with, and that the Bill be now read 2^a" (*The Earl of Redesdale*); Motion agreed to; Bill read 2^a
Moved, "That the Bill be referred to the same Select Committee as the Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 1) Bill, with leave to all petitioners to be heard" (*The Viscount Bury*); after short debate, on Question! Cont. 20, Not-Cont. 25; M. 5; resolved in the negative

Div. List, Cont. and Not-Cont., 1457

- Committee June 9
Report Aug 13
Read 3^o Aug 16
Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. ccxiv]

Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 3) (Halsall Heath, &c.) Bill

(Mr. John Holms, Mr. Chamberlain)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o June 7 [Bill 218]
Read 2^o June 27
Report July 13
Considered July 16
Read 3^o July 17
l. Read 1^o (*Lord Thurlow*) July 19 (No. 152)
Read 2^a Aug 3
Committee Aug 9
Report Aug 13
Read 3^a Aug 16
Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. ccxv]

Electric Lighting Provisional Orders

(No. 4) (Barton, &c.) Bill

(Mr. John Holms, Mr. Chamberlain)

- c. Ordered : read 1st June 12 [Bill 223]
 Read 2nd July 2
 Considered July 24
 Read 3rd July 25
 l. Read 1st (Lord Thurlow) July 27 (No. 158)
 Read 2nd Aug 3
 Committee Aug 9
 Report Aug 13
 Read 3rd Aug 16
 Royal Assent Aug 23 [46 & 47 Vict. c. cxxvi]

Electric Lighting Provisional Orders

(No. 5) (Bermondsey, &c.) Bill

(Mr. John Holms, Mr. Chamberlain)

- c. Ordered : read 1st June 12 [Bill 224]
 Read 2nd, after short debate July 4, [281] 815
 Considered Aug 1, [282] 1219
 Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3rd"
 Aug 2, 1302
 After short debate, Amendt. to leave out "now
 read 3rd," add "re-committed" (Mr. Hicks)
 v. ; Question proposed, "That the words,
 &c.," after further short debate, Amendt.
 withdrawn
 Main Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 2nd
 l. Read 1st (Lord Thurlow) Aug 2 (No. 173)
 Moved, "That the order made on the 2nd day
 of March last 'That no Bill brought from
 the House of Commons confirming any Pro-
 visional Order or Provisional Certificate
 shall be read a second time after Tuesday
 the 26th day of June next,' be dispensed
 with, and that the Bill be now read 3rd"
 (The Lord Thurlow) Aug 9, 2033; after
 short debate, Motion agreed to; Bill read
 2nd, and committed: The Committee to be
 proposed by the Committee of Selection
 Committee Aug 16
 Report Aug 17
 Read 3rd Aug 20
 Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. cxxvii]

Electric Lighting Provisional Orders

(No. 6) (Limehouse, &c.) Bill

(Mr. John Holms, Mr. Chamberlain)

- c. Ordered : read 1st June 14 [Bill 227]
 Read 2nd July 10, [281] 950
 Ordered, That the Electric Lighting Pro-
 visional Orders (No. 6) Bill be referred to the
 same Committee to which Electric Lighting
 Provisional Orders Bills Nos. 1, 4, and 5,
 are referred July 12
 Ordered, "That all Petitions against the Bill,
 or Orders, be referred to the said Commit-
 tee; and that such of the Petitioners as pray
 to be heard by themselves, their Counsel, or
 Agents, be heard upon their Petition, if they
 think fit, and Counsel heard in favour of the
 Bill against such Petitions" (Sir George
 Campbell)
 Considered July 24
 Read 3rd July 25
 l. Read 1st (Lord Thurlow) July 27 (No. 160)
 Read 2nd Aug 3
 Committee Aug 16
 Report Aug 17
 Read 3rd Aug 20
 Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. cxxviii]

Electric Lighting Provisional Orders

(No. 7) (Barnes, &c.) Bill

(Mr. John Holms, Mr. Chamberlain)

- c. Ordered : read 1st June 15 [Bill 229]
 Read 2nd July 10, [281] 954
 Report July 24
 Considered, after short debate July 25, [282]
 424
 Read 3rd July 26
 l. Read 1st (Lord Thurlow) July 27 (No. 160)
 Read 2nd Aug 3
 Committee Aug 16
 Report Aug 17
 Read 3rd Aug 20
 Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. cxxix]

Electric Lighting Provisional Orders

(No. 8) (Bradford, &c.) Bill

(Mr. John Holms, Mr. Chamberlain)

- c. Order d; read 1st June 18 [Bill 230]
 Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3rd"
 July 12, [281] 1103
 Amendt. to leave out "now," add "upon this
 day three months" (Mr. Warton); Question
 proposed, "That, 'now,' &c.," after debate,
 Question put; A. 212, N. 91; M. 171 (D.
 L. 10)
 Main Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 3rd
 Moved, "That the Bill be committed to the
 same Committee to which Electric Lighting
 Provisional Orders Bills (Nos. 1, 4, and 5)
 are to be referred :
 "That all Petitions against the Bills, or
 Orders, be referred to the said Committee;
 and that such of the Petitioners as pray to
 be heard by themselves, their Counsel, or
 Agents, be heard upon their Petition, if they
 think fit, and Counsel heard in favour of the
 Bill against such Petitions" (Lord Alington
 Percy); Motion agreed to

Considered, after debate Aug 1, [282] 1210

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3rd"
 Aug 2, 1303

Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "the
 Bill be re-committed in reference to the
 said District Provisional Order" (Mr.
 Stan) v. ; Question proposed, "That
 words, &c.," after short debate, Ques-
 put, and agreed to

Main Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 3rd

l. Read 1st (Lord Thurlow) Aug 2 (No. 174)

Moved, "That the order made on the 2nd day
 of March last 'That no Bill brought from
 the House of Commons confirming any Pro-
 visional Order or Provisional Certificate
 shall be read a second time after Tuesday
 the 26th day of June next,' be dispensed
 with, and that the Bill be now read 3rd"
 (The Lord Thurlow) Aug 2, 2033; after
 short debate

3rd,
 pro
 Com
 p

**Electric Lighting Provisional Orders
(No. 9) (Bristol, &c.) Bill***(Mr. John Holms, Mr. Chamberlain)*

- c. Ordered; read 1^o June 19 [Bill 238]
 Read 2^o July 12
 Report July 24
 Considered July 25
 Read 3^o July 26
- l. Read 1^o (Lord Thurlow) July 27 (No. 161)
 Read 2^o Aug 3
 Committee Aug 9
 Report Aug 13
 Read 3^o Aug 16
 Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. cexxi]

**Electric Lighting Provisional Orders
(No. 10) (Chiswick, &c.) Bill***(Mr. John Holms, Mr. Chamberlain)*

- c. Ordered; read 1^o June 29 [Bill 249]
 Read 2^o July 13
 Report July 24
 Considered July 25
 Read 3^o July 26
- l. Read 1^o (Lord Thurlow) July 27 (No. 162)
 Read 2^o Aug 3
 Committee Aug 9
 Report Aug 13
 Read 3^o Aug 16
 Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. cexxii]

**Electric Lighting Provisional Orders
(No. 11) (Dundee) Bill***(Mr. John Holms, Mr. Chamberlain)*

- c. Ordered; read 1^o June 29 [Bill 250]
 Read 2^o July 13
 Report July 24
 Read 3^o July 25
- l. Read 1^o (Lord Thurlow) July 27 (No. 163)
 Read 2^o Aug 3
 Committee Aug 9
 Report Aug 13
 Read 3^o Aug 16
 Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. cexxiii]

**Elementary Education Provisional Orders
Confirmation (Cummersdale, &c.) Bill***[H.L.] (The Lord President)*

- l. Presented; read 1^o, and referred to the Examiners April 6 (No. 23)
 Read 2^o April 16
 Committee; Report April 24
 Read 3^o April 26
- c. Read 1^o May 2 [Bill 163]
 Read 2^o May 8
 Report June 13
 Read 3^o June 14
- l. Royal Assent June 18 [46 Vict. c. xliii]

**Elementary Education Provisional Order
Confirmation (London) Bill [H.L.]***(The Lord President)*

- l. Presented; read 1^o, and referred to the Examiners April 12 (No. 31)
 Read 2^o April 24
 Committee June 5
 Report June 7
 Read 3^o June 8

Elementary Education Provisional Order Confirmation (London) Bill—cont.

- c. Read 1^o June 18 [Bill 236]
 Read 2^o June 26
 Report July 17
 Read 3^o July 18
- l. Royal Assent Aug 2 [46 & 47 Vict. c. cxxxii]

ELLENBOROUGH, Lord

Agricultural Holdings (England), 2R. [282]
 1835; 3R. [283] 691; Commons Reasons
 Consid. 1628, 1633

Army—Questions

Corporal Punishment—Explanation, [280]
 756

Health of the Troops in Egypt, [282] 894
 Recruiting for the Army and Militia, [280]
 333

Army Medical Department—Hospital Services, Res. [282] 15

Criminal Law Amendment, Comm. cl. 5, [280]
 1387; Motion that the Bill do pass, cl. 9,
 [281] 410

Egypt—Cholera amongst the British Troops,
 [282] 689

Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 2),
 2R. [282] 1456

Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister,
 Report, cl. 1, [280] 1404

Metropolitan Improvements—Statue of the
 Duke of Wellington, [283] 1716

Naval Discipline and Enlistment Acts Amendment,
 Comm. cl. 2, [279] 1462

Parliament—Business of the House—Agricultural Holdings (England), [282] 1447

Sunday Opening of National Museums and
 Galleries, Res. [279] 191

ELLIOT, Hon. A. R. D., Roxburgh

Agricultural Holdings (Scotland), Comm. cl. 2,
 [282] 453, 455; cl. 5, Amendt. 488, 492,
 494, 495, 498, 499; cl. 6, 822, 823, 826

Criminal Code (Indictable Offences Procedure),
 2R. [278] 102, 103

Egypt—Colonel Dulier, Case of, [277] 779

High Court of Justice (Service of Writs), 2R.
 [280] 473

Law and Justice (England and Wales)—
 Summer Circuits, [280] 781

Local Government Board (Scotland), [280]
 1874; [283] 602, 607; cl. 2, 646

Parliament—Business of the House, [279] 777

Ministerial Arrangements—Scotch Business,
 [279] 1919, 1921

Ministerial Statement, [282] 428

Parliament—Queen's Speech, Address in Answer to, [276] 648

Parliamentary Reform, Res. [277] 1133, 1142
 Suez (Second) Canal—The Provisional Agreement with M. De Lesseps, [281] 1515

ELLIOT, Sir G., Durham, N.

Metropolitan District Railway, 2R. [278] 1049

Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Durham), 2R. [279] 1228

Supply—Harbours, &c. under the Board of Trade, [279] 986

ELPHINSTONE, Lord

Navy—Appointments of First Lieutenants, [278] 272
Navy—The Naval Forces, Motion for a Select Committee, [278] 51
Representative Peers (Scotland), 1R. [276] 822; 2R. [277] 1942, 1943; Report, cl. 2, [280] 21

Emigrant and Passenger Ships

Passenger Acts—Infectious Diseases in Emigrant Ships, Question, Mr. Moore; Answer, Mr. George Russell July 9, [281] 779
Scandinavian Emigrants, Question, Mr. Moore; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain July 12, [281] 1213

Emigration (England and Wales)

Questions, Lord George Hamilton, Mr. Moore; Answers, Mr. Chamberlain May 11, [279] 527
Emigrants at Queenstown, Question, Mr. Moore; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain July 23, [282] 129
State-aided, Resolution, Mr. Rankin June 5, [279] 1809 [House counted out]

EMLY, Lord

Africa (South)—Basutoland, [280] 520
Emigration (Ireland), [282] 1105
Irish Land Commission, Motion for Returns, [282] 760, 762
Irish Reproductive Loan Fund Act (1874) Amendment, Comm. cl. 3, [282] 1610
Medical Act Amendment, Comm. cl. 9, [278] 591, 595
Parliament—Palace of Westminster—Peers' Robing Room, [282] 692

EMLYN, Viscount, Carmarthenshire

Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. 7, [282] 220
Agricultural Holdings (No. 2), 2R. Motion for Adjournment, [277] 448
Intermediate Education (Wales), [278] 1718
Local Taxation, Res. [278] 450
Parliament—Business of the House, Ministerial Statement, [279] 1109
Order—Prints of Bills, [277] 805
Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Amendment, 2R. [278] 1644
Rivers Conservancy and Floods Prevention, Bill withdrawn, [281] 821
Supply—Supplementary Estimates, 1882-3—Houses of Parliament, Amendt. [276] 1541

Employers' Liability Act (1880) Amendment Bill (Mr. Burt, Mr. Broadhurst, Mr. Dick-Peddie, Mr. O'Connor Power, Mr. Passmore Edwards, Mr. MacIver)

c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 33]
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" June 13, [280] 504
Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "it is inexpedient to interfere with that freedom of contract between Employers and Employed which enables them to contract themselves out of the Act of 1880, and by mutual

Employers' Liability Act (1880) Amendment Bill—cont.

arrangement and mutual payment to make provision for every workman who may be injured and the family of every workman who may be killed; whether the accident is one coming under the provisions of the Act of 1880, or is one not so provided for" (Sir Joseph Pease) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after short debate, Question put; A. 38, N. 149; M. 111 (D. L. 134)
Words added; main Question, as amended put, and agreed to

Endowed Schools

Endowed Schools Acts—The Charity Commissioners, Question, Mr. Buchanan; Answer Mr. Mundella April 19, [278] 603:—*Report of the Charity Commissioners*, Question, Mr. Beresford Hope; Answer, Mr. Mundella Aug 6, [282] 1617
Middle Class School at Tunbridge, Question Mr. J. G. Talbot; Answer, Mr. Mundella July 9, [281] 768
Wales—The Beaumaris Grammar School, Question, Mr. Morgan Lloyd; Answer, Mr. Mundella Aug 20, [283] 1338

Endowed Schools Commission—The Ashton Charity, Dunstable

Question, Mr. Causton; Answer, Mr. Mundella July 5, [281] 466

ENFIELD, Viscount

Egypt (Expeditionary Force)—Field Allowances, [278] 1336
Egypt (Military Expedition)—Manchester Regiment and Seaforth Highlanders—Field Allowance, [280] 515
Office of the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, Res. [281] 593
Poor Law (England)—Lady Inspectors, [278] 55

England and Scotland—Irish Agricultural Labourers

Question, Sir George Campbell; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Aug 20, [283] 1345

Ennerdale Railway Bill [Lords] (by Order)

c. Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" July 5, [281] 444
Amendt. to leave out "now," add "upon this day three months" (Mr. Ainsworth); Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" after short debate, Question put; A. 150, N. 143; M. 7 (D. L. 167)
Main Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 2^d
Instruction to the Committee, Moved, "That it be an Instruction to the Committee to inquire and report whether the proposed Railway will interfere with the enjoyment of the public, who annually visit the Lake District by injuriously affecting the scenery in that neighbourhood, or otherwise; and that they have power to receive Evidence upon the subject" (Mr. E. S. Howard) July 6, 596; Question put; A. 78, N. 42; M. 36 (D. L. 178)

Epidemic and other Diseases Prevention Bill

(Mr. Gray, Mr. Dawson,

Mr. Brooks)

- c. Ordered; read 1st Aug 1 [Bill 277]
 Read 2nd, after short debate Aug 17, [283] 1110
 Committee; Report; read 3rd Aug 20
 l. Read 1st (Lord Thurlow) Aug 21 (No. 218)
 Read 2nd Aug 22
 Committee; Report Aug 23
 Read 3rd Aug 24
 Royal Assent Aug 25 [46th & 47 Vict. c. 59]

ERRINGTON, Mr. G., Longford Co.

Ireland—Land Law Act, 1881—Loans to Irish Tenants, [278] 1156
 Italy—New Treaty of Commerce, [281] 775
 Literature, Science, and Art—The Ashburnham MSS., [281] 784
 Suez (Second) Canal—Provisional Agreement with M. de Lesseps, [282] 163
 West Indies—Windward Islands—Stipendiary Magistrates, [281] 43

EVANS, Mr. T. W., Derbyshire, S.

Army Estimates—Yeomanry Cavalry Pay and Allowances, [279] 861
 Metropolitan District Railway, 2R. [278] 1017, 1023

EWART, Mr. W., Belfast

Bankruptcy, Consol. [283] 197
 Distress (Ireland), Res. [277] 2014
 Parliament—Business of the House, Ministerial Statement, [281] 1110

EWING, Mr. A. ORR-, Dumbarton

Agricultural Holdings (Scotland), 2R. [279] 1780; Comm. cl. 4, [282] 480
 Banking Laws (Scotland), 2R. [280] 1630
 Parochial Boards (Scotland), 2R. [278] 550, 560, 561

EXETER, Marquess of

Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. 43.
 Amendt. [283] 45

EXETER, Bishop of

Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister, 3R. [280] 1680
 Pluralities Acts Amendment, 2R. [278] 1533, 1540; Comm. [279] 17

Exeter, Teign Valley, and Chagford Railway Bill (by Order)

- c. Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2nd" (Mr. Dodds) Feb 27, [276] 967; Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (Mr. J. W. Barclay); after short debate, Motion agreed to
 Debate resumed Mar 6, 1898; Debate further adjourned
 Read 2nd Mar 13, [277] 350
 Moved, "That the Bill be now considered" (Mr. Dodds) May 24, [279] 732
 Amendt. to leave out "now considered," add "re-committed to the former Committee" (Viscount Folkestone); Question proposed,

[cont.]

Exeter, Teign Valley, and Chagford Railway Bill—cont.

"That 'now considered,' &c.:" after debate, Question put; A. 69, N. 177; M. 108 (D. L. 98)

Words added; main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to; Bill re-committed to the former Committee

Expiring Laws Continuance Bill

(Mr. Herbert Gladstone, Mr. Courtney)

- c. Ordered; read 1st Aug 6 [Bill 283]
 Read 2nd Aug 9
 Committee; Report Aug 13, [283] 430
 Read 3rd Aug 15
 l. Read 1st (Lord Thurlow) Aug 16 (No. 197)
 Read 2nd Aug 20
 Committee; Report Aug 21
 Read 3rd Aug 22, 1807
 Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 40]

Explosive Substances Acts

Certificates, Question, Mr. Joseph Cowen; Answer, Sir William Harcourt May 31, [279] 1327

Destruction of the Nitro-Glycerine seized at Birmingham, Question, Baron Henry De Worms; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington July 26, [282] 544

Licences, Question, Mr. Donaldson-Hudson; Answer, Sir William Harcourt May 31, [279] 1316

The Orders in Council, April 20, 1883—Explosives, Question, Mr. Donaldson-Hudson; Answer, Sir William Harcourt May 10, [279] 407; Questions, Mr. Joseph Cowen, Sir Baldwin Leighton, Mr. Donaldson-Hudson; Answers, Sir William Harcourt May 24, 771; Question, Mr. Joseph Cowen; Answer, Sir William Harcourt June 7, 1909

Explosives Act, 1875

Section 23—Storage of Gunpowder (Ireland), Questions, Colonel King-Harman; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan April 10, [277] 1969; Question, Observations, The Earl of Limerick; Reply, The Earl of Rosebery April 24, [278] 1007; Questions, Colonel King-Harman; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan, Sir William Harcourt April 26, 1142

Section 34—Regulation as to Loading and Unloading in Harbour Towns, Question, Baron Henry De Worms; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain April 20, [278] 746

Explosive Substances Bill

(Secretary Sir William Harcourt, Mr. Attorney General, Mr. Solicitor General)

- c. Seizure of Explosives—Legislation, Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. Solator-Booth; Answers, Sir William Harcourt 277 April 5, 1505; Notice of Bill, Observations, Sir William Harcourt April 6, 1642
 Motion for Leave (Sir William Harcourt) April 9, 1841; after short debate, Motion agreed to; Bill ordered; read 1st; read 2nd; Committee; Report; read 3rd

[cont.]

Explosive Substances Bill—cont.

l. Brought from the Commons April 9, [277] 1802

Moved, "That Standing Order No. XLIX., that no motion for making or dispensing with a Standing Order be made without notice, be now read;" The same was read accordingly

Then it was moved, "That Standing Order No. XXXV., that no two stages of a Bill be taken on one day, be now read;" The same was read accordingly

Then it was moved to resolve, "That it is the opinion of this House that it is essentially necessary for the public safety that the Bill this day brought from the House of Commons, intituled 'An Act to amend the law relating to explosive substances,' should forthwith be proceeded in with all possible despatch, and that notwithstanding Standing Orders Nos. XLIX. and XXXV. the Lord Chancellor ought forthwith to put the question upon every stage of the said Bill in which this House shall think it necessary for the public safety to proceed therein" (*The Earl of Kimberley*); after short debate, on question, agreed to, and resolved accordingly; Bill read 1^a (No. 24); read 2^a; Committee; read 3^a

Royal Assent April 10 [46 Vict. c. 3]

Extradition of Criminals Act—The United States—Extradition of Mr. Sheridan

Question, Mr. Coleridge Kennard; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Aug 2, [282] 1335

Extraordinary Tiths-Rent Charge—Legislation

Questions, Mr. Inderwick; Answers, Sir William Harcourt Feb 27, [276] 1017; Question, Mr. D. Grant; Answer, Sir William Harcourt Aug 9, [282] 2089

Factories and Workshops Amendment Bill [H.L.] (*The Earl of Dalhousie*)

l. Presented; read 1^a June 10 (No. 113)
Read 2^a, after debate July 16, [281] 1496
Committee; Report, after short debate July 19, 1865
Read 3^a July 23, [282] 171
c. Read 1^a July 30 [Bill 273]
2R. deferred, after short debate Aug 22, [283] 1711
Read 2^a; Committee; Report; Considered; read 3^a Aug 23
l. Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 53]

Factory Acts—Inspectors

Mr. William Paterson, Questions, Mr. O'Donnell; Answers, Sir William Harcourt May 10, [279] 405
Salaries, Question, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answer, Sir William Harcourt April 2, [277] 1166

Factory and Workshop Act (1878) Amendment Bill

(*Mr. Broadhurst, Sir Charles Forster, Mr. Hart, Mr. Henry H. Fowler, Mr. Rowley Hill*)

c. Ordered; read 1^a Feb 19 [Bill 91]
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^a" May 9, [279] 343
Amend. to leave out "now," add "upon this day six months" (*Mr. Monckton*); Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" after short debate, Question put; A. 44, N. 121; M. 60 (D. L. 80)
Words added; main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to; 2R. put off

FARQUHARSON, Dr. R., *Aberdeenshire, W.*
Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. 1, [282] 1177

Agricultural Holdings (Scotland), Comm. cl. 1, [282] 1177
[282] 1177

Army (Auxiliary Forces)—Military Surgeons, Motion for a Committee, [280] 87

Contagious Diseases Acts—Compulsory Examination—Returns, [282] 943

Contagious Diseases Acts, Motion for the Admission of the House, [279] 60

Crimes against Animals Acts Amendment, 2R. [282] 1663

Egypt—Cholera amongst the British Troops, [282] 1446

Egypt (Military Operations)—Army Medical Department—Medals for Nursing Sisters, [277] 213

Opium Duties (China), Motion for an Address, [272] 1361

Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. cl. 6, Amend. [280] 1523, 1528; cl. 45, [281] 869; Concl. add. cl. [282] 1999; Schedule I, [283] 112, 153

Poor Law (England and Wales)—Guardians of the Poor, Westminster, [279] 891

Supply—Army Reserve, [283] 1391

FAWCETT, Right Hon. H. (Postmaster General), Hackney

l. Expenditure (Ireland), [278] 1151

l. and Postal Telegrams, Res. [277] 1000

l. —Poor Law—Cavan Union, [276] 1415

l. —and North-Western Railway (Additional Powers), 3R. [279] 205

l. —Business of the House—Post Office Bills, [283] 241

Post Office—Questions

l. aged Overcrowding, [277] 817

l. American Mail Service, [276] 1410; [279] 634; —Outgoing Mails to America, [282] 20

l. Mails in Egypt—Mails from the East, [281] 798, 799

l. Communication from Aden to Madagascar

FAWCETT, Right Hon. H.—*cont.*

- Mails from Seychelles to the Mauritius, [281] 475
- Miss Hodgson, Case of, [280] 1273
- Municipal Reform League—Forged Tickets, [280] 564
- New Post Offices at Leeds and Liverpool, [282] 521
- Overhead Wires, [280] 557, 1122
- Postal Orders to the Colonies, [277] 1818; [280] 1554
- Postal Service (Scotland), [279] 1748
- Remuneration of Sub-Postmasters, [282] 2090
- Rural Letter Carriers, [280] 789; [283] 744, 1348, 1349, 1754
- Rural Post Offices, [278] 805
- Sorters, [280] 548
- Post Office (Contracts)—Questions
- Irish Mail Service, [277] 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 939, 1180, 1813, 1960, 1967; [278] 80, 893; [279] 402, 1317, 1757, 1758, 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917; [280] 380, 788; [281] 1223, 1908; [282] 540, 541, 1330, 1331, 1332; [283] 269
- Irish and Scotch Mail Services, [277] 1967
- Mails to the Mauritius, [281] 601
- Postal Service to the West Indies, [282] 135
- Scotch Mail Service—Acceleration, [278] 1271
- Post Office—Parcel Post—Questions
- [277] 543, 558; [278] 300, 1721; [279] 886; [280] 206; [281] 800; [282] 1159, 1631
- Appointment of Officials, [277] 21
- Registration, [283] 739
- Post Office (Savings Bank Department)—Questions
- [276] 1604, 1608, 1609, 1744; [278] 1722; [280] 1870, 1871
- Appointment of Controller, [278] 315; [281] 470
- Irish Deposits, [276] 796
- The New Building, [280] 1138
- Post Office (Telegraph Department)—Questions
- Accommodation, [279] 25, 26
- Female Telegraphists, [282] 1842
- Leave, [283] 1737
- Porterage of Telegrams, [278] 75
- Postal Delivery of Telegrams, [281] 1885
- Sixpenny Telegrams, [281] 470, 799; [283] 745;—Liability of Guarantors, [278] 1151
- Telegraph Messages between England and France, [282] 522
- Telegraph Messengers, [278] 610
- Post Office (Ireland)—Questions
- Belcarra (Co. Mayo) Post Office, [282] 1616
- Belfast Letter Carriers and the Good Service Stripe, [278] 1705
- Belfast Post Office, [279] 775
- East Bars, Co. Leitrim, [281] 1509
- Ennis Post Office, [279] 1636
- Glencar, Co. Leitrim, [278] 1704
- Letter Carriers, [283] 279
- Letter Carriers and the New Parcel Post, [282] 1142
- Maghera Postmistress, [283] 1730

FAWCETT, Right Hon. H.—*cont.*

- Mail Service in Co. Sligo, [279] 578
- Mails between Limerick and Kilrush, [281] 1219
- Roscommon—New Post Office, [283] 1343
- Service to the North of Ireland—Acceleration, [278] 903, 1708
- Tinahely Postmastership, [278] 79
- Post Office (Ireland)—Telegraph Department Questions
- Carrigallen, [278] 58
- Clerks, Belfast, [279] 21
- Clerks at Dublin, [277] 1820; [278] 1158
- Telegraph Communication with Cahirmee Horse Fair, [282] 32, 33
- Telegraph Office, Dundalk, [279] 401
- Post Office (Protection), 2R. [282] 258; Comm. *add. cl.* [283] 920
- Supply—Public Works in Ireland, [279] 1363, 1364, 1365
- Revenue Department Buildings, Great Britain, [279] 615, 618, 621, 622, 626, 632

FEILDEN, General R. J., *Lancashire, N. Army* (Recruiting)—“Waste” of the Army, [279] 1545

FEVERSHAM, Earl of

- Metropolitan Improvements—Hyde Park Corner, [281] 1344
- Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), 2R. [283] 705

FIFE, Earl of

- Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. *cl.* 5, [283] 27, 30
- Agricultural Holdings (Scotland), Comm. *cl.* 29, [283] 242
- Egypt—Slave Trade in Upper Egypt, [281] 1675
- Government—Secretary of State for Scotland, [277] 1619

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c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 85]

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(Mr. Stuart-Wortley, Mr. Burt, Mr. Albert Grey, Mr. Northcote)

c. Ordered; read 1^o Mar 12 [Bill 117]

Read 2^o, after short debate May 1, [278] 1665

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Moved, "That the Bill, as amended, be now considered" June 28, 1824

Moved, "That the Bill be re-committed" (Mr. Whitley); after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Bill considered; after short debate, Further Consideration, as amended, deferred

Further Consideration, as amended July 12, 281] 1335 [Bill 228]

Order for 3R. read July 19, 2040

Moved, "That the Bill be re-committed" (Mr. Stuart-Wortley); after short debate, Motion withdrawn; 3R. deferred

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Moved, "That the Bill, as amended, be now taken into Consideration;" after short debate, Motion withdrawn

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- l.* Read 1st * (*Lord Norton*) July 31 (No. 166)
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- c.* Ordered; read 1st * May 3 [Bill 16]
- Read 2nd * May 21
- Report * June 1
- Read 3rd * June 4
- l.* Read 1st * (*Lord Sudeley*) June 5 (No. 7)
- Read 2nd * June 15
- Report * June 21
- Read 3rd * June 22
- Royal Assent June 29 [46 & 47 Vict. c. xlv]

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(*Mr. John Holms, Mr. Chamberlain*)

- c.* Ordered; read 1st * May 3 [Bill 16]
- Read 2nd * May 21
- Report * June 1
- Read 3rd * June 4
- l.* Read 1st * (*Lord Sudeley*) June 5 (No. 7)
- Read 2nd * June 15
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- c.* Ordered; read 1st * Feb 16 [Bill]
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Glebe Loans (Ireland) Acts Amendment Bill

(*Mr. Errington, Mr. Corry, Viscount Lympington*)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o * April 6 [Bill 136]
 Read 2^o * April 11
 Committee *; Report April 12
 Considered * April 13
 Read 3^o * April 18
 l. Read 1^o * (*Lord O'Hagan*) April 19 (No. 35)
 Read 2^o * May 7
 Committee *; Report May 10
 Read 3^o * May 24
 Royal Assent May 31 [46 Vict. c. 8]

Glebe Loans (Ireland) Acts Amendment (No. 2) Bill

(*Mr. Trevelyan, Mr. Herbert Gladstone*)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o * April 9 [Bill 138]
 Bill withdrawn * April 12

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Moved, "That a humble Address be presented to Her Majesty for a Return of our names, salaries, and general duties of inspectors and Sub-Inspectors now acting in England and Wales, and in Scotland, and the several Government Departments, the scale of retiring allowances, special the Department; number of Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors, with total; salary, total; scale of retiring allowances; statement of duties." (*The Earl of Wessex*) Aug 17, [283] 939; Motion agreed to

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*Great Eastern Railway (High B
Extension) Bill (by Order)*

a. Moved, "That the Bill be now read
(*Lord Claud Hamilton*) Mar 12, [277] 18
Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "
House, while expressing no opinion as to
propriety of making a Railway to l
Beech, disapproves of any scheme wh
involves the taking for the purposes
Railway of any part of the surface of Epp
Forest, which, by 'The Epping Forest
1878,' was directed to be 'kept at all times
enclosed and unbuilt on as an open space
the enjoyment of the public'" (*Mr. Bryce*)
Question proposed, "That the words, &c
after debate, Question put; A. 82, N. 2
M. 148 (D. L. 31)
Question proposed, "That those words be t
added"
Words added; main Question, as amen
put, and agreed to

Greenwich Hospital Bill

(*Sir Thomas Brassey, Mr. Campbell-Bannery*)

a. Ordered; read 1^o * July 2 [Bill 25
Question, Captain Price; Answer, Sir Th
Brassey July 12, [281] 1209
Read 2^o, after short debate July 19, 2038
Committee—R.P., after short debate Jul
[282] 250
Committee*; Report July 26
Read 3^o * July 27
l. Read 1^o * (*The Earl of Northbrook*) July
Read 2^a Aug 2, 1298 (No. 16
Committee*; Report Aug 6
Read 3^a * Aug 7
Royal Assent Aug 20 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 1

Greenwich Hospital (Pensions, &c.)

Resolution considered in Committee Jul
[282] 252; Moved, "That it is expedie
authorise the payment, out of moneys
provided by Parliament, in the first inst
of any pensions, allowances, gratuities,

[*co*]

Greenwich Hospital (Pensions, &c.)—cont.

sums, which may become payable under the provisions of any Act of the present Session, for making provision respecting the application of the Revenues of Greenwich Hospital, and for other purposes; " after short debate, Resolution agreed to

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280] Comm. cl. 1, 391; cl. 2, 617; cl. 4, 1210, 1229; cl. 6, 1521, 1564, 1603, 1605

281] cl. 13, 124; cl. 15, 232, 274; cl. 23, 385; cl. 29, 496; cl. 31, Amendt. 514, 515, 519,

520, 527, 528; cl. 37, 633, 638; cl. 50,

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282] Consid. cl. 2, 2011

283] cl. 54, Amendt. 100; cl. 62, 106

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c. Ordered; read 1^o Mar 14 [Bill 121]
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(Sir Alexander Gordon, Mr. Borlase)

c. Read 1^o April 25 [Bill 150]
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- Metropolitan District Railway, 2R. [278] 1044
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 [283] 413; cl. 2, Amendt. 415
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 59; —Ministerial Statement, [280] 1707;
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 Standing Orders, Res. [279] 1888
 Public Expenditure—Redemption of the Na-
 tional Debt, Res. [277] 1865

Hull and Lincoln Railway Bill (by Order)

- c. Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"
 (Mr. Norwood) Feb 27, [276] 968; after short
 debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now
 adjourned" (Sir Walter B. Barttelot);
 Motion agreed to
 Debate resumed Mar 6, 1898
 Amendt. to leave out "now," add "upon
 this day six months" (Mr. Creyke); Ques-
 tion proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" Moved,
 "That the Debate be further adjourned till
 Tuesday next" (Mr. Chamberlain); Amendt.
 withdrawn; Question put, and agreed to;
 Debate further adjourned
 Read 2^o Mar 13, [277] 350

*Hull, Barnsley, and West Riding Junction
 Railway and Dock (Interest) Bill*

- c. Moved, "That, in the case of the Hull,
 Barnsley, and West Riding Junction Railway
 and Dock (Interest) Bill, Standing Orders
 84, 211, and 239 be suspended, and that the
 Bill be taken into consideration To-morrow,
 provided amended prints shall have been
 previously deposited" (Sir Charles Forster)
 July 17, [281] 1677; Motion agreed to
 Moved, "That the Bill, as amended, be now
 considered" July 20, [282] 17
 Amendt. to leave out "now," add "upon this
 day three months" (Sir Joseph Pease);
 Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;"
 after short debate, Question put; A. 109,
 N. 124; M. 15 (D. L. 218)
 Main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to

HUNTLY, Marquess of

- Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. 1,
 [283] 11; cl. 6, 83
 Agricultural Holdings (Scotland), 2R. [282]
 2052, 2058
 Fisheries (Scotland), [278] 1837, 1839
 Representative Peers (Scotland), 1R. [276]
 822; 2R. [277] 1944, 1961
 Representative Peers (Scotland) Election Pro-
 cedure, 2R. [277] 1962

Hyde Park Corner (New Streets) Bill

(Mr. Shaw Lefevre, Mr. Courtney)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o July 31 [Bill 275]

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Hyde Park Corner (New Streets) Bill—cont.

Ordered, That the Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills do examine the Hyde Park Corner (New Streets) Bill with respect to compliance with the Standing Orders, and that the said Examiners do proceed and report forthwith (*Mr. Shaw Lefevre*) Aug 1
Bill withdrawn * Aug 9

ILLINGWORTH, Mr. A., Bradford

Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. 4, [281] 1980; cl. 23, [282] 338
Army Estimates, 1883-4 — Land Forces, Amendt. [277] 262, 267, 269
Yeomanry Cavalry Pay and Allowances, [279] 871
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Criminal Law—Conviction for Announcing a Religious Service, [277] 201
Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881 (Purchase Clauses), Res. [280] 463
Limited Partnerships, 2R. [278] 1691
Lord Alcester's Grant, 2R. [278] 672; Comm. [280] 47, 71
Military Operations (Egypt), Res. [276] 1318
Minister of Education, Res. [280] 1979; Amendt. 1980
National Debt, 3R. [282] 1903
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Scientific Departments, [281] 1599, 1603
Parliament—Privilege—"Bradlaugh v. Gosset"—Consideration of Writ, &c. [282] 66
Parliament—Ascension Day, Motion for Meeting of Committees, [278] 1672, 1673
Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. [279] 1943; cl. 2, [280] 649; cl. 15, [281] 258; cl. 45, 875; add. cl. 1523
Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Amendment, 2R. [278] 983, 988
Parliamentary Registration (Ireland), 2R. [282] 1552
[278] Parochial Charities (London), 2R. 1698, 1699
[282] Comm. Motion for Adjournment, 683; cl. 3, Amendt. 867, 868, 872, 878; cl. 46, Amendt. 881; Consid. 1095, 1097; Motion for Adjournment, 1101
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Maintenance of Disturbed, &c. Roads in England and Wales, [279] 1033
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Public Education in England and Wales, &c. [282] 647
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Imprisonment for Debt Bill

(*Mr. Anderson, Sir Michael Bass, Sir Henry Wolff, Mr. Broadhurst*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 79]
Bill withdrawn, after short debate June 21 [280] 1626

INCE, Mr. H. B., Hastings

Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. Schedule 1, [281] 1453
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INOHIQUIN, Lord

Irish Land Commission, Motion for Returns [282] 726
Representative Peers (Scotland), 2R. [277] 1945

Inclosure Provisional Order (Hildersham Bill)

(*Mr. Hibbert, Secretary Sir William Harcourt*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o June 1 [Bill 209]
Read 2^o June 12
Report June 20
Read 3^o June 21
l. Read 1^o (*The Earl of Dalhousie*) June 22
Read 2^o June 26 (No. 115)
Committee; Report July 2
Read 3^o July 3
Royal Assent July 16 [46 & 47 Vict. c. lxxxiv]

Income and Expenditure—Finance Accounts for 1882-3

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Income Tax Administration Bill

(*Mr. Hubbard, Mr. Whitley, Sir Charles Forster, Mr. Edward Leatham*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 21 [Bill 98]
Bill withdrawn * Aug 14

Incumbrances on Land Registration Bill

(*Mr. Harcourt, Sir Henry Holland, Mr. Roundell, Mr. Staveley Hill*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 77]
2R. [Dropped]

INDERWICK, Mr. F. A., Rye

Criminal Code (Indictable Offences Procedure), 2R. [278] 94
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High Court of Justice—Probate, Divorce, and Admiralty Division, [281] 1912, 1913

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INDERWICK, Mr. F. A.—*cont.*

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Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Amendment, 2R. [278] 1207
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Lunacy Commission (England), [281] 1246
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Behar and Assam—Native Labour, Question, Mr. O'Donnell; Answer, Mr. J. K. Cross *Mar* 1, [276] 1158
Civil Service (Bengal)—Mr. Banerjee, Questions, Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. O'Kelly; Answers, Mr. J. K. Cross *June* 14, [280] 543; *June* 18, 797
Contagious Diseases Act, XIV. of 1868—Suspension of Act, Question, Mr. Hopwood; Answer, Mr. J. K. Cross *July* 31, [282] 1132 (P.P. 266)
Coolies (Indian) at La Réunion, Question, Mr. Arthur Pease; Answer, Mr. J. K. Cross *July* 30, [282] 946
Coolies—Licences on Labourers, Question, Mr. O'Donnell; Answer, Mr. J. K. Cross *June* 21, [280] 1134
Cropper's Hill College, Question, Mr. B. Samuelson; Answer, Mr. J. K. Cross *Feb* 23, [276] 575
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Cultivation of Esparto Grass, Question, Mr. R. N. Fowler; Answer, Mr. J. K. Cross *Aug* 20, [283] 1359
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- Indore—The Salvationists*, Question, Mr. O'Donnell; Answer, Mr. J. K. Cross *Mar 12*, [277] 202
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- Railways**
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- Grain Rates*, Question, Observations, Lord Stanley of Alderley; Reply, The Earl of Kimberley *July 9*, [281] 729
- Hyderabad and Chanda Railway*, Question, Mr. E. Stanhope; Answer, Mr. J. K. Cross *June 11*, [280] 225; Questions, Mr. O'Donnell; Answers, Mr. J. K. Cross *July 2*, [281] 48; *July 9*, 787
- The Annual Report*, Question, Mr. Carbutt; Answer, Mr. J. K. Cross *Aug 6*, [282] 1658; Question, Mr. Puleston; Answer, Mr. J. K. Cross *Aug 9*, 2093
- India—East India (Expenditure)**
- Observations, Mr. E. Stanhope *May 8*, [279] 238
- Moved, "That, in the opinion of this House, it is necessary that early steps be taken to reduce the expenditure of India" (*Mr. E. Stanhope*) *May 8*, 264
- Amendt. to leave out all after "House," add "every effort should be made to effect economy in the Government of India" (*Mr. J. Kynaston Cross*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put, and agreed to
- Main Question again proposed, 306
- Amendt. at end of Question, add "and this House regrets the decision arrived at by Her Majesty's Government to cast a further burden upon the Revenues of India in order to meet the extraordinary charges incurred by that Government on account of the Military expedition to Egypt" (*Mr. Onslow*); Question proposed, "That those words be there added;" after short debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Marjoribanks*); after further short debate, Question put; A. 77, N. 17; M. 60; (D. L. 87); Debate adjourned
- Adjourned Debate*, Question, Mr. Onslow; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *July 16*, [281] 1528
- Debate resumed *July 27*, [282] 790; after long debate, Question put; A. 55, N. 210; M. 155 (D. L. 237)

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India—East India (Expenditure)—cont.

Main Question put, and agreed to
Expenditure, Question, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answer, Mr. J. K. Cross Aug 3, [282] 1475

India—East India (Financial Statement)

Moved, "That, in the opinion of this House, it is desirable that the statement of the financial affairs of India should be made at a period of the Session when it can be fully discussed" (Mr. R. N. Fowler) May 22, [179] 714

Amendt. to leave out "fully," insert "referred to a Select Committee, and after examination properly" (Sir George Campbell) v.; Question proposed, "That 'fully,' &c.;" after debate, Amendt. withdrawn

Main Question put, and agreed to

**India—East India Revenue Accounts—
The Annual Financial Statement**

Question, Mr. R. N. Fowler; Answer, Mr. Gladstone July 9, [281] 796

Ordered, That the several Accounts and Papers which have been presented to the House in this Session of Parliament be referred to the consideration of a Committee of the whole House (Mr. J. K. Cross) Aug 16

Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" Aug 22, [283] 1049

Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "in the interests of India and of the United Kingdom, it is desirable that India should not bear the charge of the Consular and Agency expenditure on the Persian Gulf, and upon the Tigris and Euphrates, and that the concerns of British trade and commerce in Western Asia should be in the hands of officers more completely responsible to the Home Government" (Mr. Arthur Arnold) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (Sir George Campbell); after debate, Debate adjourned

Debate resumed Aug 23, 1886; after debate, Amendt. withdrawn

Main Question, "That Mr. Speaker, &c.," put, and agreed to; Accounts considered in Committee

Resolved, "That it appears, by the Accounts laid before this House, that the Ordinary Revenue of India for the year ending the 31st day of March 1882, was £6,913,743; the Revenue from Productive Public Works, including the Net Traffic Receipts from Guaranteed Companies, was £10,782,003, making the total Revenue of India for that year £73,695,806; that the Ordinary Expenditure in India and in England, including Charges for the Collection of the Revenue, for Ordinary Public Works, and for Interest on Debt, exclusive of that for Productive Public Works, was £61,404,074; the Expenditure on Productive Public Works (Working Expenses and Interest), including the payments to Guaranteed Companies for Interest and Surplus Profits, was £2,849,005, making a total Charge for that year of £71,113,079; that there was an excess of

India—East India Revenue Accounts—The Annual Financial Statement—cont.

Revenue over Expenditure in that year of £2,582,727; that the Capital Expenditure on Productive Public Works in the same year was £2,269,861; and that there was also a Capital Outlay on the East Indian Railway of £1,941,562, including £686,300 India 3½ per cent. Stock, issued in redemption of portion of the East Indian Railway Annuity" Resolution reported, and agreed to.

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I (Palconda)—Viziamam Res

ed, "That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the case of the ex-aminar of Palconda and the confiscation of his property at a time when he was a lord of the British Court of Wards" (The Lord Stanley of Alderley) June 18, [280] 766; after short debate, on Question resolved the negative alone, Mr. O'Donnell; Answers, Mr. J. K. Cross June 25, [280] 1414; July 2, [281] 49

a Marine Bill [H.L.]

(The Earl of Kimberley)

- 1. Presented; read 1st June 12 (No. 88)
- Read 2^d, after short debate June 18, [280] 778
- Committee; Report June 19
- Read 3^d June 21
- a. Read 1st (Mr. J. K. Cross) Aug 7 (Bill 294)
- Bill withdrawn Aug 22

Indictable Offences (Procedure) Bill
See title—
Criminal Code (Indictable Offences) Procedure Bill

Industrial Resources (Ireland) Bill
(C. in Aylmer, Viscount Oribsten, Mr. Curry)
a. Read; read 1st Feb 16 [Bill 81]
2R. [Dropped]

Infectious Diseases Notification Bill

(Mr. Hastings, Sir Trevor Lawrence, Dr.

Farguherson, Mr. Dintons)

- a. Read Feb 20
- 11th Feb 21 [Bill 100]
- * [House counted out] June 27, [280] 1630
- 2 [Dropped]

Indian Revenue (Circular)

Inland Revenue (Circular)—cont.

House" (Lord Randolph Churchill) v. [279] 1490; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put; A. 120, N. 37; M. 83 (D. L. 115)

Intermediate Education (Wales) Bill

Question, Mr. Stanley Leighton; Answer, Mr. Gladstone June 26, [280] 1355

International Arbitration

Question, Mr. Jesse Collings; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Aug 2, [282] 1340

International Copyright — The United States

Question, Mr. Bryce; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice June 11, [280] 215

Intoxicating Liquors (Off Licences) Bill (Mr. Lewis Fry, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Staveley Hill, Lord Moreton)

c. Considered in Committee; Resolution agreed to, and reported; Bill ordered: read 1^o * Feb 16 [Bill 25]

Bill withdrawn * July 18

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Arrests for Drunkenness—The Constabulary Reports, Question, Mr. Callan; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan April 12, [278] 79 (P.P. 118)

Arterial Drainage Acts, Question, Mr. W. J. Corbet; Answer, Mr. Courtney May 3, [278] 1702

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Borough Boundary Commission—The Report, Question, Mr. Kenny; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan May 28, [279] 944

Bowling Green Mills (Galway) Compensation Case, Question, Mr. T. P. O'Connor; Answer, Mr. Courtney June 5, [279] 1744

Cattle Disease, Question, Mr. Duckham; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan April 26, [278] 1155

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Collector General of Rates (Dublin), Question, Mr. Healy; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Aug 9, [282] 2074;—*Statutable Declarations under 5 & 6 William IV. c. 62*, Question, Mr. Healy; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Aug 9, [282] 2072

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Medical Charities Act, 1852—The Dispensary Medical Officer at Rynn, MoAill Union, Question, Mr. Healy; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Aug 9, [282] 2073

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2s Act—Supply of Seeds, Question, Mr. O'Connor; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Mar 8, [276] 1754

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Distress in Sligo, Question, Mr. Parnell; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan *Mar 5*, [276] 1434

Distress in the West—The Deputation of Catholic Bishops, Question, Mr. O'Connor Power; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan *Feb 22*, [276] 584

Distress in the West and North-West, Questions, Mr. Sexton; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan *Mar 9*, [276] 1903; Question, Colonel Colthurst; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan; Question, Mr. O'Brien; [no reply] *April 30*, [278] 1407

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Do. *Peace Preservation (Ireland) Act*, 1881

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Do. *Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Act*, 1882

Ireland—Agricultural Labourers

Moved to resolve, "That in the opinion of this House it is desirable to legislate on behalf of agricultural labourers in Ireland as soon as the condition of the country permits such legislation" (*The Earl of Dunraven*) *April 13*, [278] 167; after debate, Motion withdrawn

Ireland—Compulsory Education

Amendt. on Committee of Supply *Mar 2*, to leave out from "That," add "it is expedient to introduce into Ireland the principle of Compulsory Education, with such modifications as the social and religious conditions of the country require" (*Mr. O'Shaughnessy*) v., [276] 1262; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put, and negatived

Words added; main Question, as amended; put, and agreed to

Ireland—Education—The English System of State-supported Training Colleges

Moved to resolve, "That it is inexpedient to extend to Ireland on an equally expensive scale the costly English system of State-supported training colleges for the teachers of elementary schools" (*The Earl of Fortescue*) *July 16*, [281] 1473; after debate, on Question? resolved in the negative

Ireland—National Education

Moved, "That there be laid before this House—Copy of Rule 72. of the Rules and Regulations of the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland:

"Copy of letter, dated 8th November 1882, from the Earl of Longford to the Lord President of the Council (on appeal from a decision of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland) respecting the appointment of a sister of mercy as teacher in a national school open to non-Catholic children:

"Copy of any reply thereto" (*The Earl of Longford*) *Feb 19*, [276] 286; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Ireland—National Education

Moved for—"Copy of Rule 72. of the Rules and Regulations of the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland:

"Copy of letter, dated 8th November 1882, from the Earl of Longford to the Lord President of the Council (on appeal from a decision of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland) respecting the appointment of a sister of

[cont.]

Ireland—National Education—cont.

mercy as teacher in a national school open to non-Catholic children:

"Copy of Correspondence between the Earl of Longford, the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland, and the Irish Government on the same subject" (*The Earl of Longford*) Feb 20, [276] 303; after short debate, Motion agreed to P.P. (I. 9)

Ireland—National Education

Moved for, "Copy of Rule 1. of the Rules and Regulations of the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland" (*The Earl of Longford*) April 24, [278] 1008; after short debate, Motion agreed to P.P. (I. 51)

Ireland—Distress

Moved, "That the chronic distress prevailing in certain congested parts of Ireland can be most safely and efficaciously relieved by a judicious and economic system of migration and optional emigration, together with a consolidation of the holdings from which tenants are removed; that, in the present condition of Ireland, such a scheme can be successfully carried out only by a Government Commission, with certain statutory powers, including those of purchase and sale; and, in the opinion of this House, this is a subject which demands the serious attention of Her Majesty's Government, with a view to early legislation" (*Mr. O'Connor Power*) April 19, [277] 1984

Amendt. to leave out "migration and optional" (*Viscount Lymington*); Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after long debate, Question put; A. 33, N. 90; M. 66 (D. L. 54)

Main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to

Ireland—Emigration

Moved to resolve, "That this House, while desiring to in press upon the Government the necessity of securing sufficient relief for the suffering population in certain parts of Ireland, is of opinion that a large scheme of emigration is desirable to prevent the recurrence of similar distress" (*The Earl of Dunraven*) April 23, [278] 859; after debate, Motion withdrawn

Ireland—Kilmainham Prison (Release of Mr. Parnell, &c.)

Notice of Motion, Sir Stafford Northcote 276 Feb 23, 703

Notice of Motion (*Sir S. Northcote*); Notices, Dr. Cameron, Mr. Labouchere Feb 26, 826; Question, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington; Observations, Sir Stafford Northcote Feb 26, 839; Notice of Question, Sir Stafford Northcote Feb 27, 1017; Question, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Mar 8, 1754; Question, The O'Donoghues; Answer, Mr. Gladstone; Observations, Mr. Parnell, Mr. Gladstone; Question, Lord John Manners; An-

277]wer, Mr. Gladstone April 2, 1772

Ireland—Local Government Board

Amendt. on Committee of Supply June 22,

To leave out from "That," add "in the opinion of this House, the Local Government Board in Ireland should have powers to deal with exceptional distress similar to those enjoyed by the Local Government Board in England, and the Board of Supervision in Scotland; and, further, that Boards of Guardians in Ireland should have the same discretion with regard to outdoor relief that Boards of Guardians have in England, subject to the control of the Local Government Board" (*Colonel Cobden*) v. [280] 1343; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after long debate, Question put; A. 82, N. 24; M. 58 (D. L. 149)

Ireland—Peasant Proprietary

Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that a Royal Commission may be appointed to report as to the most effective means of giving to a large portion of the people of Ireland a permanent proprietary interest in the soil by purchase of their holdings" (*The Marquess of Londonderry*) Mar 6, [276] 1372; after debate, Motion withdrawn

Ireland—Trinity College, Dublin, Leasing and Perpetuity Act, 1851

Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying Her Majesty to appoint a Royal Commission to inquire into and report as to the position, under the Trinity College, Dublin, Leasing and Perpetuity Act, 1851, of the grantees and sub-grantees in perpetuity of lands held under grants made in pursuance of the said Act, and as to the position of the occupying tenants of such grantees and sub-grantees; and to inquire and report as to the variations effected in the rents reserved by such grants made subsequently to the date of such grants, and as to the provisions of the said Act regulating such variations; and to inquire and report as to the justice and expediency of further legislation to alter or amend any of the provisions of the said Act" (*The Lord Zouche of Bargenbury*) July 2, 81; 20; after short debate, on Question put, 9, Net-Cont. 20; M. 39; removed the negative; Div. List, Cont. and Net-Cont., 27

Agricultural Statistics [2677] [2748]
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Irish Reproductive Loan Fund Act (1874) Amendment Bill

(*Mr. Blaker, Mr. O'Kelly, Dr. Connors, Mr. T. P. O'Connor*)

Irish Reproductive Loan Fund Act (1874)
Amendment Bill—cont.

Committee *; Report *July 5*
Order for Committee (*on re-comm.*) read;
Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave
281] the Chair" *July 9, 917*; Moved, "That the
Debate be now adjourned" (*Colonel King-
Harman*); after short debate, Motion with-
drawn
Original Question put, and agreed to; Com-
mittee—R.P.
Committee* (*on re-comm.*); Report *July 16*
[Bill 256]
Considered; read 3^o, after short debate *July 23,*
282] 254
1. Read 1^o* (*Lord Greville*) *July 24* (No. 156)
Read 2^o, after short debate *July 30, 908*
Committee *Aug 6, 1608*
Report * *Aug 7*
Read 3^o* *Aug 9*
Royal Assent *Aug 20* [46 & 47 Vict. c. 33]

Isle of Man (Harbours) Bill

(*Mr. John Holms, Mr. Chamberlain*)

o. Considered in Committee; Resolution agreed
to, and reported, after short debate; Bill
ordered; read 1^o* *Feb 22* [Bill 101]
Read 2^o *Mar 8, [276] 1879*
Committee; Report *April 23, [278] 996*
Considered *; read 3^o *April 26*
1. Read 1^o* (*Lord Sudeley*) *April 27* (No. 50)
Read 2^o* *May 1*
Committee; Report, after short debate *May 4,*
1841
Read 3^o* *May 7*
Royal Assent *May 31* [46 Vict. c. 9]

Isle of Wight Highways Bill

(*Mr. Hibbert, Mr. George Russell, Mr. Ashley,*
Sir Charles Dilke)

o. Ordered; read 1^o* *July 23* [Bill 268]
Read 2^o *July 26, [282] 681*
Order for Committee discharged; Bill com-
mitted to a Committee of Five Members,
Three to be nominated by the House, and
Two by the Committee of Selection *Aug 2*
And, on *Aug 6*, Committee nominated as fol-
lows:—*Mr. Hibbert, Sir Henry Holland,*
and *Mr. Arnold Morley*
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Aug 10, [283] 140
1. Read 1^o* (*Lord Thurlow*) *Aug 13* (No. 191)
Read 2^o* *Aug 17*
Reported,* without Amendment, and com-
mitted *Aug 20*
Committee*; Report *Aug 21*
Read 3^o* *Aug 22*
Royal Assent *Aug 25* [46 & 47 Vict. c. cccxxvi]

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Mr. Errington; Answer, Lord Edmond
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(Mr. T. P. O'Connor, Mr. Parnell, Sir J.
 M'Kenna, Mr. Callan, Mr. Lalor)
c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 18 [Bill
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 June 14, [280] 565
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 Considered*; read 3^o Aug 7 [Bill:
 l. Read 1^o* (*Earl of Dunraven*) Aug 9 (*No*
 Read 2^o, after debate Aug 17, [283] 925
 Moved, "That the House do now re-
 solve itself into Committee" Aug 20,
 after short debate, on question, *resol.*
 the negative: House to be in Com-
 to-morrow
 Moved, "That the House do now *resol.*
 into Committee" Aug 21, 1181
 Amendmt. to leave out ("now,") add ("th-
 three months") (*The Earl Fortescue*)
 short debate, on question, that ("now,
 resolved in the affirmative; Committee
 Report* Aug 22
 Read 3^o* Aug 23
 Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c.]

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Land Drainage Provisional Order Bill

(Mr. Hibbert, Secretary Sir William Harcourt)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o Mar 8 [Bill 114]
Read 2^o Mar 20
Report * April 6
Read 3^o April 9
l. Read 1^o (Lord Rosebery) April 10 (No. 26)
Read 2^o April 19
Committee*; Report April 20
Read 3^o April 23
Royal Assent April 26 [46 Vict. c. ii]

Land Drainage Provisional Order (No. 2)

(Didcot, &c.) Bill

(Mr. Hibbert, Secretary Sir William Harcourt)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o June 1 [Bill 210]
Read 2^o June 12
Report * June 20
Read 3^o June 21
l. Read 1^o (Earl of Dalhousie) June 22 (No. 116)
Read 2^o June 26
Committee*; Report July 2
Read 3^o July 3
Royal Assent July 16 [46 & 47 Vict. c. lxxxviii]

Land Improvement and Arterial Drainage (Ireland) Bill

(Mr. Courtney, Mr. Herbert Gladstone)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o May 10 [Bill 189]
2R. deferred, after short debate May 24, [279] 878
2R. deferred, after short debate May 31, 1454
Question, Colonel Colthurst; Answer, Mr. Courtney June 11, [280] 563
Copyhold Land, Question, Mr. Marum; Answer, Mr. Courtney June 8, [280] 30
Question, Mr. Arthur O'Connor; Answer, Mr. Courtney Aug 6, [282] 1657
Bill withdrawn * Aug 6

Land Law (Ireland)

Moved, "That a Select Committee be appointed to continue the inquiry, commenced by the Select Committee of last Session, into the working of recent legislation in reference to land in Ireland and its effect upon the

Land Law (Ireland)—cont.

condition of the country" (*The Earl of Donoughmore*) Mar 6, [276] 1593; after short debate, Motion agreed to
Moved, "That the Select Committee on the Land Law (Ireland) Act be re-appointed" (*The Earl of Donoughmore*) Mar 9; Motion agreed to:—D. Norfolk, D. Somerset, D. Marlborough, D. Sutherland, M. Salisbury, M. Abercorn, E. Pembroke and Montgomery, E. Stanhope, E. Cairns, V. Hutchinson, L. Tyrone, L. Carysfort, L. Kenry, L. Penzance, L. Brabourne
Moved, "That Romney Foley, Esquire, Q.C., Sub-commissioner of the Irish Land Commission, do attend the service of the House on Friday, the 4th of May next, at Twelve o'clock, in order to his being examined as a witness before the Select Committee on Land Law (Ireland)" (*The Earl Cairns*) April 26, [278] 1117; after short debate, on Question? agreed to

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Advances to Tenants—Duties of Inspectors, Question, The Marquess of Waterford; Answer, Lord Carlingford July 17, [281] 1652
Clause 10—Labourers' Cottages and Allotments, Questions, Mr. Villiers Stuart; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan April 26, [278] 1147; April 30, 1416
Clause 24—Loans to Irish Tenants, Question, Mr. Errington; Answer, Mr. Courtney April 26, [278] 1156
Clause 31—Loans to Tenants—Applications for Loans, Question, Colonel Colthurst; Answer, Mr. Courtney Feb 22, [276] 575; Question, Mr. O'Connor Power; Answer, Mr. Courtney, 583; Question, Mr. Biggar; Answer, Mr. Courtney Mar 5, 1418; Questions, Mr. O'Connor Power, Mr. Parnell; Answers, Mr. Courtney Mar 12, [277] 209; Question, Mr. Sexton; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer Mar 20, 935; Question, Observations, The Marquess of Waterford; Reply, Lord Carlingford; short debate thereon June 22, [280] 1254; Question, Mr. O'Connor Power; Answer, Mr. Courtney, 1273

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- Sitting at Dungarvan*, Question, Mr. O'Donnell; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan *April 26*, [278] 1141
- Sittings at Fermanagh*, Question, Mr. Healy; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan *Aug 16*, [283] 714
- Sitting at Limerick—Listed Cases*, Question, Mr. O'Brien; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan *April 23*, [278] 901
- Sittings at Nenagh*, Question, Mr. Sexton; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan *April 28*, [278] 1149
- Sittings at Wicklow*, Question, Mr. W. J. Corbet; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan *Aug 9*, [282] 2078
- Cashel Union—Protest*, Question, Mr. Mayne; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan *June 12*, [280] 379
- Granard Union—Protest*, Question, Mr. Justin M'Carthy; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan *April 27*, [278] 1269
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- The Land Commission Court, Dublin*, Question, Mr. Gibson; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan *Mar 20*, [277] 927;—*Decisions—Mr. Justice O'Hagan*, Questions, Mr. Kenny; Colonel King-Harman; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan; Question, Mr. Healy; [no reply] *Aug 16*, [283] 725
- The King's County*, Question, Mr. Molloy; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan *April 26*, [278] 1157
- The Marquess of Clanricarde's Tenants*, Questions, Mr. T. P. O'Connor, Mr. Mitchell Henry; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan *June 4*, [279] 1631
- The Official Reporter—Mr. Gallagher and Mr. Ryan*, Questions, Mr. Tottenham, Viscount Galway; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan *July 5*, [281] 465; Questions, Mr. Tottenham, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Callan; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan *July 9*, 779; Question, Mr. Tottenham; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan *July 19*, 1891
- Valuers—Result of Appointment*, Question, Mr. Brodrick; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *April 26*, [278] 1160; Question, Mr. Sexton; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan *May 4*, 1876

Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881—Irish Land Commission

Moved, “That there be laid before this House, Returns giving in each case decided by the Sub-Commission Courts the old rent, the judicial rent, the poor law valuation, the landlord's valuation, the tenant's valuation, and, in cases heard on appeal, adding the appeal rent and the court valuer's valuation” (*The Marquess of Waterford*) *July 27*, [282] 694; after long debate, Motion withdrawn

Land Law (Ireland) Act—Landlords under the Irish Land Act

Moved, “That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty praying Her Majesty to appoint a Royal Commission to inquire whether the Irish landlords have sustained any loss owing to the working of the Irish Land Bill of 1881; and, if so, the amount of such loss; and to report whether according to legal precedent and justice they are not entitled to compensation for such loss” (*Lord Oranmore and Browne*) *April 27*, [278] 1390; after debate, on Question? resolved in the negative

Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881 (Purchase Clauses)

Moved, “That, in the opinion of this House, an immediate revision of the Purchase Clauses of the Irish Land Act, 1881, is necessary, in order to give effect to the intentions of Parliament contained therein” (*Lord George Hamilton*) *June 12*, [280] 412; after long debate, Motion withdrawn

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this House, an early revision of the Purchase Clauses of the Irish Land Act, 1881, is necessary, in order to give effect to the intentions of Parliament contained therein (*Lord George Hamilton*)

Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881—Resolutions of Land Conference in Belfast

Observations, The Earl of Belmore, Lord Waveney *Feb 20*, [276] 397

Moved, “That Resolutions 2 and 3 be incorporated in an Act supplementary to the Land Act, 1881” (*Lord Waveney*) *Feb 23*, 689; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Land Law (Ireland) Act (1881) Amendment Bill

(Mr. Parnell, Mr. Healy, Mr. Justin M'Carthy, Mr. Sexton, Mr. Lalor)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o *Feb 16* [Bill 14]
- Moved, “That the Bill be now read 2^o” *Mar 14*, [277] 450
- Amendt. to leave out “now,” add “upon this day six months” (*Mr. Chaplin*); Question proposed, “That ‘now,’ &c.,” after long debate, Question put: A. 63, N. 250; M. 187
- Div. List, A. and N. 507
- Words added; main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to; 2R. put off

Land Law (Ireland) Amendment Bill

(*Mr. Givan, Mr. Thomas Dickson, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Lea, Mr. Findlater, Mr. Richardson*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o * Feb 16 [Bill 68]
2R. [Dropped]

Land Registry, Office of—Registration of Estates, 1882

Question, Mr. Arthur Arnold; Answer, Mr. Herbert Gladstone Mar 29, [277] 992

Land Tax Assessments (Appeals) Bill

(*Mr. Henry H. Fowler, Mr. Davey, Mr. Gregory*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o * June 4 [Bill 213]
2R. [Dropped]

Land Tenure—Ground Leases

Question, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answer, Mr. Gladstone June 11, [280] 228

Lands Clauses (Umpire) Bill

(*Mr. Dodds, Mr. Whitley, Mr. Jacob Bright, Mr. Coddington*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o * May 1 [Bill 160]
Read 2^o May 29, [279] 1192
Committee*; Report May 30
Read 3^o * May 31
l. Read 1^o * (*Earl of Jersey*) June 1 (No. 71)
Read 2^o * June 11
Committee*; Report June 12
Read 3^o * June 14
Royal Assent June 18 [46 Vict. c. 16]

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Assizes and Quarter Sessions, Question, The Earl of Powis; Answer, Lord Coleridge June 21, [280] 1116

The Summer Circuits, Question, Mr. Arthur Elliot; Answer, Sir William Harcourt June 18, [280] 781

Case of Elizabeth Wheeler, Questions, Mr. Burt, Mr. Macfarlane; Answers, Sir William Harcourt Feb 22, [276] 592

Law and Justice (England and Wales)—

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Criminal Procedure—Evidence of Persons, Observations, Lord Denman; The Marquess of Salisbury April 3 1272; Question, Mr. Warton; Answer, Attorney General April 19, [278] 628

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Chancery Division—Arrears in Chancery Appeal, Question, Mr. H. H. Fowler, The Attorney General April 20 738; Question, Mr. W. H. Smith; The Attorney General July 9, [281] *The Mastership of the Rolls,* Question, Gregory, Mr. McCoan; Answers, Attorney General Mar 30, [277] 1108 *Secretary of the Master of the Rolls* tion, Mr. H. H. Fowler; Answer, Courtney April 6, [277] 1638

Queen's Bench Division—Delay in Proceedings, Question, Mr. Pugh; Answer, The Attorney General April 23, [278] 910;—*Lord Justice, &c. (Patronage),* Question, Assheton (Cross); Answer, The Attorney General July 9, [281] 775

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Supreme Court of Judicature—The New of Procedure

Question, Mr. J. Stewart; Answer, The Advocate Feb 27, [276] 1025; Question, Whitley; Answer, The Attorney May 31, [279] 1335; Questions, Lowther, Sir Hardinge Giffard; Answer, The Attorney General July 20, [28] Questions, Mr. Warton, Mr. Heald, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Trevelyan, 140; Questions, Mr. Raikes, Mr. V Answers, The Attorney General July; Questions, Sir Hardinge Giffard; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Aug 6, 1856 (P.P.)

Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that the R the Supreme Court of Judicature, 18 be annulled" (*Sir R. Assheton* Aug 10; Debate adjourned

Debate resumed Aug 11, [283] 145
After debate, Amendment to leave out for second "that," insert "Order 63, Rules of the Supreme Court, 1833, annulled" (*Mr. H. H. Fowler*); Q proposed, "That the words, &c.," further debate, Question put; A. 99, M. 77 (D. L. 285)

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- Judicial Inquiry into Crime, or Alleged Crime, where no Person apprehended*, Question, Sir George Campbell; Answer, Sir William Harcourt April 3, [277] 1278
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- Excessive Sentences*, Question, Mr. P. A. Taylor; Answer, Sir William Harcourt April 17, [278] 436
- Guildford Petty Sessions—Assault on the Police by a Hawker*, Question, Mr. Hopwood; Answer, Sir William Harcourt July 10, [281] 965
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- Newspaper Proprietors*, Question, Mr. Passmore Edwards; Answer, The Attorney General April 26, [278] 1153
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- Warders in Convict Prisons*, Question, Mr. R. N. Fowler; Answer, Sir William Harcourt Feb 22, [276] 589
- Protection of Juvenile Morals—Legislation*, Question, Mr. Tomlinson; Answer, Sir William Harcourt Mar 19, [277] 782
- Recent Execution at Durham*, Questions, Mr. Joseph Cowen, Sir Walter B. Barttelot, Mr. Sexton, Mr. Harrington, Mr. Small; Answers, Sir W. Harcourt Aug 9, [282] 2101
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- Expulsion of Irish Residents at Darwen, Lancashire*, Questions, Mr. O'Brien; Answers, Sir William Harcourt July 12, [281] 1212; July 16, 1504
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Leaseholders (Facilities for Purchase of Fee Simple) Bill

(*Mr. Broadhurst, Mr. Burt, Mr. Reid, Mr. Passmore Edwards*)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o April 5 [Bill 134]
 Moved, "That the Bill be read 2^o To-morrow"
Aug 10, '283 141
 Amendt. to leave out "To-morrow," insert
 "upon Monday next" (*Sir R. Alabon*
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 &c.;" A. 28, N. 59; M. 31 (D. L. 283)
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 281] Comm. cl. 1, 1695, 1728, 1730, 1749, 1807;
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(*The Earl of Onslow*)

1. Presented; read 1st April 20 (No. 38)
 Order for 2R. discharged May 24

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 282] cl. 5, 70, 81, 89; Amendt. 91, 94; cl. 6, 198; cl. 7, 220, 222, 224, 226; cl. 11, 231, 236; cl. 15, 338; cl. 16, 346; cl. 22, 356; cl. 23, 389; Schedule 1, Amendt. 407, 410
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280] cl. 1, 568, 576, 578, 586, 592, 595, 599;
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281] cl. 7, Amendt. 61, 62, 75, 79, 84, 88;
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282] Consid. cl. 2, 2010; cl. 4, 2022; cl. 1
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283] cl. 8, 75; cl. 16, 81; cl. 43, 93; cl. 1
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*Licensing Justices Disabilities Re-
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*Public House Licensing Committee
(Mr. Barran, Mr. Henry H. Fowler,
Jackson)*

a. Ordered; read 1^o Mar 5 [Bill]
Bill withdrawn * Aug 16

Licensing Laws—Local Option

Questions, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answer,
William Harcourt Feb 19, [276] 312

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Question, Mr. J. R. Yorke; Answer,
William Harcourt July 16, [281] 150

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- Best Form of Light*, Questions, Baron Henry De Worms, Colonel King-Harman; Answers, Mr. Chamberlain *July 19*, [281] 1892
Illuminating Powers of Gas, Oil, and Electricity, Question, Mr. Dawson; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain *Mar 19*, [277] 792
Scientific Experiments, Question, Baron Henry De Worms; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain *June 25*, [280] 1431
Commissioners of Irish Lights, Questions, Baron Henry De Worms, Colonel King-Harman; Answers, Mr. Chamberlain *July 2*, [281] 44; Question, Colonel King-Harman; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain *July 10*, 966
Irish Lighthouses, Question, Baron Henry De Worms; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain *July 12*, [281] 1215; — *Tory Island Lighthouse*, Question, Mr. Lea; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain *Mar 15*, [277] 556
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- Observations, The Duke of Argyll; Reply, Lord Sudeley; short debate thereon *July 19*, [281] 1877
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- Army (Auxiliary Forces)—Militia Clothing*, [278] 187
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- Pawnbrokers*, 2R. [280] 1251; *Comm. cl. 6*, Amendt. [281] 172; *Report, cl. 6*, Amendt. 926
Representative Peers (Scotland), 1R. [276] 815
Sale of Liquors on Sunday (Ireland), 2R. [277] 526

Limited Partnerships Bill

(*Mr. Monk, Mr. Norwood, Mr. Lewis Fry*)

- c. Considered in Committee; Resolution agreed to, and reported; Bill ordered; read 1^o* *Feb 16* [Bill 18]
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" May 2, [278] 1674
Amendt. to leave out "now," add "upon this day six months" (Mr. Rylands); Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" after short debate, Question put; A. 49, N. 159; M. 110 (D. L. 80)
Words added; main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to; 2R. put off

LINCOLN, Bishop of

- Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister—Petition of the Bishops of the Episcopal Church in Scotland—Petition presented*, [279] 1283
Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister, 3R. [280] 1677

Liquor Traffic Veto (Scotland) Bill

- (*Mr. M'Lagan, Dr. Cameron, Mr. Waddy, Mr. James Stewart, Mr. Dick Peddie, Mr. Mackintosh, Mr. Ernest Noel*)
c. Considered in Committee; Resolution agreed to, and reported; Bill ordered *Mar 29*
Read 1^o *Mar 30* [Bill 129]
Bill withdrawn *July 18*

Literature, Science, and Art

- Ashburnham MSS., The—Proposed Purchase by the British Museum*, Question, Mr. Carbutt; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer *Mar 12*, [277] 194; Questions, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Carbutt; Answers, Mr. Gladstone *June 14*, [280] 560; Questions, Mr. Errington, Mr. Raikes; Answers, The Chancellor of the Exchequer *July 9*, [281] 784; Question, Mr. Jesse Collings; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer *Aug 14*, [283] 468 (*P.P.* 282)
Irish MSS., The, Question, Mr. Sexton; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer *Mar 20*, [277] 936; Question, Mr. Gibson; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *April 2*, 1170; Question, Mr. O'Donnell; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *April 26*, [278] 1160; Questions, Dr. Lyons, Mr. O'Kelly, Mr. Mitchell Henry, Mr. Gibson; Answers, The Chancellor of the Exchequer *Aug 13*, [283] 270
British Museum, The—Evening Admission, Question, Mr. D. Grant; Answer, Sir John Lubbock *July 10*, [281] 1882
Researches at Sippara, Question, Mr. W. H. Smith; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *Aug 7*, [282] 1853

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Literature, Sciences, and Art—cont.

- Extension of the National Gallery (Buildings),* Question, Mr. Coope; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre *June 26*, [280] 1558;—*Extension of the Hours of Admission and Lighting,* Question, Mr. D. Grant; Answer, Mr. George Howard *July 31*, [282] 1157;—*Insufficiency of Space,* Question, Mr. Coope; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre *Feb 22*, [276] 577
The National Gallery, Report, 1882 P.P. 80
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Royal Commission on Technical Education—The Report, Question, Mr. Lea; Answer, Sir William Harcourt *Feb 23*, [276] 711
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Scotch and Irish National Galleries—Reports of the Directors, Question, Mr. Cavendish Bentinck; Answer, Mr. Courtney *Aug 16*, [283] 751
South Kensington Museum—Painting by Sir Frederick Leighton, Questions, Mr. Cavendish Bentinck; Answers, Mr. Gladstone *May 25*, [279] 898;—*The Art Gallery,* Question, Mr. Dillwyn; Answer, Mr. Mundella *June 7*, 1910
Meteorological Stations, Question, Mr. Vivian; Answer, Mr. Courtney *Aug 2*, [282] 1326
The Circular Theory of Storms, Question, Mr. Earp; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain *July 12*, [281] 1221
The Reputed "Raphael," Question, Mr. Tomlinson; Answer, Mr. Courtney *June 1*, [279] 1486
The Tapestries at Hampton Court, Question, Mr. Montague Guest; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre *June 1*, [279] 1486

LLOYD, MR. M., Beaumaris

- Cemeteries, 2R. [278] 1111
Church of England—Training Colleges—Admission of Dissenters, [277] 1275
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Criminal Code (Indictable Offences Procedure), 2R. Amendt. [278] 93
Endowed Schools (Wales)—The Beaumaris Grammar School, [283] 1338
Metropolitan Improvements—Proposed Park for Paddington, [279] 1628
Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. cl. 23, [281] 376
Parliamentary Registration (Ireland), Comm. cl. 6, Amendt. [283] 495
Statute of Frauds Amendment, 3R. [282] 868
Supreme Court of Judicature (New Rules), Res. [283] 180

Local and County Administration—Legislation

- Questions, Mr. Pell, Mr. Albert Grey; Answers, Mr. Hibbert *Mar 15*, [277] 563

Local Authorities (Removal of Disqualification) Bill

(Mr. John Morley, Mr. Stuart Wortley, Mr. Stewart MacLiver, Mr. Cowen)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o * *June 29* [Bill 252]
2R. [Dropped]

Local Government Areas Bill

(Mr. Albert Grey, Mr. Pell, Mr. James H. Mr. Yorke)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o * *April 25* [Bill 2R. [Dropped]]

Local Government Board (Scotland)

- Question, Mr. A. Elliot; Answer, Sir W. 280] Harcourt *June 29*, 1874; Question Buchanan, Mr. Dalrymple, Sir Ale Gordon; Answers, Mr. Gladstone *June 282*] 557; Questions, Mr. Dalrymple, M. chanan; Answers, Lord Richard Grc . *Aug 1*, 1293; Notice of Question, Si Hay; Answer, Sir William Harcourt . 1536; Question, Sir H. Drummond . Answer, Sir William Harcourt *Aug 7* Question, Sir John Hay; Answer 283] Gladstone *Aug 13*, 284; Question, Si ander Gordon; Answer, Sir Williar . court *Aug 14*, 465; Question, Sir Ale Gordon; Answer, The Lord Advocate. . 1352
Estimates of Cost, Question, Sir R. A. Cross; Answer, Sir William Harcourt [282] 1338

Local Government Board (Scotland)

(Secretary Sir William Harcourt, The Advocate)

- c. Motion for Leave (Sir William H. 280] *June 29*, 1984; after short debate, tion put, and agreed to; Bill ordered 1^o * [Bill 282] 2R. deferred *Aug 1*, 1293
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" 1847
Amendt. to leave out "now," add "up day three months" (Mr. Dalrymple) tion proposed, "That 'now,' &c.; long debate, Debate adjourned . Debate resumed *Aug 4*, 1552; after Question put; A. 99, N. 21; M. 258)
Main Question again proposed, 1566; aft debate, Question put, and agreed to; Moved, "That this House will, upon next, resolve itself into the Committee Bill"
Amendt. to leave out all after "Tha "the Bill be referred to a Select C tee" (Sir Alexander Gordon); Q proposed, "That the words, &c.; short debate, Amendt. withdrawn
Main Question put, and agreed to; Bi mitted for Monday next
Order for Committee read; Moved, Mr. Speaker do now leave the 283] *Aug 15*, 588
Amendt. to leave out from "That," the opinion of this House, it is not d at this late period of Parliament to functions on an officer of the Crow created by Act, until the powers, du patronage of such officer are more f ined, and the cost of his office and st fully stated" (Sir H. Drummond W. Question proposed, "That the words, after long debate, Amendt. withdraw

Local Government Board (Scotland) Bill—cont.

Main Question, "That Mr. Speaker, &c.," put, 283] and agreed to; Committee—A.P.

Committee; Report Aug 16, 892
Considered; read 3^o Aug 17, 1109

l. Read 1^o (E. of Dalhousie) Aug 20 (No. 207)
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^a" Aug 21, 1480

Amendmt. to leave out ("now") add ("this day three months") (The Lord Balfour)

After short debate, on Question, That ("now") &c.; Cont. 31, Not-Cont. 46; M. 15; Div.

List, Cont. and Not-Cont. 1477

Resolved in the negative

Local Government Board (Scotland)

[Salaries]

Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" Aug 7, 282] 1942; after debate, Question put, and agreed to; Matter considered in Committee, 1953

Moved, "That it is expedient to authorise the payment, out of monies to be provided by Parliament, of the salaries of the President, Secretaries, and other Officers of the Local Government Board for Scotland, which may become payable under any Act of the present Session for constituting such Board"

Amendmt. to leave out "Salaries," insert "Salary" (Sir H. Drummond Wolff); Question proposed, "That 'Salaries' &c.;" After short debate, Question put; A. 135, N. 11; M. 124

Div. List, A. and N. 1957
Original Question put, and agreed to

Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Orders (Rathmines, &c.) Bill

(Mr. Trevelyan, Mr. Herbert Gladstone)

c. Ordered; read 1^o April 28 [Bill 153]

Read 2^o May 7

Report May 25

Read 3^o May 28

l. Read 1^o (Lord President) May 29 (No. 64)

Read 2^o June 7

Committee; Report June 8

Read 3^o June 11

Royal Assent June 18 [46 Vict. c. xl]

Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Orders (No. 2) Bill [H.L.]

(The Lord President)

l. Presented; read 1^o, and referred to the Examiners April 10 (No. 27)

Read 2^o May 7

Committee May 25

Report May 28

Read 3^o May 29

c. Read 1^o June 1 [Bill 211]

Read 2^o June 11

Report June 28

Read 3^o June 29

l. Royal Assent July 16 [46 & 47 Vict. c. lxxxiii]

Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Orders (No. 3) (Killarney) Bill

(Mr. Trevelyan, Mr. Herbert Gladstone)

c. Ordered; read 1^o May 8 [Bill 172]

[cont.]

Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Orders (No. 3) (Killarney) Bill—cont.

Read 2^o May 25

Report June 5

Read 3^o June 8

l. Read 1^o (Lord President) June 7 (No. 81)

Read 2^o June 15

Committee; Report June 18

Read 3^o June 19

Royal Assent June 29 [46 & 47 Vict. c. lxxxix]

Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Orders (Limerick Waterworks) Bill [H.L.]

(The Lord Carlingford)

l. Presented; read 1^o, and referred to the Examiners Feb 22 (No. 3)

Read 2^o Mar 8

Committee May 7

Report May 8

Read 3^o May 10

c. Read 1^o (Mr. Attorney General for Ireland) May 24 [Bill 197]

Read 2^o June 6

Report July 6

Read 3^o July 9

l. Royal Assent July 16 [46 & 47 Vict. c. xcii]

Local Government Provisional Orders (Abertillery, &c.) Bill

(Mr. Hibbert, Sir Charles Dilke)

c. Ordered; read 1^o April 13 [Bill 142]

Read 2^o April 24

Report May 2

Read 3^o May 3

l. Read 1^o (Lord Carrington) May 4 (No. 54)

Read 2^o May 25

Committee; Report May 28

Read 3^o May 31

Royal Assent June 18 [46 Vict. c. xviii]

Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 2) (West Hartlepool) Bill

(Mr. Hibbert, Sir Charles Dilke)

c. Ordered; read 1^o April 13 [Bill 143]

Read 2^o May 1

Report June 5

Considered June 7

Read 3^o June 11

l. Read 1^o (Lord Carrington) June 12 (No. 87)

Read 2^o June 22

Committee discharged July 24

Committee Aug 17 (No. 203)

Report Aug 20

Read 3^o Aug 21

Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. ccxiv]

Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 3) (Bethesda, &c.) Bill

(Mr. Hibbert, Sir Charles Dilke)

c. Ordered; read 1^o May 4 [Bill 170]

Read 2^o May 22

Report May 30

Read 3^o May 31

l. Read 1^o (Lord Carrington) June 1 (No. 73)

Read 2^o June 19

Committee June 27

Report June 29

Read 3^o July 2

Royal Assent July 16 [46 & 47 Vict. c. lxxxix]

**Local Government Provisional Orders
(No. 4) (Cheltenham, &c.) Bill**

(*Mr. Hibbert, Sir Charles Dilke*)

- c. Ordered: read 1^o * May 8 [Bill 176]
 Read 2^o * May 22
 Report * May 30
 Read 3^o * May 31
 l. Read 1^o * (*Lord Carrington*) June 1 (No. 74)
 Read 2^o * June 19
 Committee * July 12
 Report * July 13
 Read 3^o * July 16
 Royal Assent Aug 2 [46 & 47 Vict. c. cxxxv]

**Local Government Provisional Orders
(No. 5) (Ashton-in-Makerfield, &c.) Bill**
 (*Mr. Hibbert, Sir Charles Dilke*)

- c. Ordered: read 1^o * May 22 [Bill 194]
 Read 2^o * June 5
 Report * June 13
 Read 3^o * June 14
 l. Read 1^o * (*Lord Carrington*) June 15 (No. 100)
 Read 2^o * June 25
 Committee * July 12
 Report * July 13
 Read 3^o * July 16
 Royal Assent Aug 2 [46 & 47 Vict. c. cxxxvi]

**Local Government Provisional Orders
(No. 6) (Barnet Union, &c.) Bill**

(*Mr. Hibbert, Sir Charles Dilke*)

- c. Ordered: read 1^o * May 22 [Bill 195]
 Read 2^o * June 4
 Report * June 20
 Considered * June 21
 Read 3^o * June 22
 l. Read 1^o * (*Lord Carrington*) June 25 (No. 122)
 Read 2^o * June 26
 Committee * Report July 6
 Read 3^o * July 9
 Royal Assent July 16 [46 & 47 Vict. c. xc]

**Local Government Provisional Orders
(No. 7) (Bognor, &c.) Bill**

(*Mr. Hibbert, Sir Charles Dilke*)

- c. Ordered: read 1^o * May 22 [Bill 196]
 Read 2^o * June 4
 Report * June 13
 Considered * June 14
 Read 3^o * June 15
 l. Read 1^o * (*Lord Carrington*) June 18 (No. 102)
 Read 2^o * June 25
 Committee * July 12
 Report * July 13
 Read 3^o * July 16
 Royal Assent Aug 2 [46 & 47 Vict. c. cxxxvii]

**Local Government Provisional Orders
(No. 8) (Kingston-upon-Hull, &c.) Bill**
 (*Mr. Hibbert, Sir Charles Dilke*)

- c. Ordered: read 1^o * May 25 [Bill 199]
 Read 2^o * June 5
 Report * June 20
 Considered * June 21
 Read 3^o * June 22

**Local Government Provisional Orders (3)
(Kingston-upon-Hull, &c.) Bill—cont.**

- l. Read 1^o * (*Lord Carrington*) June 23 (No. 103)
 Read 2^o * June 26
 Committee * Report July 6
 Read 3^o * July 9
 Royal Assent July 16 [46 & 47 Vict. c. xi]

**Local Government Provisional Orders
(No. 9) (Haslingden, &c.) Bill**

(*Mr. Hibbert, Sir Charles Dilke*)

- c. Ordered: read 1^o * May 25 [Bill 200]
 Read 2^o * June 5
 Report * June 22
 Read 3^o * June 25
 l. Read 1^o * (*Lord Carrington*) June 25 (No. 104)
 Read 2^o * June 26
 Committee * Report Aug 20
 Read 3^o * Aug 21
 Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. xi]

**Local Government Provisional Orders
(No. 10) (Leeds) Bill**

(*Mr. Hibbert, Sir Charles Dilke*)

- c. Ordered: read 1^o * May 31 [Bill 201]
 Read 2^o * June 12
 Report * June 20
 Read 3^o * June 21
 l. Read 1^o * (*Lord Carrington*) June 22 (No. 105)
 Read 2^o * June 26
 Committee * Report July 6
 Read 3^o * July 9
 Royal Assent July 16 [46 & 47 Vict. c. xi]

**Local Government Provisional Orders
(Highways) (County of Dorset)**

(*Mr. Hibbert, Sir Charles Dilke*)

- c. Ordered: read 1^o * May 22 [Bill 202]
 Read 2^o * June 5
 Report * June 13
 Considered * June 14
 Read 3^o * June 15
 l. Read 1^o * (*Lord Carrington*) June 18 (No. 106)
 Read 2^o * June 25
 Committee * Report June 29
 Read 3^o * June 29
 Royal Assent July 16 [46 & 47 Vict. c. xi]

**Local Government Provisional Orders
(Poor Law) (Bradfield-on-the-Green, &c.) Bill**
 (*Mr. Hibbert, Sir Charles Dilke*)

- c. Ordered: read 1^o * April 25 [Bill 203]
 Read 2^o * May 2
 Report * May 25
 Considered * May 29
 Read 3^o * May 30
 l. Read 1^o * (*Lord Carrington*) May 31 (No. 107)
 Read 2^o * June 19
 Committee * Report June 28
 Royal Assent July 16 [46 & 47 Vict. c. xi]

Local

Local Government Provisional Orders (Poor Law)
(No. 2) (*Black-Torrington, &c.*) Bill—cont.

- Read 2^o * May 25
Report * June 12
Read 3^o * June 13
1. Read 1st * (*Lord Carrington*) June 14 (No. 89)
Read 2^a * June 25
Committee * July 10
Report * July 12
Read 3^a * July 13
Royal Assent Aug 2 [46 & 47 Vict. c. cxxxviii]

Local Government Provisional Orders
(Poor Law) (No. 3) (*Birmingham and Lambeth*) Bill

(*Mr. Hibbert, Sir Charles Dilke*)

- c. Ordered: read 1st * May 22 [Bill 192]
Read 2^o * June 4
Report * June 13
Read 3^o * June 14
1. Read 1st * (*Lord Carrington*) June 15 (No. 99)
Read 2^a * June 25
Committee * Report June 28
Read 3^a * June 29
Royal Assent July 16 [46 & 47 Vict. c. lxxxi]

Local Government (Gas) Provisional Order
(*Festiniog*) Bill

(*Mr. Hibbert, Sir Charles Dilke*)

- c. Ordered * May 1 [Bill 164]
Read 1^o * May 2
Read 2^o * May 21
Report * May 30
Read 3^o * May 31
1. Read 1st * (*Lord Carrington*) June 1 (No. 72)
Read 2^a * June 10
Committee * July 12
Report * July 13
Read 3^a * July 16
Royal Assent Aug 2 [46 & 47 Vict. c. cxxxiv]

Local Option

Amendt. on Committee of Supply April 27. To leave out from "That," add "the best interests of the Nation urgently require some efficient measure of legislation by which, in accordance with the Resolution already passed and re-affirmed by this House, a legal power of restraining the issue or renewal of Licences for the Sale of Intoxicating Liquors may be placed in the hands of the persons most deeply interested and affected, namely, the inhabitants themselves" (*Sir Wilfrid Lawson*) v.; [278] 1280; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after long debate, Question put; A. 141, N. 228; M. 87 (D. L. 73)

Question proposed, "That the words 'the best interests of the Nation urgently require some efficient measure of legislation by which, in accordance with the Resolution already passed and re-affirmed by this House, a legal power of restraining the issue or renewal of Licences for the Sale of Intoxicating Liquors may be placed in the hands of the persons most deeply interested and affected, namely, the inhabitants themselves'" be there added

Amendt. to the said proposed Amendt. To leave out from "Nation," add "require that

[cont.]

Local Option—cont.

effect be given to the recommendation of the Lords Committee on Intemperance, and that instead of placing the licensing power entirely in the hands of a body elected by the popular vote, provision be made for strengthening the hands of the local magistrates" (*Sir John Kennaway*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after short debate, Question put; A. 206, N. 130; M. 76

Main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to
Div. List, A. and N., 1377

Local Taxation

Moved, "That no further delay should be allowed in granting adequate relief to ratepayers in Counties and Boroughs in respect of National services required of Local Authorities" (*Mr. Pell*) April 17, [278] 437

Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "this House, recognising the connection which must exist between the Reform of Local Taxation and that of Local Government, is of opinion that the relief granted to ratepayers in Counties and Boroughs should be by the transfer to Local Authorities of the Revenue proceeding from particular Taxes or portions of Taxes, and that a measure dealing with the whole question of local taxation and of local government is most urgently required" (*Mr. Albert Grey*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after long debate, Question put; A. 217, N. 229; M. 12

Words added; main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to
Div. List, A. and N., 525

Local Taxation

Question, Mr. Brodriek; Answer, Mr. Gladstone April 19, [278] 630

Legislation, Questions, Mr. J. R. Yorke, Mr. Brodriek; Answers, Mr. Gladstone April 27, [278] 1277

The Subvention of 1871—Increase of the Cost of the Police, Question, Viscount Folkestone; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke April 27, [278] 1270

Parl. Papers—

Abstract (England), 1881-2 . . . 208
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Local Taxes, 1876-1881 . . . 138

Locomotives on Highways Act—Traction Engines—Further Legislation

Question, Mr. Stuart-Wortley; Answer, Mr. Hibbert April 16, [278] 299

London and North Western Railway (Additional Powers) Bill (by Order)

c. Moved, "That the Bill, as amended, be now considered" May 1, [278] 1515

Amendt. to leave out "now considered," add "re-committed to the former Committee" (*Mr. J. Holland*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put; A. 178, N. 167; M. 11 (D. L. 77)

Main Question put, and agreed to; Bill considered

[cont.]

London and North Western Railway (Additional Powers) Bill—cont.

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3^o" (*Sir Charles Forster*) May 8, [279] 194

Amendt. to leave out "now read 3^o" insert "re-committed" (*Mr. A. J. Balfour*) v.; Question proposed, "That 'now read 3^o,' &c.;" after debate, Question put; A. 173, N. 157; M. 16 (D. L. 85)

Moved, "That the Vote of Mr. Plunket be disallowed" (*Mr. Kenny*); after short debate, Question put; A. 36, N. 254; M. 218 (D. L. 86)

Main Question put, and agreed to (*Queen's Consent* signified); Bill read 3^o

1. Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^a" May 31, 1265; after short debate, Motion agreed to; Bill read 2^a, and committed

Moved, "That it be an instruction to the Committee to which the Bill is referred, that the Railway Company shall not be empowered to appropriate a larger portion of the Parochial Burial Ground of St. James' than is proved to be absolutely required for the necessary convenience of the travelling public, by means of the enlargement of the railway station and of the substitution of a new street in lieu of the existing street which is to be absorbed in the process of the enlargement of the station" (*The Lord Mount-Temple*); after further short debate, on Question? Cont. 49, Not-Cont. 89; M. 40; resolved in the negative; the Committee to be proposed by the Committee of Selection

Div. List, Cont. and Not-Cont. 1271

LONDON, Bishop of

Cathedral Statutes, 2R. [279] 1736

Criminal Law Amendment, Comm. cl. 5, [280] 1387; Report, cl. 6, 1856

London and North-Western Railway (Additional Powers), 2R. [279] 1269

Parochial Charities (London), 2R. [282] 1795

London Brokers' Relief Act (1870) Repeal Bill (*Mr. Richard B. Martin, Mr. Magniac, Mr. Buxton*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Eill 19]
Ordered, "That the Order [16th February] that the London Brokers' Relief Act (1870) Repeal Bill be read 2^o upon Wednesday 9th May be read, and discharged Mar 20, [277] 989

Ordered, "That the Bill be withdrawn; Leave given to present another Bill instead thereof [See title *Brokers' (City of London) Bill*]

London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Bill (*by Order*)

a. Read 3^o, after short debate June 5, [279] 1739

London Commissioners of Sewers (Ventilation of Railways) Bill

(*Sir Thomas Chambers, Mr. William Lawrence, Mr. Robert Fowler*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o June 4
Order for 2R. read June 11, [280] 188

London Commissioners of Sewers (Ventilation of Railways) Bill—cont.

Moved, "That the Bill be referred to a Committee of Seven Members, Four nominated by the House, and Three Committee of Selection" (*Mr. And* after short debate, Question put; N. 171; M. 98 (D. L. 124)

London Commissioners of Sewers (Ventilation of Railways) Bill and Metropolitan Board of Works (D Railway) Bill

1. Moved, "That in view of the fact that millions of the working classes of London are compelled habitually to travel on the Metropolitan District Railway, and their health and convenience is dependent upon the improved means of ventilation recently provided by the company under powers granted by Parliament after full inquiry before Committee both Houses, it be an instruction to the Committee to whom the said Bills are referred to allow the attendance before and take the evidence of the representatives of the London Trades Council, and other associated bodies as the Committee may desire, in order that the case of the working men may be fully heard, proposition from such council or other associated bodies be presented to the Committee" (*The Earl of Wemyss*) July 26, [282] after short debate, further Debate adjourned Order for resuming Adjourned Debate July 27, 687; Moved, "That the said Bill be discharged" (*The Earl of Wemyss*) Question? resolved in the affirmative discharged

London Municipal Government Bill (*Fellowship of Free Porters*)

Question, Sir Joseph Bailey; Answered William Harcourt Mar 15, [277] 553

LONG, Mr. W. H., Wilts, N.

Local Option, Res. [278] 1310, 1343

Municipal Corporations (Unreformed), add. cl. [278] 1535

Parliament—Alleged Candidature of Mr. Commissioner Wylie, [279] 939

Parliamentary Registration—Registrar Voters under the Divided Parishes 1879, [282] 536

Police (Metropolis) — Removal of Horses, [277] 212

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Army Medical Department — Hospitals, Res. [282] 15

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Army Organization—Militia and Militia Reserve, Res. [281] 737
 Army (Annual), 3R. [278] 293
 Criminal Law Amendment, 3R. Amendt. [281] 399
 Ireland—Questions
 Arterial Drainage, [279] 1464
 Land Law—Sub-Commissioners, [278] 1540
 Law and Justice—Law Adviser, [279] 378
 Ireland—Land Law—Landlords under the Irish Land Act, Motion for an Address, [278] 1394
 Ireland—National Education, Motion for Papers, [276] 286, 290, 394; [278] 1008
 Law and Police (Scotland)—Clyde Disaster, [281] 1181
 Lunatic Poor (Ireland), 2R. [281] 167
 New Guinea, Motion for Papers, [281] 12
 Trinity College, Dublin, Leasing and Perpetuity Act, 1851, Motion for an Address, [281] 25

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Greenwich Hospital, 2R. [281] 2038; Comm. [282] 251
 Greenwich Hospital Schools, [277] 1814, 1815
 Local Taxation, Res. [278] 478, 486, 490
 Navy Estimates—Dockyards and Naval Yards, &c. [281] 1637
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 Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, [278] 76
 Parliament—Queen's Speech, Address in Answer to, [276] 327
 Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Amendment, 2R. [278] 1771

Lord Alcester's Grant Bill

(*Sir Arthur Otway, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Gladstone*)

c. Message from Her Majesty [13th April]; Resolution reported, and agreed to; Bill ordered; read 1^o April 17 [Bill 145]
 Question, Mr. Arthur Arnold; Answer, Mr. Gladstone April 19, [278] 629; Question, Mr. Stewart MacIver; Answer, Mr. Gladstone May 1, 1874
 Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" April 19, 633
 Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "in the opinion of this House, the services of Lord Alcester during our Naval operations in Egypt were not of such a character as to satisfy this House as to the desirability of assenting to the proposal submitted to it in this Bill" (*Mr. Labouchere*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after long debate, Question put; A. 209, N. 77; M. 132 (D. L. 65)
 Main Question, "That the Bill be now read 2^o," again proposed, 686; after short debate, main Question put; A. 217, N. 85; M. 132 (D. L. 66); Bill read 2^o
 Committee; Report May 31, [279] 1455
 Order for Committee (on re-comm.) read;
 Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" June 8, [280] 38

Lord Alcester's Grant Bill—cont.

Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "this House will, upon this day three months, resolve itself into the said Committee" (*Sir Wilfrid Lawson*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after long debate, Debate adjourned
 Question, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answer, Mr. Gladstone June 8, 84
 Debate resumed June 11, 280; after short debate, Question put; A. 229, N. 45; M. 184 (D. L. 125)
 Main Question, "That Mr. Speaker, &c.," put, and agreed to; Committee; Report, 282
 Read 3^o June 14 [Bill 207]
 l. Read 1^o (*Earl of Northbrook*) June 15 (No. 95)
 Read 2^o, after short debate June 21, 1099
 Committee; Report June 22
 Read 3^o June 25
 Royal Assent June 29 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 16]
 [See title *Baron Alcester*]

Lord Alcester (Grant in Lieu of Annuity)

Considered in Committee May 28, [279] 1075;
 Moved, "That it is expedient to authorise the grant of a sum of £25,000, out of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom, to Frederick Beauchamp Paget, Lord Alcester, Admiral in Her Majesty's Navy, in lieu of the Annuity of Two thousand pounds per annum, which was proposed to be granted to him in answer to the Message from Her Majesty on the 13th day of April last;" after short debate, Question put, and agreed to
 Resolution reported, and agreed to May 29
 Instruction to the Committee on Lord Alcester's Annuity Bill, That they have power to make provision therein pursuant to the said Resolution

Lord Wolseley's Grant Bill

(*Sir Arthur Otway, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Gladstone*)

c. Message from Her Majesty [13th April]; Resolution reported, and agreed to; Bill ordered; read 1^o April 17 [Bill 146]
 Question, Mr. Arthur Arnold; Answer, Mr. Gladstone April 19, 629; Question, Mr. Stewart MacIver; Answer, Mr. Gladstone May 1, 1874
 Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" April 19, 690
 Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "in the opinion of this House, the services of Lord Wolseley during our Military operations in Egypt were not of such a character as to satisfy this House as to the desirability of assenting to the proposal submitted to it in this Bill" (*Mr. Broadhurst*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put; A. 178, N. 55; M. 123 (D. L. 67)
 Main Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 2^o
 Question, Colonel Alexander; Answer, Mr. Speaker April 20, 748
 279] Committee; Report May 31
 Order for Committee (on re-comm.) read;
 Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" June 11, 288

Lord Wolsley's Grant Bill—cont.

Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "this House will, upon this day three months, resolve itself into the said Committee" (*Mr. Labouchere*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put; A. 166, N. 23; M. 138 (D. L. 129)
Main Question, "That Mr. Speaker, &c.," put, and agreed to; Committee; Report, 280] 311 [Bill 208]
Read 3^o, after short debate June 14, 850
l. Read 1st (*Earl of Northbrook*) June 15 (No. 96)
Read 2^a * June 21
Committee *; Report June 22
Read 3^a * June 25
Royal Assent June 29 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 17]
[See title *Baron Wolsley*]

Lord Wolseley (Grant in Lieu of Annuity)

Considered in Committee May 23, [279] 1076;
Moved, "That it is expedient to authorise the grant of a sum of £30,000, out of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom, to Garnet Joseph, Lord Wolseley, General in Her Majesty's Army, in lieu of the Annuity of Two thousand pounds per annum, which was proposed to be granted to him in answer to the Message from Her Majesty on the 13th day of April last;" after short debate, Question put, and agreed to
Resolution reported, and agreed to May 29
Instruction to the Committee on Lord Wolseley's Annuity Bill, That they have power to make provision therein pursuant to the said Resolution

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Question, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice April 24, [278] 1058

Alleged Treaty Concessions, Question, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Mar 20, [277] 936; Question, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Mar 30, 1105

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Bombardment of Mayunga by the French Fleet, Question, Mr. W. E. Forster; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice May 24, [279] 783

The French Invasion, Question, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice May 29, [279] 1103

Intervention of Great Britain, Question, Mr. Arthur Arnold; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice June 11, [280] 212

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Capture of Tamatave by the French, Question, Sir R. Assheton Cross; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice June 19, [280] 985

Bombardment of Tamatave, Questions, Mr. A. M'Arthur, Mr. Bourke; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 5, [281] 467; Question, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 20, [282] 31

Statement of the Prime Minister, Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answers, Mr. Gladstone Aug 13, [283] 276; Questions, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman, Mr. Speaker Aug 16, 743; Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. W. E. Forster, Mr. Onslow, Sir John Hay, Mr. Healy, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett, Mr. Edward Clarke, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Mr. Plunket, Mr. Joseph Cowen; Answers, Mr. Gladstone, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice; Question, Mr. O'Kelly [no reply] Aug 20, 1356

Case of the Rev. Mr. Shaw, Questions, Mr. A. M'Arthur, Mr. R. N. Fowler, Mr. Healy; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Aug 13, [283] 268; Questions, Mr. Bourke, Mr. Plunket, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. Macfarlane, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Mr. Onslow; Answers, Mr. Gladstone Aug 21, 1503; Question, Sir John Hay; Answer, The Attorney General Aug 23, 1732; Question, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Aug 23, 1758

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Insult to the British Flag, Question, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Aug 7, [282] 1846; Questions, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Aug 9, 2095

Mr. Pakenham, the British Consul, Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote, Sir George Campbell, Mr. A. J. Balfour; Answers, Mr. Gladstone, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 11, [281] 1097; Questions, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 13, 1357;—*Death of Consul Pakenham*, Question, Mr. Bourke; Answer, Mr. Gladstone July 16, [281] 1527

The British Consulate, Questions, Sir William M'Arthur, Mr. Arthur Arnold, Sir John Hay; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Aug 14, [283] 471

The English Consular Archives, Question, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Aug 21, [283] 1497

H.M.S. "Dryad," &c. Question, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 17, [281] 1679

Issue of Proclamation prohibiting Landing of Foreigners, Questions, Mr. Bourke, Mr. Arthur Arnold; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Aug 10, [283] 63

Strength of the French Naval Force, Question, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answer, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman July 20, [282] 40

The Despatches, Question, Sir Walter B. Barttelot; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Aug 9, [282] 2114

MAGNIAC, Mr. C., Bedford

Agricultural Holdings (England), Lords Amendment. Consid. [283] 1566
Ireland—Ireland Navigation and Drainage—River Barrow, [283] 1555
Suez (Second) Canal—The Provisional Agreement with M. de Lesseps, [281] 1097;—*Ministerial Statement*, [282] 156
Supply—Criminal Prosecutions, &c. in Ireland, [283] 354

Main Roads (England)—Grant for Maintenance

Questions, Mr. E. W. Harcourt; Answers, The Chancellor of the Exchequer Feb 22, [276] 579

Maintenance of Children Bill

(Mr. Hopwood, Mr. Thomasson, Mr. Summers)
a. Ordered; read 1st Mar 19 [Bill 124]
2R. [Dropped]

MAKINS, Colonel W. T., Essex, S.

Army—Questions
Army and Militia (Numbers), [278] 310
Conditions of Acceptance of Recruits, [278] 75
Deficiencies, [278] 1711

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MAKINS, Colonel W. T.—cont.

Contagious Diseases Acts, Motion for the Adjournment of the House, [279] 71
Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 7), Consid. [282] 425
Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 8), 2R. [281] 1206
Law and Police—Public Thoroughfares (Metropolis), [276] 301
Municipal Corporations (Unreformed), Comm. [278] 1521; *add. cl.* 1536, 1537
Parliament—Standing Orders, Res. [279] 1893
Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. *cl.* 15, [281] 269, 273; *add. cl.* 1159
Royal Marines, Res. [277] 590
Supply—Royal Parks and Pleasure Gardens, [277] 1095

Malta (Constitution and Administration)

Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty for further papers and correspondence respecting the constitution and administration of Malta" (*The Earl De La Warr*) Mar 9, [276] 1881; after short debate, Motion withdrawn
Correspondence [3524]
Constitutional Reforms, Question, Mr. Anderson; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley July 19, [281] 1904

Malta—Refugees from Egypt

Moved for, "Papers from the Government of Malta to the Colonial Secretary in connexion with residence and cost of maintenance in Malta of refugees from Egypt during the autumn of last year, and for all Correspondence up to the present date" (*The Earl De La Warr*) June 7, [279] 1896; after short debate, Motion amended, and agreed to

Malta—The Maltese Nobility—Committee of Privilege

Address for, "Last Report of the Committee of the Maltese Nobility on the claims of certain members of that body" (*Viscount Sidmouth*) agreed to Aug 23, [283] 1718
The Report P.P. [3812]
List of Nobles *l.* 164

MANCHESTER, Duke of

Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. *cl.* 2, [283] 17
New Guinea, Motion for Papers, [281] 13

Manchester Ship Canal Bill (by Order)

a. Read 2^d, after short debate Mar 16, [277] 685
Moved, "That it be an Instruction to the Committee on the Manchester Ship Canal Bill that they have power to inquire and consider whether the powers respecting the Canal can be properly granted, regard being had to the question whether, to make the Canal effective, a low-water channel in the estuary of the Mersey be necessary, and whether the formation and maintenance of

Manchester Ship Canal Bill—cont.

such a channel is reasonably practicable" (*Sir Joseph Bailey*) May 7, [279] 17; agreed to
Bill, as amended, to be considered To-morrow after short debate July 11, [281] 106
Considered July 12, 1182
Moved, "That Standing Orders 222 be suspended, and that the Bill be read 3^d (Queen's Consent, on behalf of the Duke of Lancaster, to be signed (*Sir Charles Forster*); after short Motion agreed to; Bill read 3^d (Consent signified), and passed
l. Order for 2R. read July 24, [281] 258
Moved, "That the Order made on the 10th of March last 'That no Private Bill from the House of Commons shall be second time after Thursday the 21st of June next' be dispensed with" (*The Winmarleigh*); after short debate, Motion *l.* Cont. 87, Not-Cont. 24; *M.* resolved in the affirmative
Div. List, Cont. and Not-Cont., After further short debate, Bill read committed; the Committee to be selected by the Committee of Selection
The Select Committee, Notice of Motion Earl of Cork; short debate thereon [282] 513
Report from the Select Committee, That not expedient to proceed further with Bill; read, and ordered to lie on the

MANNERS, Right Hon. Lord J. Leicestershire, N.

Africa (South)—Distribution of the [277] 203
Transvaal and Bechuanaland, [277] 1
Africa (South)—Transvaal—Questions Agent for the Government, [277] 1
Policy of H.M. Government, [277] 163
Supplies of Ammunition, [277] 163
Africa (South)—Transvaal—Policy of Government, Res. [278] 227, 228, 23
Customs and Inland Revenue, 2R. [278] 1934
Factory and Education Acts (Scotland) [276] 1934
Inland Postal Telegrams, Res. [277] 10
Irish Land Commission—Erection of Land Cottages, [277] 554
Kilmainham Prison (Release of Mr. &c.), [277] 1175
Law and Police—Children's Dangerous Performances Act, 1879—The "Humper," [282] 521
Local Government Board (Scotland), *cl.* 3, [283] 657; *cl.* 4, 667
Metropolis—Questions
Metropolitan Improvements—The Victoria Statue, [282] 2069
Parks—Mounds in the Green Park 192
St. Paul's Cathedral—The Westminster Monument, [282] 2105
National Expenditure, Res. [277] 1714
Parliament—Business of the House—Ment Measures, [276] 308
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Post Office (Contracts)—Irish Mail Service,
[277] 929
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Irish Land Commission, [277] 74
United Kingdom—Cultivation of Tobacco by
Farmers for Sale, [278] 621

MANVERS, Earl
Agricultural Holdings (England), Commons'
Reasons Consid. [283] 1628

MAPPIN, Mr. F. T., *East Retford*
Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. 1,
[281] 1734
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Practices), Comm. cl. 19, [281] 345

MAR AND KELLIE, Earl of
Representative Peers (Scotland), Report, cl. 2,
[280] 18

Marine Policies (Collisions) Bill
(*Mr. Coleridge Kennard, Sir Charles Mills, Sir
John Lubbock, Mr. Hubbard*)
c. Ordered; read 1^o June 28 [Bill 245]
Bill withdrawn * July 25

MARJORIBANKS, Hon. E., *Berwickshire*
Agricultural Holdings (Scotland), Comm. cl. 1,
[282] 441; cl. 2, 453, 456; cl. 4, 468, 475;
cl. 26, 1257
East India (Expenditure), Res. Motion for
Adjournment, [279] 314
Government Life Annuitants—Certificates—
10 Geo. IV., c. 24, [278] 892
Mercantile Marine—Harbour Accommodation
on the East Coast, Motion for a Select Com-
mittee, [277] 377
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on Loans—Harbour Loans, [282] 1339
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Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister, 3R.
Amendt. [280] 1653
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"Hen and Chickens" Rock and "North
Shoal," Motion for a Paper, [280] 1112
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Compensations, Motion for Papers, [279]
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Marriage (Hours of Solemnization) Bill
(*Mr. Caine, Mr. Morley, Mr. Willis*)
c. Ordered * Feb 20
Read 1^o Feb 23 [Bill 104]
2R. [Dropped]

Marriage Laws, The
Resolution, Mr. Monk April 13, [278] 260
[House counted out]
Marriages between Englishwomen and French-
men, Question, Mr. H. S. Northcote; An-
swer, Sir William Harcourt June 11, [280]
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Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister
Bill (*Sir Thomas Chambers, Mr.
Alderman Cotton, Mr. Morley, Dr. Cameron,
Mr. Causton*)
c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 36]
2R. [Dropped]

Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister
Bill [u.L.] (*The Earl of Dalhousie*)
1. Presented; read 1^o May 8 (No. 56)
Petition of the Bishops of the Episcopal Church
in Scotland, Petition presented, The Bishop
279] of Lincoln May 31, 1283; Petition read, and
ordered to lie on the Table
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"
280] June 11, 143

Amendt. to leave out ("now," add ("this day
six months") (*The Earl Cairns*); after long
debate, on Question, That ("now," &c. ?
(leave being given to the Lord Middleton to
vote in the House); Cont. 165, Not-Cont. 158;
M. 7

Resolved in the affirmative; Bill read 2^o

Div. List, Cont. and Not-Cont., 184

Moved, "That the vote of the Earl of Strad-
brooke be recorded;" after short debate, on
Question ? resolved in the negative

Committee, after short debate June 19, 898

Report June 25, 1401 (No. 112)

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3^o"

June 28, 1653

Amendt. to leave out ("now," add ("this
day six months") (*The Duke of Marl-*
borough); after debate, on Question, That
("now," &c. ? (leave being given to the Lord
Middleton and the Lord Mostyn to vote in
the House); Cont. 140, Not-Cont. 145; M. 5

Resolved in the negative; and Bill to be read

3^o on this day six months (No. 129)

Div. List, Cont. and Not-Cont., 1686

MARRIOTT, Mr. W. T., *Brighton*
Army—Auxiliary Forces—Brighton Volunteer
Review, [277] 1963
Burnley Borough Improvement Bill—Section
135, [277] 1156
Metropolitan Board of Works (District Rail-
way), Consid. [281] 1184, 1186, 1188
Metropolitan District Railway, 2R. Amendt.
[278] 1026, 1037
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Metropolitan Board of Works (District Rail-
way), [279] 1612
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2R. [278] 1493

MARTIN, Mr. P., *Kilkenny Co.*
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School, Dublin, [282] 2083, 2085
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Drainage, &c. — Action of the Board of
Works, [277] 361; [278] 905
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 Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. [279] 1965, 1967; *cl.* 2, [280] 700, 740, 847; *Consid. cl.* 2, [282] 2010
 Parliamentary Registration (Ireland), Comm. *cl.* 4, [283] 485; *Amendt.* 490
 Supply—Supplementary Estimates, 1882-3—Irish Land Commission, [277] 11, 32
 Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland), Comm. *cl.* 1, [283] 986

MARTIN, Mr. R. Biddulph, *Tewkesbury*

- National Debt, 2R. [282] 1923
 Supply—Science and Art Department, [279] 675
 Ways and Means—Financial Statement, [277] 1583

MARUM, Mr. E. P. M., *Kilkenny Co.*

- Bankruptcy, *Consid.* [283] 200
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 District Probate Registrars, [280] 927
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 Royal Irish Constabulary—Interference with Ladies attending Public Meetings, [277] 571
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 Timber Planting—Return of Trees planted since 1857, [278] 1273
 Local Government Board (Ireland), Res. [280] 1354
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- Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. *cl.* 1, [281] 1700; *cl.* 5, [282] 177; *add. cl.* 401

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 279] Agricultural Holdings (Scotland), 3R 1769, 1771, 1796, 1798
 282] Comm. *cl.* 1, 432, 437, 442; *Amendt. cl.* 2, *Amendt.* 450, 457, 458; *cl.* 4, A 467, 468, 469, 477, 478, 480; *cl.* 5, A 481, 495; *cl.* 6, *Amendt.* 1205; *cl.* 7, *cl.* 9, 1210; *Amendt.* 1211; *cl.* 16, A 1214; *cl.* 17, *Amendt.* 1215; *cl.* 23, A 1231, 1232, 1233, 1236; *cl.* 24, 1245; *Amendt.* 1251, 1253, 1254, 1256, 1258; *cl.* 27, *Amendt.* 1281, 1282; *Amendt.* 1284; *cl.* 36, *Amendt.* id.
 Army (Auxiliary Forces)—Training of Recruits, [281] 1891
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Treasury—The "Crown's Nominees Account," [282] 132

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Agricultural Holdings (Scotland), Comm. cl. 1, [282] 440; cl. 6, 823

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Navy Estimates—Machinery and Ships Built by Contract, [281] 1648

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Landlord and Tenant—Evictions on Lord Cloncurry's Estate, Co. Limerick, [278] 1706

Law and Justice—Green Street Courthouse, Dublin, [278] 64;—James Carey, the Approver, [280] 1551

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Parliamentary Registration (Ireland), Comm. cl. 8, Amendt. [283] 495, 497; Consider. add. cl. 1103, 1105

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Supply—Criminal Prosecutions, &c. in Ireland, [283] 336

Houses of Parliament, Buildings of, [279] 435, 442

Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland), 2R. [283] 547; Comm. add. cl. 1100

Medals Bill (Mr. Courtney, Secretary Sir William Harcourt, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer)

c. Ordered; read 1^o May 10 [Bill 188]

Read 2^o, after short debate May 21, [279] 873

Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" July 3, [281] 251; Debate adjourned

Debate resumed Aug 13, [283] 430; Committee—*S. P.*

Committee; Report Aug 16, 922

Considered; read 3^o Aug 17

l. Read 1^o (Lord Thurlow) Aug 20 (No. 208)

Read 2^o Aug 21

Committee; Report Aug 22

Read 3^o Aug 23

Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 45]

Medical Act Amendment Bill [H.L.]

(The Lord Carlisle)

l. Presented; read 1^o Mar 8 (No. 16)

277] Read 2^o, after short debate April 5, 1419

278] Committee April 19, 536

Report, after debate April 26, 1118 (No. 36)

Read 3^o April 27, 1202 (No. 49)

c. Read 1^o (Mr. Mundella) May 2 [Bill 102]

Bill withdrawn Aug 22

Medical Act Amendment [Cost of Certificate]

c. Resolution considered in Committee, and agreed to Aug 18, [283] 1308

Medical Act (1858) Amendment Bill [H.L.]

(The Lord O'Hagan)

l. Presented; read 1^o May 4 (No. 52)

Read 2^o May 10, [279] 356

Committee; Report May 24

Read 3^o May 25

c. Read 1^o (Dr. Lyons) May 30 [Bill 205]

Read 2^o July 3, [281] 314

Committee; Report July 4

Read 3^o July 5

l. Royal Assent July 16 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 19]

Medical Acts—Examination for Medical Appointments in the Army, Navy, and India

Question, Mr. Gibson; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington Feb 23, [276] 705

Medical Charities Act, 1852—Dispensary Officers (Ireland)

Question, Mr. Healy; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Aug 9, [282] 2073

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Questions, Colonel King-Harman, Sir Trevor Lawrence; Answers, Mr. Gladstone Aug 6, [282] 1847

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Amendment of Act, [282] 1329

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Parliamentary Registration (Ireland), 2R. [282] 1550, 1551; Comm. cl. 4, [283] 485, 486, 492; cl. 6, 497, 499, 501; cl. 11, 505; add. cl. 521, 522

Union Officers' Superannuation (Ireland), 2R. [282] 1581

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Classification of Merchant Vessels, Question, Mr. Fraser-Mackintosh; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain April 16, [278] 300

"Hen and Chickens" Rock, Orkney, Question, Mr. W. H. Smith; Answer, Mr. Gladstone June 8, [280] 84; Questions, Mr. Gourley, Sir John Hay; Answers, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman June 12, 381; Motion for a Paper, The Duke of Marlborough June 21, 1112; Question, Dr. Cameron; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain June 25, 1413

Increase of Scurvy—Mr. Gray's Report, Question, Mr. Dillwyn; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain Mar 19, [277] 795

International Sailing Code — The "City of Mecca," Question, Mr. Anderson; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice May 10, [279] 404

Irish Lighthouses, Question, Baron Henry De Worms; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain July 12, [281] 1215

Load-Line of Ships, Question, Mr. Gourley; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain April 19, [278] 609

Loss of Life at Sea, Question, Sir John Hay; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain May 4, [278] 1871

Mercantile Marine Fund—Accounts for 1881-2, Question, Mr. James Stewart; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain July 23, [282] 137
P.P. 272, 533

Passenger Acts

Emigrant and Passenger Ships—Scandinavian Emigrants, Question, Mr. Moore; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain July 12, [281] 1213

Infectious Diseases in Emigrant Ships, Question, Mr. Moore; Answer, Mr. George Russell July 9, [281] 779

Overcrowding of a River Steamer at Broughty Ferry, River Tay, Scotland, Question, Mr. Henderson; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain July 16, [281] 1512

Mercantile Marine—cont.

Signalling at Sea, Question, Sir John Answer, Mr. Chamberlain April 12, [278] 13
Signal Stations, Question, Lord Claud I ton; Answer, Mr. Campbell-Bann Feb 22, [276] 595

Signal Watch-house at Dungeness, Question, Lord Claud Hamilton; Answer, The quess of Hartington May 31, [279] 13
The Folkestone and Dover Packets, Question, Mr. Molloy; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain Mar 1, [276] 1160

The Passing Tolls Act—Collection of the Dues, Question, Mr. Warton; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain May 22, [279] 699

Transports, Question, General Sir C Balfour; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain Mar 1, [276] 1155 [See title Board of

Mercantile Marine—Harbour Accommodation on the East Coast

Moved, "That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the Harbour accommodation on the Coasts of the United Kingdom having regard to the laws and arrangements under which the construction and improvement of Harbours may now be effected (Mr. Marjoribanks) Mar 13, [277] 377 debate, Motion agreed to

And, on May 10, Committee nominated follows:—Mr. Marjoribanks (Chairman), Arthur Arnold, Sir George Balfour, Viscount Baring, Mr. Blake, Sir Thomas Brassey, Donald Currie, Mr. Guy Dawnay, Mr. Douglas, Mr. Hastings, Mr. Heneage, Arthur Hill, Colonel Milne Home, Sir Charles Mills, Colonel Nolan, Lord Rendlesham, Charles Ross, Mr. Salt, Mr. Stevenson, Hanbury Tracy, Colonel Walrond, Sir E. Watkin, and Sir Eardley Wilmot
Report of Select Committee—P.P.

[See title Lighthouse Illuminants]

Merchandise Marks (Channel Islands and Isle of Man) Bill [U.L.]

(The Lord Belper)

1. Presented; read 1st July 12 (No. 1)
Read 2nd July 19, [281] 1876

Order for Committee discharged; Bill drawn, after debate Aug 6, [282] 1601

Merchant Shipping Acts

Collisions at Sea, Questions, General Williams; Answers, Mr. Chamberlain July 27, [277] 199; Mar 15, 555;—The "1" Question, Mr. O'Donnell; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain June 18, [280] 785

The Emigrant Ship "Oxford," Question, Henry Peek, Mr. Puleston, Mr. Mac Answers, Mr. Chamberlain Mar 12, [277] 137

Merchant Shipping (Fishing Boats) [U.L.] (The Lord Sudeley)

1. Presented; read 1st July 12 (No. 1)
Further debate on 2R. adjourned, after debate July 17, [281] 1655

Adjourned Debate resumed July 24, [282] after short debate, Bill read 2nd

Committee, after short debate Aug 2, 12 Report Aug 3 (No. 1)
Read 3rd Aug 6

Merchant Shipping (Fishing Boats) Bill—cont.

- c. Read 1st (Mr. Chamberlain) Aug 19 [Bill 288]
 Questions, Sir John Hay; Answers, The Lord
 283; Advocate Aug 20, 1352
 . Read 2^d, after short debate Aug 20, 1446
 Question, Sir R. Assheton Cross; Answer, Mr.
 . Chamberlain Aug 21, 1511
 . Committee; Report Aug 21, 1592
 Considered; read 3^d Aug 22
 l. Commons Amends. (No. 218)
 Commons Amends. considered, and agreed to
 . Aug 23, 1713
 Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 41]

*Merchant Shipping—The Royal Commis-
sion on Tonnage*

- Question, Sir John Jenkins; Answer, Mr.
 Chamberlain July 31, [282] 1147

*Mersey River (Gunpowder) Bill [n.l.]**(The Earl of Rosebery)*

- l. Presented; read 1st, and referred to the
 Examiners April 23 (No. 46)
 Read 2^d April 27
 Committee; Report April 30
 Read 3^d May 1
 c. Read 1st July 10 [Bill 262]
 Read 2^d July 12
 Committee; Report July 16
 Read 3^d July 17
 l. Royal Assent Aug 20 [46 & 47 Vict. c. cxxxiv]

METGE, Mr. R. H., Meath

- Ireland—Land Law Act, 1881—Provisions as
 to Labourers' Cottages—Minutes of the
 Commissioners, [276] 849
 Parliament—Queen's Speech, Address in An-
 swer to, [276] 749, 756

METROPOLIS (Questions)

- Coal and Wine Duties—Application for Re-
 newal, Question, Mr. Charles Palmer;
 Answer, Mr. Gladstone April 9, [277]
 1836; Questions, Mr. Firth, Mr. Slagg,
 Lord George Hamilton; Answers, The Chan-
 cellor of the Exchequer May 28, [279] 958

Commons and Open Spaces

- Meeting in Southwark Park, Questions, Mr.
 Borlase, Mr. Labouchere; Answers, Sir
 James M'Garel-Hogg July 24, [282] 204
 Peckham Rye Common—Right of Public Meet-
 ing, Questions, Mr. Firth; Answers, Sir
 James M'Garel-Hogg April 23, [278] 891;
 Question, Mr. Broadhurst; Answer, Sir
 James M'Garel-Hogg June 14, [280] 542;
 Question, Sir R. Assheton Cross; Answer,
 Sir William Harcourt June 22, 1272
 St. James's Burial Ground, Westminster,
 Question, Mr. J. Holland; Answer, Sir
 Charles W. Dilke April 30, [278] 1432
 Waste Land at West Brompton, Question, Mr.
 St. Aubyn; Answer, Sir William Harcourt
 June 21, [280] 1127

- Defective carrying out of the Smoke Nuisance
 Act, Question, Mr. Cubitt; Answer, Sir
 William Harcourt July 20, [282] 528

METROPOLIS—cont.

- Drainage, Observations, Lord Forbes; Reply,
 Lord Thurlow Aug 6, [282] 1614
 Electric Lighting, Question, Mr. J. R. Yorke;
 Answer, Mr. Chamberlain April 27, [278]
 1271
 Kew Gardens—Extension of Hours of Opening,
 Question, Sir Trevor Lawrence; Answer,
 Mr. Shaw Lefevre Feb 19, [276] 310
 Licensing—Sporting News—Betting, Ques-
 tions, Mr. Hopwood, Mr. Joseph Cowen;
 Answers, Sir William Harcourt Aug 23,
 [283] 1761
 Metropolis Management and Building Acts
 Amendment Act—The "Hôtel Métropole,"
 Questions, Mr. Story-Maskelyne; Answers,
 Sir James M'Garel-Hogg May 10, [279]
 382; June 4, 1622
 Metropolitan Bridges—Putney Bridge, Ques-
 tion, Mr. Firth; Answer, Sir James M'Garel-
 Hogg June 14, [280] 551
 Metropolitan Carriage Acts—The Cab Radius,
 Question, Mr. Macfarlane; Answer, Sir
 William Harcourt April 16, [278] 293
 Metropolitan Fire Brigade, Question, Mr.
 Coops; Answer, Sir William Harcourt
 Feb 22, [276] 578
 Municipal Reform, Question, Mr. Stuart-
 Wortley; Answer, Sir William Harcourt
 Mar 5, [276] 1419
 Petroleum Acts—Storage of Petroleum in the
 Metropolitan Area, Question, Sir Edward
 Watkin; Answer, Sir William Harcourt
 Aug 7, [282] 1837

Police

- Case of William Loakes, a Cab-driver, Ques-
 tion, Lord Algonson Percy; Answer, Sir
 William Harcourt Mar 12, [277] 202
 Removal of Injured Horses, Question, Mr.
 Long; Answer, Sir William Harcourt Mar 12,
 [277] 212

Poor Law

- St. Pancras Workhouse—Re-vaccination of Fe-
 males, Question, Mr. P. A. Taylor; Answer,
 Sir Charles W. Dilke May 31, [279] 1322

Public Health

- Bow Cemetery, Question, Mr. Bryce; Answer,
 Sir William Harcourt Mar 1, [276] 1154
 Infectious Diseases, Question, Mr. Alderman
 Cotton; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke
 June 14, [280] 536
 Precautions against Cholera, Questions, Sir R.
 Assheton Cross, Mr. Monk, Mr. Mitchell
 Henry; Answers, Sir Charles W. Dilke, Sir
 James M'Garel-Hogg July 24, [282] 286
 Sanitary Condition of Whitechapel, Question,
 Mr. Bryce; Answer, Sir William Harcourt
 June 18, [280] 780
 Sewer Ventilation, Questions, Mr. J. G.
 Talbot, Mr. Labouchere; Answers, Sir
 Charles W. Dilke Aug 16, [283] 717; Ques-
 tions, Mr. J. G. Talbot; Answers, Sir
 Charles W. Dilke, Sir William Harcourt
 Aug 23, 1763
 The Regent's Canal, Question, Mr. Monk;
 Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke Aug 10, [283]
 72; Question, Mr. D. Grant; Answer, Sir
 Charles W. Dilke Aug 16, 739

[cont.]

[cont.]

METROPOLIS—cont.

St. Paul's Cathedral—Proposed Transfer of the Wellington Monument, Question, Lord John Manners; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Aug 9, [282] 2105

Street Traffic

Obstructions in Main Thoroughfares, Question, Mr. Gregory; Answer, Sir William Harcourt May 28, [279] 956

Traffic at Hamilton Place, Piccadilly, Question, Mr. Rolls; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre July 3, [281] 181; Observations, Earl Fortescue; Reply, Lord Thurlow Aug 24, [283] 1836

Whitehall, Question, Mr. Macfarlane; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre Aug 22, [283] 1644

Wood Pavements, Question, Viscount Newport; Answer, Sir James M'Garel-Hogg June 28, [280] 1697

Theatres and Music Halls—Precautions against Fire—Captain Shaw's Report, Questions, Mr. Dixon-Hartland; Answers, Sir William Harcourt Feb 19, [276] 297; June 25, [280] 1421

The Parks

Finsbury Park, Question, Mr. W. M. Torrens; Answer, Sir James M'Garel-Hogg July 5, [281] 475

Green Park, the Mounds in the, Questions, Mr. Dixon-Hartland, Mr. Schreiber, Lord John Manners; Answers, Mr. Shaw Lefevre April 13, [278] 191

Hyde Park, Question, Sir Eardley Wilmot; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre Mar 2, [276] 1258;—*The "Achilles" in*, Question, Mr. Schreiber; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre Mar 20, [277] 991

Kensington Gardens, the Trees in, Question, Sir George Campbell; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre Aug 18, [283] 1112

Regent's Park—Access to the Ornamental Water, Question, Mr. D. Grant; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre Aug 16, [283] 735;—*The Inclosures in*, Question, Mr. D. Grant; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer Feb 27, [276] 1019; Questions, Mr. D. Grant, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answers, Mr. Shaw Lefevre June 21, [280] 1124; Questions, Mr. D. Grant; Answers, Mr. Shaw Lefevre July 19, [281] 1833; July 26, [282] 540; Question, Mr. D. Grant; Answer, Mr. Courtney Aug 2, 1821; Questions, Mr. D. Grant, Mr. Molloy; Answers, Mr. Courtney Aug 9, 2006; Questions, Mr. Hopwood, Mr. Dillwyn; Answers, Mr. Courtney Aug 23, [283] 1738

Richmond Park—The Roehampton Gate, Question, Observations, Lord Oranmore and Browne, Viscount Midleton; Reply, Lord Sudeley May 28, [279] 930

St. James's Park, Question, Mr. Montague Guest; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre Mar 8, [276] 1750; Questions, The Earl of Belmore; Answers, Lord Sudeley April 17, [278] 411; April 20, 731

METROPOLIS—cont.

Water Supply

Question, Mr. Firth; Answer, Sir C. W. Dilke April 16, [278] 318; Question, Mr. Cameron, Mr. Mitchell Henry, Sir Charles W. Dilke July 31, 1133; Questions, Mr. Broadhurst Firth, Mr. J. R. Yorke; Answer, Charles W. Dilke, Sir James M'Garel Aug 6, 1623; Question, Mr. W. M. Torrens, Sir Charles W. Dilke Aug 10, 62; Question, Mr. Warton; Answer, Charles W. Dilke, 72

Metropolitan Water Companies—Return Accounts, Question, Sir R. Assheton; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke May 3, 1713 Accounts . . . P.

The Southwark Water Company, Question, Mr. Tatton Egerton, Mr. Labouchere, Mr. George Russell, Sir Charles W. Dilke Aug 3, [282] 1471

Metropolis Water Act, 1871—The Grand Junction Waterworks Company, Question, Justin M'Carthy; Answer, Mr. Russell July 31, [282] 1147

Analysis of Waters, Question, Mr. Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke Aug 9 2094

State of the Thames, Questions, Mr. Labouchere, Mr. Arthur O'Connor; Answer, Charles W. Dilke Aug 21, [283] 1488; Question, Mr. Thorold Rogers; Answer, William Harcourt Aug 23, 1758

Metropolis Improvement Provisional Order (Saint George-in-the-East)

(Mr. Hibbert, Secretary Sir William Harcourt)

c. Ordered; read 1st May 8 [Bill]

Read 2nd June 12

Report June 20

Read 3rd June 21

l. Read 1st (Earl of Dalhousie) June 22 (N)

Read 2nd June 26

Committee July 2

Report July 3

Read 3rd July 5

Royal Assent July 16 [46 & 47 Vict. c.]

Metropolis Improvement Provisional Order (No. 2) (Limehouse) Bill

(Mr. Hibbert, Secretary Sir William Harcourt)

c. Ordered; read 1st May 8 [Bill]

Read 2nd June 12

Report June 20

Read 3rd June 21

l. Read 1st (Earl of Dalhousie) June 22 (N)

Read 2nd June 26

Committee July 2

Report July 3

Read 3rd July 5

Royal Assent July 16 [46 & 47 Vict. c.]

Metropolis Improvement Provisional Order (No. 3) (Lambeth) Bill

(Mr. Hibbert, Secretary Sir William Harcourt)

c. Ordered; read 1st May 8 [Bill]

Read 2nd June 12

Report June 20

Read 3rd June 21

Metropolis Improvement Provisional Order (No. 3)
(Lambeth) Bill—cont.

- l.* Read 1st (Earl of Dalhousie) June 23 (No. 120)
 Read 2nd June 26
 Committee July 2
 Report July 3
 Read 3rd July 5
 Royal Assent July 16 [46 & 47 Vict. c. xcvi]

Metropolis Improvement Provisional Order (No. 4) (Greenwich) Bill

(Mr. Hibbert, Secretary Sir William Harcourt)

- c.* Ordered; read 1st June 5 [Bill 214]
 Read 2nd June 13
 Report June 20
 Read 3rd June 21
l. Read 1st (Earl of Dalhousie) June 23 (No. 121)
 Read 2nd June 26
 Committee July 2
 Report July 3
 Read 3rd July 5
 Royal Assent July 16 [46 & 47 Vict. c. xcvi]

Metropolitan and Metropolitan District Railway

- Question, Sir Henry Peek; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain Mar 1, [276] 1156
Ventilating Shafts on the Thames Embankment,
 Questions, Mr. Buxton, Lord Algeron Percy, Mr. J. R. Yorke; Answers, Sir James McGarel-Hogg, Mr. Chamberlain Mar 5, [276] 1410; Notice, The Earl of Milltown Mar 8, 1706; Questions, Mr. Buxton, Mr. Puleston; Answers, Mr. Chamberlain, 1747; Questions, Mr. W. H. James; Answers, Sir James McGarel-Hogg Mar 15, 548; Question, Mr. W. H. Smith; Answer, Sir James McGarel-Hogg Mar 19, 802; Questions, Mr. A. J. Balfour; Answers, Mr. Courtney, Mr. Gladstone April 2, 1178; Question, Mr. W. H. James; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain April 9, 1828; Question, Lord Algeron Percy; Answer, Sir James McGarel-Hogg [278] April 19, 613; Question, Observations, The Earl of Milltown; Reply, Lord Sudeley April 20, 731
 [See *Metropolis—Sewer Ventilation*]

Metropolitan Board of Works

- Charing Cross Railway Bridge,* Question, Mr. Anderson; Answer, Sir James McGarel-Hogg June 11, [280] 223
Prohibition of Public Meetings on Open Spaces,
 Questions, Mr. Thorold Rogers, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answers, Sir James McGarel-Hogg, Sir William Harcourt June 11, [280] 213
 [See *Metropolis—Commons and Open Spaces*]
The Coal and Wine Dues, Question, Mr. Ritchie; Answer, Mr. Gladstone April 3, [277] 1279 [See *Metropolis*]

Metropolitan Board of Works (District Railway) Bill (by Order)

(Sir James McGarel-Hogg, Lord Algeron Percy, Mr. Marriott)

- c.* Ordered; read 1st June 4
 Read 2nd, after short debate June 12, [280] 374
 Bill, as amended, to be considered To-morrow, after short debate July 11, [281] 1088

[cont.]

Metropolitan Board of Works (District Railway) Bill—cont.

- Moved, "That the Bill, as amended, be now considered" July 12, 1184
 Amendt. to leave out "now," add "upon this day three months" (Mr. Thorold Rogers); Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" after short debate, Amendt. withdrawn
 Main Question put, and agreed to; Bill considered

Metropolitan Board of Works (Money) Bill

(Mr. Courtney, Lord Richard Grosvenor)

- c.* Ordered; read 1st July 4 [Bill 264]
 Read 2nd, after short debate July 9, [281] 913
 Committee; Report July 16
 Considered July 17
 Read 3rd July 18
l. Read 1st (Lord Thurlow) July 19 (No. 149)
 Read 2nd July 24
 Committee; Report Aug 2
 Read 3rd Aug 3
 Royal Assent Aug 20 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 27]

Metropolitan District Railway Bill (by Order)

- c.* Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2nd" April 24, [278] 1011
 Amendt. to leave out "now," add "upon this day six months" (Mr. Hicks); Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" after debate, Amendt. withdrawn
 Main Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 2nd
 Moved, "That it be an Instruction to the Committee to which the said Bill is referred, that, provided the Standing Orders have either been complied with or dispensed with, they have power to insert in the said Bill a Clause making it compulsory upon the Metropolitan District Railway Company to pull down the ventilators, now erected or in course of erection in Tothill Street, Broad Sanctuary, Victoria Street, the Thames Embankment and Gardens, and in Queen Victoria Street, under the award of Captain Galton, and to reinstate the said streets and gardens, upon such terms as may seem reasonable to the Committee" (Mr. Marriott), 1026
 Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "the ventilators on the Embankment having been sanctioned by the House after full investigation of the facts by one of its Committees, and in order to promote the health and comfort of the millions who are travelling by the Underground Railway, the House declines, on mere *ex parte* statements, to upset the previous decision by an Instruction that would appear vindictive, as given on a Bill not relating to the subject" (Mr. Anderson) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put; A. 200, N. 110; M. 90 (D. L. 70)
 Main Question put, and agreed to
 Ordered, That leave be given to the Metropolitan Board of Works and the Commissioners of Sewers of the City of London to appear, by their Counsel, Agents, and Witnesses, before the Committee on the Bill

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Metropolitan District Railway Bill—cont.

in support of any Petition which may be presented by them respectively on the subject, notwithstanding that such Petition has been presented after the period limited by the Standing Orders for the presentation of Petitions against Private Bills

Moved, That it be an Instruction to the Committee on the Bill to inquire what powers, if any, the Metropolitan District Railway Company now possess enabling them to cover in or build over the open cuttings on their Railways; and, if the Company has such powers, that the Committee have power, upon the Standing Orders being complied with or dispensed with, to amend or repeal the section or sections of the Act or Acts giving such powers with such provisos and upon such terms as may seem reasonable to the Committee

That leave be given to the Metropolitan Board of Works and the Commissioners of Sewers of the City of London to appear, by their Counsel, Agents, and Witnesses, before the Committee on the Bill in support of any Petition which may be presented by them respectively on the subject, notwithstanding that such Petition has been presented after the period limited by the Standing Orders for the presentation of Petitions against Private Bills (*Lord, Algernon Percy*); Motion agreed to

Metropolitan District Railway Companies—Ventilation

Moved, "That the shorthand-writer's notes of the proceedings of the Select Committee on the Metropolitan and Metropolitan District Railway Companies Bill, 1879, and on the Metropolitan District Railway Bill, 1881, and of the evidence taken before the said Committees, be laid on the Table, and that such portions of the said proceedings and evidence as relate to the ventilation of the railways be printed" (*The Earl of Milltown*) Mar 12, [277] 144; after debate, Motion withdrawn

Metropolitan District Railway—Metropolitan Board of Works (District Railway)—The Ventilators on the Thames Embankment

Moved, "That the Report from the Committee on the Metropolitan District Railway Bill [presented on 31st May] be now read" (*Mr. Marriott*) June 4, [279] 1612; Motion agreed to; Observations, Mr. Marriott

Moved, "That the Standing Orders be suspended, and that leave be given to the Metropolitan Board of Works to bring in a Bill to amend 'The Metropolitan District Railway Act, 1881,' in relation to the openings or shafts authorised by that Act to be constructed in roads or open spaces within the Metropolis, for the purpose of ventilating their Railways; and for other purposes" (*Sir James M'Garel-Hogg*), 1616

Amendt. in line 2, after "the," insert "Corporation of London and the" (*Sir Thomas Chambers*); Question proposed, "That those

[cont.]

Metropolitan District Railway—Metropolitan Board of Works (District Railway) Ventilators on the Thames Embankment

words be there inserted;" after short Question put, and agreed to Amendt. in line 4, after "Bill," insert Bills" (*Sir Thomas Chambers*); proposed, "That those words be inserted;" after short debate, Question agreed to Main Question, as amended, put, and to

Metropolitan Improvements (Question, Mr. Firth; Answer, Sir M'Garel-Hogg July 30, [282] 960

Hyde Park Corner

Observations, Question, Earl Fortescue Lord Sudeley April 27, [278] 1263 tion, Observations, Earl Fortescue Cadogan, Viscount Sidmouth; Re: Sudeley May 28, [279] 932; Question Gerard Noel, Sir Henry Selwin-1 Answers, Mr. Shaw Lefevre May 3 Question, Observations, Lord De L. Dudley, Lord Lamington, Earl Fo Reply, Lord Sudeley July 13, [281]

Wellington Statue

Question, Mr. Coope; Answer, M Lefevre Feb 16, [276] 167; Question, Lord Mount-Temple; Re: Sudeley; short debate thereon Feb Questions, Mr. Gerard Noel; Answer Shaw Lefevre April 30, [278] 1423 tion, Mr. R. H. Paget; Answer, M Lefevre Aug 2, [282] 1339; Question Henry Holland, Mr. Rylands, Sir Wilmot, Lord John Manners; Answer Shaw Lefevre Aug 9, 2067; Question, Lord Stratheden and C. Reply, Lord Thurlow; short debate Aug 23, [283] 1714

Re-building of the Wellington Arc tions, Mr. A. Pease, Mr. Gerard Noel answers, Mr. Shaw Lefevre May 1 404

Re-erection of the Wellington Statu tions, Lord Strathnairn; Reply Sudeley; short debate thereon May 1288

New Streets east of London Bridge tion, Mr. W. H. James; Answer, S M'Garel-Hogg July 16, [281] 1502

North and South—Communications Thames, Question, Mr. Ritchie; The Chancellor of the Exchequer [279] 960; Question, Mr. Ritchie; Sir James M'Garel-Hogg July 1 1501

Old Temple Bar, Question, Mr. E. S. Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre Mar 1731

Parliament Street, Question, Obse Lord Lamington; Reply, Lord Aug 14, [283] 454

Proposed Park for Paddington, Question Morgan Lloyd, Mr. Boord, Mr. Answers, Mr. Speaker, Sir James Hogg June 4, [279] 1628

Metropolitan Improvements—cont.

- Re-building of Angler's Gardens, Islington*—Question, Mr. W. M. Torrens; Answer, Sir James M'Garel-Hogg Mar 20, [277] 939
- River Thames—Pimlico Pier*, Questions, Dr. Cameron, Mr. Callan; Answers, Mr. Shaw Lefevre July 10, [281] 955; Question, Sir John Hay; Answer, Sir James M'Garel-Hogg July 12, 1217
- Knightsbridge—Widening of the Road*, Question, Lord Claud Hamilton; Answer, Sir James M'Garel-Hogg June 4, [279] 1627

Mexico and England—Renewal of Diplomatic Communications

- Questions, Mr. Puleston; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Feb 19, [276] 307; Questions, Mr. Monk; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice May 24, [279] 753; May 31, 1323

Midland, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Milford Junction Railway Bill (by Order)

- c. 2R. deferred, after short debate Mar 6, [276] 1600

MIDLETON, Viscount

- Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. 5, [283] 29
- Agricultural Labourers (Ireland), Res. [278] 185
- Land Law (Ireland)—Landlords under the Irish Land Act, Motion for an Address, [278] 1395
- Parks (Metropolis)—Richmond Park—Roe-hampton Gate, [279] 831
- Parliamentary Registration (Ireland), 2R. [283] 1454, 1455
- Pawnbrokers, Report, cl. 5, [281] 925

MILBANK, Sir F. A., York, N.R.

- Cruelty to Animals Acts Amendment, Comm. [282] 1597, 1598

MILES, Sir P. J. W., Somerset, E.

- Army Estimates—Yeomanry Cavalry Pay and Allowances, [279] 873

Milford Docks Bill

- l. Moved, "That the Bill be re-committed to the same Committee" (*The Earl of Milltown*) Aug 16, [283] 634; Motion withdrawn
- c. Moved, "That, in the case of the Milford Docks Bill, Standing Order 246 be suspended, and that the Lords Amendments to the Bill be now taken into Consideration" (*Sir Charles Forster*) Aug 23, 1719; after short debate, Question put, and agreed to; Lords Amendts. agreed to

MILLTOWN, Earl of

- Agricultural Holdings (England), Report, cl. 1, Amendt. [283] 439
- Bankruptcy, Comm. [283] 1325; Report, cl. 122, Amendt. 1607

MILLTOWN, Earl of—cont.

- Contagious Diseases Acts—Compulsory Clauses, [283] 214
- Contempts of Court, 2R. [277] 1617
- 280] Criminal Law Amendment, 2R. Amendt. 768, 775; Comm. cl. 4, Amendt. 1384; cl. 5, Amendt. ib., 1387, 1390; cl. 6, Amendt. ib.; cl. 9, 1397; Report, cl. 2, Amendt. 1850; cl. 5, Amendt. 1852, 1854; cl. 7, Amendt. 1850; cl. 8, Amendt. ib.
- 281] Motion that the Bill do pass, cl. 5, Amendt. 407; cl. 12, 414; cl. 13, 418
- Cruelty to Animals Prevention Act, 1849—Prosecutions for Pigeon-Shooting, [283] 450
- Factories and Workshops Amendment, 3R. [282] 125
- Land Law (Ireland)—Landlords under the Irish Land Act, Motion for an Address, [278] 1408
- Law and Justice (Ireland)—"Regina v. Matthew Smyth," [277] 670, 671
- Medical Act Amendment, 2R. [277] 1456; Comm. cl. 3, [278] 587; cl. 9, 592, 595; cl. 10, Amendt. 598; cl. 21, Amendt. 599; Report, cl. 36, Amendt. 1128
- Metropolitan District Railway—Ventilating Shafts on the Thames Embankment, [276] 1706; [278] 731
- Metropolitan District Railway, Res. [277] 144, 155
- Metropolitan Improvements—Hyde Park Corner, [281] 1345
- Statue of the Duke of Wellington, [283] 1716
- Milford Docks, [283] 664
- Parliament—House of Lords (Construction and Accommodation), Nomination of Select Committee, [278] 889
- Poor Relief (Ireland), Comm. [282] 125
- Public Health Act, 1875 (Support of Sewers) Amendment, 2R. [282] 2033
- Royal Irish Constabulary—Report of the Committee of Inquiry, [278] 414
- Sale of Liquors on Sunday (Ireland), 2R. [277] 623; Comm. cl. 2, Amendt. 770, 772, 774; 3R. 924
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Municipal Boroughs Bill

(*Mr. William Fowler, Mr. Rylands, Mr. Henry H. Fowler*)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o * Feb 19 [Bill 93]
- 2R. [Dropped]

Municipal Corporations (Borough Constables) Bill

(*Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Sir Henry Holland, Mr. Dodds, Mr. Henry H. Fowler*)

- c. Motion for Leave (*Sir H. Drummond Wolff*) Aug 16, [283] 924; Motion agreed to; Bill ordered; read 1^o * [Bill 299]
- Read 2^o * Aug 17
- Committee *; Report; read 3^o Aug 20
- l. Read 1^o * (*Lord Hopetoun*) Aug 21 (No. 214)
- Read 2^o *; Committee negatived Aug 22
- Read 3^o * Aug 23
- Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 44]

Municipal Corporations (Borough Funds) Bill

(*Mr. Dodds, Mr. Edward Clarke, Mr. Jackson, Mr. St. Aubyn*)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o * May 1 [Bill 159]
- Bill withdrawn * July 13

Municipal Corporations (Unreformed) Bill

(*Sir Charles Dilke, Secretary Sir William Harcourt, Mr. Mundella, Mr. Hibbert*)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o * Feb 16 [Bill 6]
- 276] Read 2^o, after short debate Mar 5, 1859
- Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" April 2, 277] 1248
- Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "the Bill be referred to a Select Committee" (*Mr. Sidney Herbert*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after short debate, Amendt. withdrawn
- Main Question again proposed, "That Mr. Speaker, &c.;" after further short debate, Question put, and agreed to; Committee—R.P.
- 278] Committee; Report April 30, 1517 [Bill 156]
- 279] Considered May 7, 147
- . Read 3^o * May 8, 317
- l. Read 1^o * (*The Earl of Rosebery*) May 10
- . Read 2^o * May 28, 930 (No. 59)
- Committee * June 12
- Report * June 14 (No. 94)
- Read 3^o * June 15
- c. Lords Amendts. [Bill 287]

[*cont.*]

Municipal Corporations (Unreformed) Bill—cont.
l. Inquiry Fees, Question, Observations, Lord
Henniker; Reply, Lord Carlingford June 21,
280] 1117
Royal Assent June 20 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 18]

Municipal Corporations (Unreformed)
[Expenses]

c. Considered in Committee Mar 20, [277] 1101
Moved, "That it is expedient to authorise the
payment, out of moneys to be provided by
Parliament, of the Expenses of any injuries
which may become payable under the pro-
visions of any Act of the present Session to
make provision respecting certain Municipal
Corporations, and other Local Authorities
not subject to the Municipal Corporation
Act" (Sir Charles W. Dilke); after short
debate, Resolution agreed to
Resolution reported Mar 30

Municipal Franchise (Ireland) Bill

(Mr. O'Connor Power, Mr. Richard Power, Mr.
O'Sullivan, Mr. Sheil)
c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 27]
2R. [Dropped]

Municipal Offices Disqualification (Ire-
land) Bill

(Mr. Callan,
Mr. Gray, Dr. Commins, Mr. Kenny)
c. Ordered; read 1^o June 18 [Bill 232]
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"
July 2, [281] 154
Amendt. to leave out "now," add "upon this
day three months" (Mr. Attorney General
for Ireland); Question proposed, "That
'now,' &c.;" after short debate, Question
put, and negatived; 2R. put off

MUNTZ, Mr. P. H., Birmingham

Army Pay Department, [278] 1721
Army Estimates—Warlike and other Stores,
[280] 1774
London and North-Western Railway (Addi-
tional Powers), 3R. [279] 217
Parliament—Standing Orders, Res. [279] 1889
Supply—Public Offices Site, [279] 599

NAPIER OF MAGDALA, Lord

Army (Auxiliary Forces), [279] 1607

National Debt Bill

(The Chairman of Ways and Means, Mr. Chan-
celler of the Exchequer, Mr. Courtney)

c. Resolutions considered in Committee May 8,
279] 317

Resolutions reported, and agreed to; Bill
ordered; read 1^o May 9 [Bill 182]

Question, Mr. Mitchell Henry; Answer, The
Chancellor of the Exchequer June 4, 1848

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"
282] Aug 7, 1859

Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "the
National Debt having been reduced during
the last three years by £20,500,000, the
present generation of British taxpayers,

National Debt Bill—cont.

who have contributed to that result, are
entitled to some relief from their burdens;
considering also the backward state of Ire-
land, and the miserable condition of a large
part of its population, it would be in the
highest degree impolitic and unjust to re-
create, partly at their cost, terminable an-
nuities calculated only to relieve posterity
of taxation in the year 1905" (Mr. Mitchell
Henry) v.; Question proposed, "That the
words, &c.;" after long debate, Question
put; A. 149, N. 95; M. 54

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Main Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 2^o
Question, Mr. J. G. Hubbard; Answer, The
282] Chancellor of the Exchequer Aug 9, 2111
Committee v.; Report Aug 9 [Bill 287]

Conversion of Perpetual Annuities—Funds in
Chancery, Question, Mr. Gregory; Answer,
The Chancellor of the Exchequer Aug 10,
283] 69

Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr.
Speaker do now leave the Chair" (Mr. Chan-
celler of the Exchequer) Aug 13, 698

Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "this
House will, upon this day three months,
resolve itself into the said Committee" (Sir
Joseph M. Kenne) v.

Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;"
after short debate, Question put; A. 51,
N. 23; M. 38 (D. L. 289)

Question again proposed, "That Mr. Speaker,
&c.;" 415

Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned"
(Sir H. Drummond Wolff)

Question put; A. 14, N. 59; M. 42 (D. L.
290)

Original Question put, and agreed to; Com-
mittee; Report

Read 3^o Aug 14

l. Read 1^o (Lord Thurlow) Aug 16 (No. 106)

Read 2^o Aug 17

Committee v. Aug 20 (No. 217)

Report v. Aug 21

Read 3^o Aug 22

c. Consideration of Lords' Amendts. Aug 22,
1712

Lords' Amendts. to be considered To-morrow,
and to be printed [Bill 284]

Lords' Amendts. considered, and agreed to
Aug 23

l. Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 87]

National Debt, The—Reduction of Interest

Question, Mr. Greyke; Answer, The Chan-
celler of the Exchequer June 21, [280] 1123

National Expenditure

Mr. Rylands' Motion, Question, Mr. Rylands;

Answer, Mr. Gladstone April 2, [277] 1179

Amendt. on Committee of Supply April 6, To
be considered

of

2

a

National Expenditure—cont.

the words, &c.;" after long debate, Question put, and negatived
Words added; main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to

National Gallery (Loan) Bill [H.L.]

(*The Earl Granville*)

- l. Presented; read 1st Mar 12 (No. 18)
Read 2^d, after short debate Mar 15, [277] 516
Committee^{*}; Report Mar 16
Read 3^d Mar 19
- c. Read 1st Mar 29 [Bill 128]
Read 2^d April 2
Committee^{*}; Report April 3
Read 3^d April 4
- l. Royal Assent April 10 [46 Vict. c. 4]

National Museums and Galleries, Sunday Opening of—See title Sunday Opening

Naturalization—Fees on Certificates

Question, Mr. Anderson; Answer, Sir William Harcourt July 12, [281] 1226

Naval Discipline and Enlistment Acts Amendment Bill [H.L.]

(*The Earl of Northbrook*)

- l. Presented; read 1st May 10 (No. 61)
Read 2^d, after short debate May 25, [279] 882
Committee June 1, 1456
- c. Questions, Mr. W. H. Smith, Captain Price; Answers, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman June 7, [279] 1906
- l. Report^{*} June 8 (No. 70)
Read 3^d, after short debate June 14, [280] 516
- c. Read 1st June 21 [Bill 241]
Order for 2R. discharged; Bill withdrawn July 9, [281] 830

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H.M.S. "Clyde"—The Court Martial on Captain F. Maxwell-Heron, Question, Mr. R. T. Reid; Answer, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman April 10, [277] 1908; Question, Captain Maxwell-Heron; Answer, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman May 7, [279] 51; Question, Colonel Alexander; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Aug 21, [283] 1514;—*The Papers*, Question, Captain Maxwell-Heron; Answer, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman May 31, [279] 1307

H.M.S. "Triumph"—The Case of Louis Price, Questions, Sir Herbert Maxwell, Mr. Warton; Answers, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman July 26, [282] 515; July 30, 934
Returns 1881 P.P. [3652]

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Chatham Dockyard, Question, Mr. Broadhurst; Answer, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman Aug 3, [282] 1626

Portsmouth and Deptford Dockyards—Manufacture of Twine, Questions, Mr. R. H. Paget; Answers, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman Mar 16, [277] 698

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Engineers' Department, Question, Mr. Gorst; Answer, Sir Thomas Brassey Aug 9, [282] 2104

Fire-Extinguishing Apparatus, Question, Viscount Folkestone; Answer, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman July 9, [281] 770

New Dockyard Scheme, Question, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answer, Sir Thomas Brassey Aug 14, [283] 464

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Bow Rudders, Question, Mr. Gorst; Answer, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman Aug 8, [282] 1987

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Officers of the Royal Marines, Question, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answer, Sir Thomas Brassey Aug 23, [283] 1755

Non-Commissioned Officers of Royal Marines, Question, Mr. Newnam-Nicholson; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington Mar 13, [277] 368

Marine Pensioners—The Auxiliary Forces, Question, Mr. E. Collins; Answer, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman April 3, [277] 1273

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Royal Naval Artillery Volunteers, Question, Sir John Jenkins; Answer, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman Mar 12, [277] 213

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Naval Reserves and Coastguard, Observations, Mr. Gourley, Sir John Hay, Mr. Williamson; Reply, Sir Thomas Brassey Mar 15, [277] 591

Naval Schoolmasters, Question, Captain Price; Answer, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman July 30, [282] 933

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Questions, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Mr. Puleston; Answers, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman April 16, [278] 305; Question, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answer, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman May 24, [279] 766; Question, Observations, Viscount Sidmouth; Reply, Lord Alcester June 22, [280] 1252

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H.M.S. "London", Questions, Sir John Hay; Answers, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman May 11, [279] 535

H.M.S. "Neptune", Question, Sir John Hay; Answer, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman Mar 2, [276] 1298; Question, Mr. Norwood; Answer, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman Mar 6, 1426

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T "Doteret"—*Explosion*, Question, Mr. Philip Cowen; Answer, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman June 25, [280] 1420

T "Hope"—*Hospital Ship*, Question, Mr. H. Allen; Answer, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman July 30, [283] 940

The Mediterranean Squadron, Question, Sir John Hay; Answer, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman Mar 5, [276] 1420; Questions, Mr. Gourley; Answers, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman June 20, [280] 1365; July 9, [281] 766

The Royal Yacht—The "Victoria and Albert", Questions, Mr. Gourley; Answers, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman Feb 23, [276] 707; Mar 6, 1412; April 6, [277] 1631; Question, Mr. Labouchere; Answer, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman July 19, [281] 1897

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Coastguard Station at Kinsaleagh, Question, Mr. Lea; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer Mar 15, [277] 556

Dock Accommodation at Malta, Question, Viscount Sidmouth; Answer, The Earl of Northbrook Mar 8, [276] 1797

Greywich Hospital Penicins, Question, Sir Henry Fletcher; Answer, Sir Thomas Brassey June 20, [276] 746; Question, Captain Price; Answer, Sir Thomas Brassey July 21,

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The Egyptian War Medal, Question, Mr. J. R. Yorke; Answer, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman Feb 26, [276] 845

Navy Pensions, Question, Admiral Egerton; Answer, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman April 17, [278] 425

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Navy Stores—Purchase of Cloth, Question, Captain Price; Answer, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman April 13, [278] 198

Royal Yacht Club, The—Exclusive Right of flying the White Ensign, Questions, Mr. Labouchere, Mr. Macfarlane; Answers, Sir Thomas Brassey April 9, [277] 1818

Sale of Silver Plate, Questions, Mr. O'Donnell; Answers, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman June 18, [280] 796

Seamen and Marines—Establishment of a Pension Fund, Questions, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Captain Price; Answers, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman May 3, [278] 1721

The "Blue Ribbon" Movement, Question, Mr. Stewart MacIver; Answer, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman May 10, [279] 388

The Transport Service, Question, General Sir George Balfour; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain April 3, [277] 1282

Victualing Accounts, Question, Mr. Rylands; Answer, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman May 10, [279] 405

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Victualing, &c.—Seamen's Rations, Question, Captain Price; Answer, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman April 16, [278] 302

Navy—H.M.S. "Triumph"—Court Martial on Louis Price

Moved, "That there be laid before this House the finding of the court-martial in the case of Price, seaman of the 'Triumph,' in 1882; and correspondence relating thereto" (*The Lord Stanley of Alderley*) July 10, [281] 927; after short debate, on Question resolved in the negative

Questions, Sir Herbert Maxwell, Mr. Warton; Answers, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman July 26, [282] 515; July 30, 934

Navy—Naval Lieutenants

Moved to resolve, "That in the opinion of this House the rates of full pay of naval lieutenants and sub-lieutenants should be assimilated to that of officers holding relative rank in the Army; the half-pay of naval lieutenants and sub-lieutenants should be in all cases the actual half of the full pay, except when length of service entitles them to a higher scale" (*The Earl of Balfour*) April 16, [278] 263; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Navy—Royal Marines

Amendt. on Committee of Supply Mar 15, To leave out from "That," add "the Military and Naval value of the Corps of Royal Marines deserves to be adequately represented on the Board of Admiralty, so that the just claims of the Corps may be recognised, and defects in its administration remedied; and that it be referred to a Select Committee of this House to inquire into and report upon the best mode of effecting the above objects" (*Mr. Hopwood*) v., [277] 574; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put; A. 60, N. 39; M. 21 (D. L. 36)

Navy—The Naval Forces

Moved, "That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire as to the adequacy of the present naval forces of this country to meet the increasing demands made on their services, and such further demands as may hereafter arise in consequence of the augmentation of foreign navies" (*The Viscount Sidmouth*) April 12, [278] 40; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Navy—Wreck of H.M.S. "Lively"—The "Hen and Chickens" Rock and "North Shoal"

Moved for, "Correspondence respecting the buoying of the rock known as the 'Hen and Chickens,' and of the 'North Shoal,' off the west coast of the Orkneys" (*The Duke of Marlborough*) June 21, [280] 1112; after short debate, Motion agreed to

Question, Mr. W. H. Smith; Answer, Mr. Gladstone June 8, [280] 84; Questions, Mr. Gourley, Sir John Hay; Answers, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman June 12, 381; Question, Dr. Cameron; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain June 25, 1413

Navy and Army Expenditure, 1881-2—

The Appropriation Accounts

Committee to consider the Savings and Deficiencies upon the Grants for Navy and Army Services in the year ended on the 31st day of March, 1882, and the temporary sanction obtained from the Treasury by the Navy and Army Departments to Expenditure not provided for in the Grants for that year, upon Monday next

Ordered, That the Appropriation Accounts for the Navy and Army Departments, which were presented upon the 19th day of February last, be referred to the Committee Aug 9

Navy and Army Expenditure, 1881-2—Resolutions considered in Committee Aug 13, [283] 432

Appropriation Account, 1881-2 . P.P. 21

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Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister, Comm. [280] 898

NEWDEGATE, Mr. O. N., Warwickshire, N.
 Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. 1, [281] 1776, 1826; cl. 2, 1860
 Corrupt Practices at Elections, [281] 1891
 Customs and Inland Revenue, 2R. [278] 990, 1245; Comm. cl. 13, [279] 505
 Inland Revenue (Circular), Res. [279] 1521
 Papal See—Diplomatic Communications with the Vatican—Mr. Errington, [279] 766
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 Rivers Conservancy and Floods Prevention, Bill withdrawn, [281] 823
 Supply—Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, &c. [283] 1147, 1148
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New Forest (Highways) Bill

(Mr. Courtney, Mr. Cotes)

c. Ordered; read 1^o * April 6 [Bill 135]
Crown Contributions in Lieu of Highway Rate, Question, Mr. Compton; Answer, Mr. Courtney April 12, [278] 65
 Read 2^o, after short debate, and committed to a Select Committee of Nine Members; Five to be nominated by the House, and Four by the Committee of Selection May 1, 1867
 And, on May 22, Committee nominated as follows:—Mr. Buxton, Mr. Compton, Mr. Courtney, Mr. Davey, Lord Henry Scott
 Report of Select Comm. * June 13
 Committee * (on re-comm.); Report June 14
 Read 3^o * June 15 [Bill 225]
 l. Read 1^o * (Lord Thurlow) June 18 (No. 101)
 Read 2^o * June 25
 Committee *; Report July 2
 Read 3^o * July 3
 Royal Assent July 16 [46 & 47 Vict. c. lxxxvii]

New Forest, The—Commissioners of Lands and Forests

Question, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answer, Mr. Selater-Booth June 7, [279] 1905
 [See title—*Woods and Forests*]

Newfoundland Fisheries—The *Fortune* Dispute

Compensation, Questions, Sir Michael Beach, Sir Henry Holland; Answers Courtney July 31, [282] 1145; Question, Sir Henry Holland; Answer, Mr. Ashley Aug 2, 1830

Correspondence with the United States, Question, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley Aug 2, [282] 1382
 Correspondence P.P. [

New Guinea

Moved; "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty for further papers relating to the proposed annexation of New Guinea (The Lord Lamington) July 2, [281] 3
 short debate, Motion agreed to
 [See title *Western Islands of the Pacific*]

NEWPORT, Viscount, Shropshire, N.

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Army—Military Railway Corps, Establishment of, [276] 1806

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Street Traffic (Metropolis)—Wood Paving [280] 1697

New South Wales

Disappearance of an Exploring Party, Boat's Crew, Question, Mr. Alderton; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley July 2, [280] 1269

Removal of Magistrates, Questions, Mr. I. Mr. Sexton, Mr. Parnell; Answers Evelyn Ashley Aug 6, [282] 1639
 Correspondence P.P. [

New Zealand—Release of the Chief *Whiti and Tohu*

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 Native Affairs, Correspondence P.P. [

NICHOLSON, Mr. W. NEWZAM, *Newca*

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NOEL, Mr. E., Dumfries, & Co.

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Opium Duties (China)

Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that in all negotiations which take place between the Government of Her Majesty and China, reference to the Duties levied on Opium under the Treaty of Tientsin, the Government of Her Majesty will be permitted to be intimate to the Government of China any revision of that Treaty, or in any negotiations on the subject of Opium the Government of China will be met as an independent State, having the full power to arrange its own Import Duties (Joseph Pease) April 3, [277] 1333

Previous Question proposed, "That the Question be now put" (Lord Fitzmaurice); after debate, Question agreed to. A. 66, N. 126; M. 60 (D. L. 48)

ORANMORE AND BROWNE, LORD

- Agricultural Labourers (Ireland), Res. [276] 176
- Contagious Diseases Acts—Non-enforcement of the Compulsory Clauses—Action Government, [279] 371
- Contempts of Court, Comm. cl. 16, [276] 889

[*cont.*]

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Ecclesiastical Courts Commission—The Report, [282] 894, 906
 Education (Ireland)—The English System of State-supported Training Colleges, [281] 1491
 Emigration (Ireland), Res. [278] 886
 Irish Land Commission, [277] 1449
 Sub-Commissioners—Messrs. Nolan and Smith, [279] 371
 Land Law (Ireland)—Landlords under the Irish Land Act, Motion for an Address, [278] 1390, 1403
 National Education (Ireland), Motion for Leave, [276] 287, 291
 Parks (Metropolis)—Richmond Park—Roe-hampton Gate, [279] 930, 932

Ordinance Survey

Question, Lord Bray; Observations, Viscount Bury; Reply, Lord Sudeley; short debate thereon June 12, [280] 329

Ordinance Maps—East Staffordshire and East Worcestershire, Question, Mr. Wiggin; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre Mar 13, [277] 361

Report with Plans [3556]

O'SHAUGHNESSY, Mr. R., *Limerick*

Compulsory Education (Ireland), Res. [276] 1262

Constabulary and Police (Ireland) (Pay and Pensions), Comm. cl. 7, [279] 1056; *add.* cl. 1435; Schedule 2, 1448

Contagious Diseases Acts, Res. [278] 805

Ireland—Questions

Board of Intermediate Education—Results Fees, 1881-2, [281] 28

Inland Navigation and Drainage—Upper Shannon Navigation, [277] 361; [278] 318; [279] 417

Prevention of Crime Act, 1882—Sec. 16—Private Examinations, [279] 417

Ireland—Distress, Res. [277] 2008, 2009, 2010

Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Amendment, 2R. [278] 1778

Vice-Royalty (Ireland), 2R. [280] 1090

O'SHEA, Mr. W. H., *Clare*

Army (India)—Indian Medical Service, [282] 953

Army Estimates—Divine Service, [279] 794

Militia Pay and Allowances, [279] 846

Constabulary and Police Administration (Ireland), Motion for Leave, [282] 889

Corn Sales, 2R. [279] 1717

Ireland—Questions

Crime—Alleged Posting of a Letter containing Dynamite to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, [276] 854

Fisheries—Shannon Fisheries, [281] 1211

Post Office—Mails between Limerick and Kilrush, [281] 1219

Royal Irish Constabulary, [278] 1054;—Re-organization, [281] 1222;—Special Resident Magistrates, [280] 1411

State of Ireland—Distress in Co. Clare, [276] 315

Law and Police—Reported Attack on Lady Florence Dixie, [277] 939, 993

O'SHEA, Mr. W. H.—*cont.*

Local Government Board (Ireland), Res. [280] 1353

Lord Wolseley's Grant, 3R. [280] 651

Parliament—Queen's Speech, Address in Answer to, [276] 722, 725, 1142

Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. cl. 2, [280] 629

Parochial Charities (London), Comm. Preamble, Motion for reporting Progress, [282] 882

Poor Relief (Ireland), 3R. Motion for Adjournment, [281] 909, 910

Post Office—Dublin Mail Packets, [276] 411

Sea Fisheries (Ireland), 2R. [280] 1062

Supply—Criminal Prosecutions, &c. in Ireland, [283] 300

Royal Palaces, [277] 1060

Supplementary Estimates, 1882-3—Irish Land Commission, [277] 22

Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland), Comm. cl. 1, [283] 999; Amendt. 1001; cl. 2, Amendt. 1007, 1008; cl. 4, Amendt. 1010, 1011

Transvaal Loan—Payment of Interest, [276] 315

O'SULLIVAN, Mr. W. H., *Limerick Co.*

Inland Revenue—Disparity of Amount payable for Grocers' Spirit Licences in Scotland and Ireland, [282] 1858

Ireland—Questions

Land Law Act, 1881—Provisions as to Labourers' Cottages, [280] 1417

Magistracy—Fishery Trespass Case at Glin, Co. Limerick, [282] 1323, 2085

Peace Preservation Act, 1881—Arms Licences, [282] 1858

Public Health—Water Supply of Broadford, Co. Limerick, [280] 24, 25

State of Ireland—Extra Police at Kilmallock, [276] 709; [279] 1907, 1908; [280] 547, 1270; [282] 1631, 1632

Irish Reproductive Loan Fund Act (1874) Amendment, 2R. [280] 1625

Labourers (Ireland), Comm. *add.* cl. [282] 1785, 1786

Local Government Board (Ireland), Res. [280] 1351

Local Government Board (Scotland) [Salaries], Res. [282] 1956

Milford (County Cork) Drainage Bill, [281] 48

Parliament—Queen's Speech, Address in Answer to, [276] 893, 1113

Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Amendment, 2R. [278] 956

Parliamentary Registration (Ireland), Comm. cl. 4, [283] 493

Pauper Lunatics (Ireland and Scotland), [282] 1472, 1473

Poor Law Guardians (Ireland), 2R. [280] 492

Sale of Liquors on Sunday (Ireland), 2R. [280] 315

Supply—Office of Land Registry, Motion for reporting Progress, [282] 1770

Union Officers' Superannuation (Ireland), 2R. [282] 1588

OTWAY, Sir A. J. (Chairman of Committees of Ways and Means and Deputy Speaker), Rochester

- Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. 1,**
[281] 1698, 1739, 1811; cl. 2, 1848; cl. 3,
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- Agricultural Holdings (Scotland), Comm. cl. 1,**
[282] 442, 444; cl. 2, 447; cl. 4, 463; cl. 5,
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- Army Estimates—Divine Service, [279] 798**
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- Belfast Harbour, Consid. [280] 362, 364**
- Consolidated Fund (Appropriation), Comm.**
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- Constabulary and Police (Ireland) (Pay and**
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- Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 5),**
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- Exeter, Teign Valley, and Chagford Railway,**
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- Explosive Substances, Comm. cl. 4, [277]**
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- Harrison's Estate, 2R. [282] 1119, 1120**
- Hull, Barnsley, and West Riding Junction Rail-**
way and Dock (Interest), Consid. [282] 26
- India—Debates on Indian Affairs, [279] 27**
- Local Government Board (Scotland) [Salaries],**
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- Local Government Board (Scotland), Comm.**
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- London and North-Western Railway (Addi-**
tional Powers), Consid. [278] 1560; 3R.
[279] 207
- Lord Alcester's Grant, Comm. cl. 1, [280] 286;**
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- Lord Wolseley's Grant, Comm. cl. 1, [280] 313**
- Manchester Ship Canal, 2R. [277] 689, 690;**
Consid. [281] 1087
- Metropolitan District Railway, 2R. [278] 1019**
- Navy Estimates—Admiralty Office, [281] 1578,**
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- Navy (Supplementary Estimate), 1882-3—Mili-**
tary Operations in Egypt, [276] 1457
- Parliament—Business of the House—Parlia-**
mentary Oaths Act, &c.—Postponement of
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- Parliament—Ascension Day, Motion for Meet-**
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- Parliament—Standing Orders, Res. [279] 1837,**
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- Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and**
280] Practices), Comm. cl. 1, 573, 574, 57,
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- Parochial Charities (London), Comm.**
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tion, Comm. cl. 3, [282] 1789
- Police, 2R. [281] 831**
- Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Act**
(Audience of Solicitors), Comm. cl. 2,
397, 398
- Private Bills (Referees), [276] 1895**
- Supply—Central Office of the Supreme**
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[279] 1415, 1416, 1417, 1418, 1419
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Fishery Board (Scotland), [276] 1799
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[279] 990, 991
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[283] 1090
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Revenue Department Buildings, Great Britain, [279] 628
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Suez Canal (British Directors), [282] 2238, 2239
Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues, &c. [282] 1358
Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland), Comm. cl. 2, [283] 1008; cl. 12, 1093, 1094; cl. 19, 1097; *add.* cl. 1099, 1100
Ways and Means—Financial Statement, [277] 1572

Outlawries Bill

c. Read 1^o Feb 15

Oxford, Aylesbury, and Metropolitan Junction Railway Bill (by Order)

c. Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" (Mr. Dodds) Feb 27, [276] 971; Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (Mr. J. R. Yorke); Motion agreed to
Debate resumed Mar 6, 1899; Debate further adjourned
Read 2^o Mar 13, [277] 350
Notice of Resolution, Viscount Folkestone May 31, [279] 1303
l. Moved, "That the Bill be re-committed to the same Select Committee" (The Lord Henniker) Aug 7, [282] 1790; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

OXFORD, Bishop of

Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister, Comm. cl. 1, [280] 911, 920

Oyster and Mussel Fisheries Orders Confirmation Bill

(Mr. John Holms, Mr. Chamberlain)

c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 19 [Bill 87]
Read 2^o Feb 27
Report * April 12
Considered * April 13
Read 3^o April 16
l. Read 1^o (Lord Sudeley) April 19 (No. 33)
Read 2^o April 27
Committee * April 30
Report * May 1
Read 3^o May 4
Royal Assent May 31 [46 Vict. c. x]

Pacific, Islands of the South—The New Hebrides—Alleged Seizure of Property by French Settlers

Question, Mr. Alexander M'Arthur; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice April 23, [278] 898

Pacific—See title Western Islands of the Pacific

PAGET, Mr. R. H., Somersetshire, Mid

Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. 1, [281] 1770; Amendt. 1796, 1797, 1801, 1811; cl. 2, 1858; cl. 4, 1955, 2000; cl. 5,

[*cont.*

PAGET, Mr. R. H.—*cont.*

[282] 82, 173; cl. 6, 180; cl. 8, 229; cl. 11, Amendt. 230, 231, 232; cl. 12, 244; Amendt. 245, 246; cl. 15, 316, 324, 325; Consid. cl. 41, Amendt. 1191, 1192
Allon, Dunfermline, and Kirkealdy Railway, 2R. [276] 1695, 1596
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Cemeteries, 2R. [278] 1110
Committee of Council on Agriculture—The Proposed Staff, [280] 1694, 1695
Contagious Diseases Acts, Motion for the Adjournment of the House, [279] 67
Contagious Diseases (Animals) Acts—Foot-and-Mouth Disease, Ireland, [282] 1319
Orders of the Privy Council, [280] 1122
Criminal Code (Indictable Offences Procedure), Motion for Commitment, [278] 348
Criminal Lunatics—Report of the Commission, [282] 1317
Dockyards (Portsmouth and Deptford)—Manufacture of Twine, [277] 698
Education Department—Educational Standards (Wells Union), [279] 226
London and North-Western Railway (Additional Powers), Consid. [278] 1552, 1554, 1558, 1564; 3R. [279] 199
Metropolitan Improvements—The Wellington Statue, [282] 1339
Parliament—Questions
Board of Trade and Railway Bills, [277] 700
Grand Committees and Private Bill Committees—Railway Bills (Group 6), Report, [278] 294, 435
Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, [277] 216; [278] 1165
Palace of Westminster—Westminster Hall—The Old Law Courts, [277] 540;—West Front of Westminster Hall, [281] 1885
Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. cl. 1, [280] 401, 572; cl. 5, 1440
Post Office (Telegraph Department)—Postal Delivery of Telegrams, [281] 1884
Prosecution of Offences Act, 1879—"Queen v. Taylor and Boynes," [279] 1749
Supply—Supplementary Estimates, 1882-3—Stationery, Printing, &c. [276] 1770
Windsor, Ascot, and Aldershot Railway, Consid. [279] 1833, 1834

PALMER, Mr. C. M., Durham, N.

Coal Duties (Metropolis), [277] 1836
France, Commercial Negotiations with—Bounties on Shipping, [277] 801
Brokerage on Shipping, [280] 1408; [281] 32
Navy—Transport Ship "Orontes," [281] 769, 770
Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Durham), 2R. [279] 1213
Suez Canal Company (Future Negotiations), Motion for an Address, [282] 985
Suez (Second Canal)—Provisional Agreement with M. de Lesseps, [281] 796, 797, 1095; Ministerial Statement, [282] 156

PALMER, Mr. J. H., Lincoln

Criminal Code (Indictable Offences Procedure), 2R. [278] 114
 Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. cl. 2, [280] 860; cl. 4, 1195; cl. 15, [281] 258; cl. 26, 501; cl. 67, 977
 Parliamentary Oaths Act (1886) Amendment, 2R. [278] 956
 Supply—Stationery and Printing, [281] 1271

Papal See — Diplomatic Communications with the Vatican—Mr. Errington

Question, Mr. Macartney; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Mar 19, [277] 791; Questions, Mr. Joseph Cowen, Mr. Newdegate, Lord Randolph Churchill, Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Gorst, Mr. O'Brien; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice, Mr. Gladstone May 24, 279] 765; Question, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice May 25, 893; Questions, Mr. Joseph Cowen, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice May 28, 952; Questions, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Mr. Joseph Cowen, Lord Randolph Churchill, Mr. Gorst; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice, Mr. Gladstone May 31, 1312; Observations, Mr. Gladstone June 1, 1488; Observations, Lord Randolph Churchill; Reply, Mr. Gladstone; debate thereon June 7, 1932; Questions, Mr. Bourke, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Mr. Dawson, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answers, 280] Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice June 11, 218; Questions, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice June 12, 381; Questions, Mr. O'Brien; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice June 14, 544

Parish Churches Bill

(Mr. Albert Grey, Mr. Buxton, Mr. Courtauld, Mr. Cropper, Mr. Stanley Leighton, Mr. William Henry Gladstone)
 c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 64]
 2R. [Dropped]

PARKER, Mr. C. S., Perth

Agricultural Holdings (Scotland), Comm. cl. 1, [282] 439; cl. 26, 1252
 Local Government Board (Scotland), Comm. [283] 621, 623
 Local Option, Res. [278] 1331
 Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. cl. 44, [281] 863
 Parochial Boards (Scotland), 2R. [278] 575
 Supply—Public Education, Ireland, [283] 1040

Parliament

LORDS—

MEETING OF THE PARLIAMENT Feb 15

The Session of Parliament was opened by Commission

Her Majesty's Most Gracious Speech

276] delivered by The Lord Chancellor Feb 15, 3
 The Queen's Speech having been reported by The Lord Chancellor; An Address to Her Majesty thereon moved by The Earl of Durham (the Motion being seconded by

[cont.

PARLIAMENT—LORDS—cont.

276] The Lord REAY Feb 15, 7; after debate, Address agreed to, *nemine sentiente*

Personal Explanation, The Marquess of Bury; Observations, Earl Granville
 Lord Chancellor Feb 16, 155

HER MAJESTY'S ANSWER TO THE ADDRESS reported Feb 19, 280

Chairman of Committees—The Earl of Darnley appointed, *nemine dissentiente*, to the Chair in all Committees of this Session Feb 15

Committee for Privileges—appointed Feb 15
 Sub-Committee for the Journals—appointed Feb 15

Appeal Committee—appointed Feb 15

Office of the Clerk of the Parliament Office of the Gentleman Usher of the Rod—Select Committee appointed Feb 15

The Lords following were named in Committee:—Ld. Chancellor, Ld. Darnley, Ld. Privy Seal, D. Richmond, Saint Albans, M. Lansdowne, M. Salisbury, M. Bath, M. Hertford, Ld. Stewart, Devon, E. Doncaster, E. Tankerville, Carnarvon, E. Bradford, E. Granville, Kimberley, E. Redesdale, E. Lathom, Hawarden, V. Hardinge, V. Eversley, Chamberlain, L. Colville of Culross, L. Darnley, L. Colchester, L. Aveland

Standing Orders Committee—Committee appointed Feb 22: The Lords following the Chairman of Committees, were of the Committee:—D. Somerset, M. Chester, M. Lansdowne, M. Bath, M. Darnley, Ld. Stewart, E. Devon, E. Carnarvon, E. Cadogan, E. Belmore, E. Chichester, Powis, E. Verulam, E. Morley, E. Brooke, E. Amherst, E. Camperdown, Lathom, V. Hawarden, V. Hutchinson, Hardinge, V. Eversley, V. Halifax, L. and Sele, L. Balfour of Burleigh, L. C. of Culross, L. Boyle, L. Monson, L. Darnley, L. Carrington, L. Colchester, L. Salisbury, L. De Tabley, L. Sudeley, L. Belfour, L. Hartismere, L. Penrhyn, L. Vernon

Committee of Selection—The Lords following, viz., M. Lansdowne, E. Lathom, L. C. of Culross, L. Boyle, were appointed the Chairman of Committees, a Committee to Select and propose to the House the of the five Lords to form a Select Committee for the Consideration of each opposed Bill Feb 22

Judicial Business

Ordered, That this House do meet on Thursday the 13th day of November next for the purpose of hearing and determining Appeals matters connected therewith, pursuant to the provisions of the "Appellate Jurisdiction Act, 1876" Aug 24

PRIVATE BILLS

All Petitions relating to Standing Orders shall be presented during the present Session referred to the Standing Orders Committee unless otherwise ordered Feb 22

[c

PARLIAMENT—LORDS—*Private Bills*—cont.

Ordered, That this House will not receive any Petition for a Private Bill after Friday the 9th day of March next, unless such Private Bill shall have been approved by the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice; nor any petition for a Private Bill approved by the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice after Tuesday the 8th day of May next:

That this House will not receive any report from the Judges upon petitions presented to this House for Private Bills after Tuesday the 8th day of May next:

Ordered, That the said orders be printed and published, and affixed on the doors of this House and Westminster Hall (No. 4) Feb 26

Ordered, That no Private Bill brought from the House of Commons shall be read a second time after Thursday the 21st day of June 276] next [and other Orders] Mar 2, 1250

Moved to resolve that the following be made a Standing Order:—"In any case in which an infant is or may be interested in the consequences of an Estate Bill, the Chairman of Committees may, if he think fit, require that such infant shall be represented before the Committee on the Bill by a person to be appointed as or in the nature of a guardian or protector of such infant by the Lord Chancellor, or the Lord Keeper of the Great Seal by writing under his hand" April 20; agreed to [No. 163a]

Standing Order No. 128 considered June 26, 280] 1532

Moved, to leave out the words ("payment of") and insert ("Company from paying") (*The Chairman of Committees*)

Moved, "That it is not desirable to alter Standing Order 128, or to substitute for Standing Order 128 a new Standing Order, until a Bill has been passed to amend the Companies Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845, and the Companies Clauses Consolidation (Scotland) Act, 1846, so far as these Acts relate to the payment of interest out of capital by railway or other companies" (*Lord Auckland*); after debate, Motion (*The Chairman of Committees*) negatived; Motion (*Lord Auckland*) withdrawn

Then it was moved, "That it is not desirable to alter Standing Order No. 128, or to substitute for Standing Order No. 128 a new Standing Order" (*Lord Auckland*); Motion agreed to

Observations, The Marquess of Salisbury, The Lord Chancellor, Earl Granville June 28, 1858

Moved, That in the Journals for the 26th of June the following passage be omitted: "Then it was moved, That it is not desirable to alter Standing Order No. 128, or to substitute for Standing Order No. 128 a new Standing Order (*Lord Auckland*); after debate agreed to;" and that in substitution thereof the following words be inserted: "Then it was moved, That the further consideration of the proposed alterations in Standing Order No. 128 be not proceeded with; agreed to" June 29; Motion agreed to

[cont.]

PARLIAMENT—LORDS—*Private Bills*—cont.

Private and Provisional Order Confirmation Bills

Ordered, That Standing Orders Nos. 92 and 93 be suspended; and that the time for depositing petitions praying to be heard against Private and Provisional Order Confirmation Bills, which would otherwise expire during the adjournment of the House at Easter, be extended to the first day on which the House shall sit after the recess Mar 19

Ordered, That Standing Orders Nos. 92 and 93 be suspended; and that the time for depositing petitions praying to be heard against Private and Provisional Order Confirmation Bills, which would otherwise expire during the adjournment of the House at Whitsuntide, be extended to the first day on which the House shall sit after the recess May 10

Black Rod

Admiral the Honourable Sir James Robert Drummond, G.C.B., having been appointed Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod in the room of General the Right Honourable Sir William Thomas Knollys, K.C.B., deceased, was called in and officiated in his place July 24, [282] 258

Business of the House—Origination of Bills in the House of Lords, Questions, The Earl of Redesdale, Earl Stanhope; Answers, Earl Granville Feb 19, [276] 280

Scotch Business, Question, The Earl of Minto; Answer, The Earl of Kimberley April 10, [277] 1964

Appellate Jurisdiction of the House of Lords—"Bradlaugh v. Clarke," Question, Lord Denman; Answer, The Lord Chancellor May 8, [279] 192

Privilege—"Bradlaugh v. Clarke," Observations, Lord Denman Aug 24, [283] 1828

Secretary of State for Scotland, Question, Observations, The Earl of Minto, The Earl of Fife; Reply, The Earl of Kimberley April 6, [277] 1617

The Ministry—The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Question, The Marquess of Salisbury; Answer, Earl Granville Mar 20, [277] 925

Policy of the Ministry—Mr. Chamberlain, Speech at Birmingham, Question, Observations, The Marquess of Salisbury; Reply, Earl Granville June 18, [280] 751

Public Business—Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill and the Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) Bill, Question, Observations, The Marquess of Salisbury; Reply, Earl Granville June 8, [280] 2

Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill, Question, Viscount Bury; Answer, Lord Carlingford; short debate thereon Aug 3, [282] 1447

Public Business—Standing Committees, Notice, of Question, Observations, The Earl of Redesdale; Reply, Earl Granville; short debate thereon July 10, [281] 919

Despatch of Public Business—Bills Reported from Standing Committees of the House of Commons, Explanation, The Earl of Redesdale July 12, [281] 1173; Question, Observations, The Earl of Redesdale; Reply, Earl Granville July 17, 1859

[cont.]

PARLIAMENT—LORDS—Questions—cont.

The Adjournment for the Easter Recess, Question, The Marquess of Salisbury; Answer, Earl Granville *Mar 2*, [276] 1251

Easter Recess, The House adjourned for the Easter Recess on Tuesday, March 20, to Tuesday April 3

The Whitsun Recess, Observation, Earl Granville *May 1*, [278] 1544

Whitsun Recess, The House adjourned for the Whitsun Recess on Thursday, May 10, to Thursday May 24

Public Bills

Reprinting of Bills amended on Third Reading, Moved, "That Bills amended on Third Reading in this House be always reprinted as amended" (*The Duke of Argyll*) *Aug 24*, [283] 1822; Motion agreed to

House of Lords (Construction and Accommodation)

Moved, "That a Select Committee be appointed to consider the construction and accommodation of the House, including the galleries, more especially in reference to seating, hearing, and reporting; and whether any and what improvement therein can be made" (*The Earl Cairns*) *Mar 12*, [277] 140; after short debate, Motion amended, and agreed to

And, on *April 23*, the Lords following were named of the Committee:—D. Somerset, Ld. Steward, E. Stanhope, E. Carnarvon, E. Cairns, V. Cranbrook, L. Vernon, L. Sudeley, and L. Kenry

April 24, E. Redesdale and L. Aveland added Report P.P. l. 147

Office of Clerk of the Parliaments and Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod

Moved, "That the Select Committee on the Office of the Clerk of the Parliaments and Office of the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod be directed to inquire into the department of the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, with the view of ascertaining whether the appointments in that department, or some of them, may not in future be conferred upon persons who have served with distinction in the army or navy or some department of the public service" (*The Earl of Camperdown*) *July 6*, [281] 590; Motion agreed to

Moved, "That the Second Report from the Select Committee be considered" (*The Earl of Redesdale*) *Aug 23*, [283] 1714; after short debate, Motion agreed to

First Report P.P. l. 93
Second Report 206

Parliamentary Procedure

Moved to resolve, "That in the opinion of this House it is expedient to make such provision, by legislation or otherwise, as will enable either House of Parliament, if it shall think fit, at any stage of its proceedings upon any Bill which shall have been passed by the other House of Parliament, to adjourn further proceedings upon such Bill to such day as shall for that purpose be then named,

[cont.]

Parliament—Parliamentary Procedure—co

in the first or second week of the next cooeding Session of Parliament" (*Lords four*) *May 7*, [279] 1; after short d Motion withdrawn

PROROGATION OF THE PARLIAMENT *Aug 22*

Her Majesty's Most Gracious L delivered by The LORD CHANCELLOR A [283] 1839

The Parliament prorogued by Commis Monday, November 12th *Aug 25*

COMMONS—

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH

The QUEEN'S SPEECH having been repor

Mr. Speaker; An humble Address t moved by Mr. ACLAND (the Motion [276] seconded by Mr. BUCHANAN) *Feb 15*, f After debate, Amendt. at end of the

paragraph, insert "but this House l expresses its opinion that no sufficient has been shown for the employme British Forces in reconstituting the G ment of Egypt and reorganising its under the authority of the Khedive Wilfrid Lawson); Question proposed, those words be there inserted;" after t debate, Debate adjourned

Debate resumed [Second Night] *Feb 16* Question again proposed, "That those bo there inserted"

Amendt. to the proposed Amendt. To lea from "but," add "whilst assuring Majesty of our support in such Meas may be necessary for a satisfactory ment of the affairs of Egypt, hum express our regret that steps were not at an earlier period which might have s such objects as are of importance t Country, without involving the neces military operations" (*Mr. Arthur B v.*; Question proposed, "That the &c.;" after long debate, Question p negatived

Question put, "That the words 'whilst as Her Majesty, &c.' be there added;" N. 179; M. 35 (D. L. 2)

Main Question again proposed; Deba journed

The Address — Mr. Parnell's Amen Question, Mr. Stuart-Wortley; Answ Parnell *Feb 19*, 316

Debate resumed [Third Night] *Feb 19* main Question again proposed; afte debate, Debate further adjourned

Debate resumed [Fourth Night] *Feb 20* main Question again proposed

Amendt. in paragraph 10, line 4, to lea from "upheld," to the end of the para insert "and we venture to expres earnest hope that the change of policy has produced these results will be tained, and that no further attempts made to purchase the support of disaffected to Her Majesty's Rule, l cessations to lawless agitation; and th existence of dangerous secret societ Dublin and other parts of the Count continue to be met by unremitting

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PARLIAMENT—COMMONS—cont.

and vigilance on the part of the Executive" (*Mr. Gorst*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after long debate, Debate further adjourned

276] Debate resumed [Fifth Night] *Feb 21, 504*; Question again proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after long debate, Debate further adjourned

. Debate resumed [Sixth Night] *Feb 22, 597*; Question again proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Moved, "That Mr. O'Kelly be suspended from the service of the House" (*The Marquess of Hartington*); Question put; A. 305, N. 20; M. 285 (D. L. 8)

. Question again proposed, "That the words, &c.;" 629; after long debate, Debate further adjourned

. Debate resumed [Seventh Night] *Feb 23, 716*; Question again proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after long debate, Question put; A. 259, N. 176; M. 83

Div. List, A. and N., 808

Main Question again proposed; after short debate, Debate further adjourned

. Debate resumed [Eighth Night] *Feb 26, 854*; main Question again proposed

Amendt. to insert, at end of 10th paragraph, after "Executive," "And humbly to assure Her Majesty that the manner in which the exceptional legislation known as the Crimes Act has been and is exercised by the officials of the Crown in Ireland is tyrannical and unjust. That gross licence of oppression is granted to persons and classes bitterly hostile to the mass of the Irish people. That Constitutional agitation is despotically impeded and persecuted. That justice is administered in a most partial and prejudiced spirit, and that the confidence of the people in the application of the Law is destroyed by a system of jury packing which has already, in the opinion of the vast majority of the Irish people, led to many iniquitous sentences and the execution of innocent persons, while it is practically impossible to obtain justice or protection for the masses of the people from the present administrators of the Law. And that, unless the Irish Executive abandon unconstitutional and tyrannical courses, and depend upon the Constitutional administration of the ordinary Law, the result may be prejudicial in an extreme degree to the cause of peace and order in Ireland" (*Mr. Parnell*); Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted;" after long debate, Question put; A. 15, N. 133; M. 118

Div. List, A. and N., 934

Main Question again proposed; after long debate, Debate further adjourned

. Debate resumed [Ninth Night] *Feb 27, 1038*; main Question again proposed

Amendt. to insert, at end of 10th paragraph, after "Executive," "Humbly to assure Her Majesty, that the state of distress among the population of many parts of Ireland; the inadequate machinery of the Land Act, and its partial and imperfect character, especially with regard to leaseholders, the right of tenants to their improvements, the purchase

[cont.]

PARLIAMENT—COMMONS—cont.

system, and the condition of the agricultural labourers; the unsatisfactory operation of the Arrears Act; the state of the Law of Parliamentary and Municipal Franchises in Ireland; and the condition of Local Government in that Country, are all questions demanding the urgent attention of the Legislature and the Government; and that the absence of any undertaking to legislate on any of these questions, or on any question affecting the welfare of the Irish People, must tend to promote discontent and intensify disaffection in Ireland" (*Mr. Arthur O'Connor*); Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted;" after long debate, Debate further adjourned

276] Debate resumed [Tenth Night] *Feb 28, 1098*; Question again proposed, "That those words be there inserted;" Debate adjourned at 6 of the clock

. Debate resumed [Eleventh Night] *Mar 1, 1173*; Question again proposed, "That those words be there inserted;" after long debate, Question put; A. 32, N. 163; M. 131 (D. L. 14)

Main Question again proposed, and, after short debate, put, and agreed to, 1223

Committee appointed, "to draw up an Address to be presented to Her Majesty upon the said Resolution:"—*Mr. Buchanan* (Chairman), *Mr. Acland*, *Mr. Attorney General for Ireland*, *Mr. Dodson*, *Sir Charles Dilke*, *The Chancellor of the Exchequer*, *Lord Richard Grosvenor*, *Marquess of Hartington*, *Sir William Harcourt*, *Lord Kensington*, *Mr. Shaw Lefevre*, *Mr. Solicitor General*, and *Mr. Trevelyan*

Report of Address brought up, and read *Mar 1, 1227*

Moved, "That the said Address be read 2^o" (*The Marquess of Hartington*); after debate, Question put, and agreed to

Her Majesty's Answer to the Address reported *Mar 5, 1437*

Privileges, Ordered, That a Committee of Privileges be appointed *Feb 15*

Public Petitions, Select Committee appointed and nominated, *Feb 19*, as follows:—*Sir Charles Forster* (Chairman), *Mr. Cavendish Bentinck*, *Mr. Charles Dalrymple*, *Colonel Digby*, *Mr. Lowther*, *Mr. M'Lagan*, *Mr. Mulholland*, *Viscount Newport*, *Mr. O'Connor*, *Mr. Richard Power*, *Marquess of Stafford*, *Marquess of Tavistock*, *Mr. Charles Tennant*, *Mr. Hanbury-Tracy*, and *Mr. Reginald Yorke*

Kitchen and Refreshment Rooms (*House of Commons*), Standing Committee appointed and nominated, *Feb 19*, as follows:—*Sir William Hart Dyke* (Chairman), *Mr. Maurice Brooks*, *Mr. Duff*, *Mr. Henry Edwards*, *Sir Edmund Filmer*, *Sir Gabriel Golluch*, *Mr. Guest*, *Lord Kensington*, *Mr. Monk*, *Mr. Muntz*, *Captain O'Shea*, *Mr. Thornhill*, *Lord Henry Thynne*, and *Sir Henry Wolff*

Mar 1, *Mr. Guest* and *Sir Henry Wolff* *disch.*; *Mr. Armitage* and *Mr. Richard Power* *added*

[cont.]

PARLIAMENT—COMMONS—*cont.*

Standing Orders Committee, Nomination deferred Feb 20, 398; Select Committee nominated, Feb 27, as follows:—Sir John Mowbray (Chairman), Sir Edward Colebrooke, Mr. Cubitt, Mr. Floyer, Mr. Monk, Mr. Mulholland, Mr. Playfair, Lord Arthur Russell, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Whitbread, and Mr. Yorko

Public Accounts Committee, Select Committee nominated, Feb 22, as follows:—Sir Walter Barttelot, Mr. Leonard Courtney, Mr. Gorst, Sir Henry Holland, Mr. Laing, Sir John Lubbock, Sir Charles Mills, Mr. Rylands, Mr. Soely, Sir Henry Selwin-Ibbetson, and Mr. Shaw

Printing, Select Committee appointed and nominated, Feb 22, as follows:—Mr. Leonard Courtney, Mr. Parnell, Sir Joseph Pease, Mr. Raikes, Mr. Ramsay, Mr. William Henry Smith, Mr. Stansfeld, Colonel Tottenham, Mr. Whitbread, and Mr. Rowland Winn

Indisposition of Mr. Speaker

Sir Arthur Otway, the Chairman of Ways and Means, as Deputy Speaker, took the Chair April 27, April 30, May 1, May 2

COMMITTEES OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

Assistant Chairmen, Question, Mr. Raikes; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Mar 19, [277] 808

Temporary Chairmen, Question, Mr. Raikes; Answer, Mr. Gladstone April 5, [277] 1502

PRIVATE BILLS

New Standing Order, Moved, "Where a Bill having been brought in on Motion (not being a Bill to confirm a Provisional Order or Certificate) is read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time, on a day appointed, and it appears that the Standing Orders relative to Private Bills may be applicable to the Bill, the Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills shall, on an Order of the House, examine the Bill with respect to compliance with the Standing Orders, and shall proceed and report forthwith, and the Order for the Second Reading of the Bill shall not be affected thereby; but, if the Examiner report that any Standing Order applicable to the Bill has not been complied with, and the Select Committee on Standing Orders report that such Standing Order ought not to be dispensed with, the Order for the Second Reading of the Bill or the Order for Commitment thereof, as the case may be, shall be discharged" (*The Chairman of Ways and Means*) Feb 19, [276] 293; Resolution agreed to, and ordered to be a Standing Order of the House

New Standing Order, Moved to insert the following new Standing Order, to follow Standing Order 145:—"In the case of any Bill relating to a Railway, Tramway, Canal, Dock, Harbour, Navigation, Pier, or Port, seeking powers to levy tolls, rates, or duties in excess of those already authorised for that undertaking, or usually authorised in previous years for like undertakings, the Bill shall not be reported by the Committee

[*cont.*]

PARLIAMENT—COMMONS—*Private Bills—cc*

until a Report from the Board of Trade to the powers so sought has been laid the Committee; and the Committee report specially to the House in what the recommendations or observations Report of the Board of Trade, and what manner the Clauses of the Bill relate to the powers so sought, have been with by the Committee" (*Mr. Selater Mar 12*, [277] 188; after short debate agreed to; Resolution to be a Standing Order of the House

Ordered, That Standing Orders 129 and 130, suspended, and that the time for depositing Petitions against Private Bills, or any Bill to confirm any Provisional or Provisional Certificate, and for depositing duplicates of any Documents relating to Bills to confirm any Provisional or Provisional Certificate, be extended to day the 29th instant (*The Chairman of Ways and Means*) Mar 20

Private Business—Railway Bills—Inquiries, Questions, Mr. J. W. B. Answers, Mr. Chamberlain Feb 26, [276] 1502

Private Bills (Referees), Rules for the Form and Procedure of the Referees on Private Bills Mar 9, [276] 1895

Amendmt. proposed, in line 8, after "waters," insert "a printed copy of every Bill containing provisions with respect to the weights and measures, or the inspection or verification of the same, shall be deposited at the Standard Department of the Office of Trade" (*The Chairman of Ways and Means*); Amendmt. agreed to

Standing Orders Nos. 1, 26, 33, 39, 61, 66, 99, 113, 114, 128, 150, 153, 155; considered and amended; and printed as amended (No. 210) Aug 20 Standing Order 33 read Aug 17, [283] 1 Standing Order 155 read, and amended

THE STANDING COMMITTEES

Questions, Mr. Raikes, Mr. Arthur O'Connor; Answers, The Marquess of Hartington Speaker Feb 20, [276] 412; Questions, Mr. Raikes; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington Feb 22, 594; Question, Mr. W. Answer, Mr. Gladstone July 31, [282] 1813

Reference of Bills to the Grand Committee, Question, Mr. Raikes; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington Mar 1, [276] 117; *Committee of Selection (Special Report)*, Report of Members to serve on the Standing Committees of Law and Trade Mar 15 567; Special Report brought up, and Some Members discharged, others subs April 3, 1283; April 8, 1613

Accommodation for Reporters, Question, Mr. Warton; Answer, Mr. Shaw Levevre April 3, [277] 1117

Attendance of Members, Questions, Mr. St. Hill, Mr. Sexton, Mr. Gorst, Sir S. Northcote, Mr. Arthur O'Connor; Answer, The Attorney General May 1, [278] 1613

Debates in Whole House on Reports, Questions, Mr. Caine; Observations, Mr. St. Hill April 3, [277] 1281

PARLIAMENT—COMMONS—Standing Committees—
cont.

Procedure—Resumption of Bills in following Session, Question, Mr. Joseph Cowen; Answer, Mr. Speaker *June 14*, [280] 585

Re-appointment in next Session, Question, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *June 21*, [280] 1150

Standing Committees and Private Bill Committees

Simultaneous Sitings, Question, Mr. Heneage; Answer, Sir John R. Mowbray; Question, Mr. Dodds; [No reply] *April 17*, [278] 434

Reports of Proceedings and Speeches, Question, Lord Claud Hamilton; Answer, Mr. Speaker; Question, Mr. J. Cowen; [No answer] *April 8*, [277] 1642; Questions, Mr. Sheil, Mr. Ritchie; Answers, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Shaw Lefevre *April 9*, 1837; Question, Mr. Sheil; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *April 12*, [278] 85; Questions, Mr. Mitchell Henry; Answers, Mr. Gladstone *May 11*, [279] 529

Standing Committee on Law

Chairmen's Panel—Mr. Selater-Booth to be Chairman of the Standing Committee on Law, &c. *Mar 19*, [277] 775; Sir Matthew White Ridley Chairman for Criminal Code (Indictable Offences Procedure) Bill

Standing Committee on Law (Criminal Code (Indictable Offences Procedure) Bill), Members added *April 17*, [278] 436

Mr. Reginald Yorke discharged, Mr. Arthur Balfour substituted *April 27*, 1265

Ordered, That the Standing Committee on Law and Courts of Justice, and Legal Procedure have leave to print and circulate with the Votes any amended Clauses of the Court of Criminal Appeal Bill, and the Criminal Code (Indictable Offences Procedure) Bill, from time to time (*Mr. Selater-Booth*) *April 24*

Court of Criminal Appeal Bill, Bill reported from the Standing Committee on Law and Courts of Justice, and Legal Procedure *June 26* [Bill 244]

Questions, Sir George Campbell, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach; Answers, Mr. Gladstone *Aug 21*, [283] 1511

Moved, "That the Order for the Consideration of the Court of Criminal Appeal Bill, as amended, be read and discharged" (*Mr. Gladstone*); Question put, and agreed to; Order discharged; Bill withdrawn

Criminal Code (Indictable Offences Procedure) Bill, Question, Mr. Joseph Cowen; Answer, The Attorney General *June 18*, [280] 786; Questions, Lord Randolph Churchill, Mr. Buchanan, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Mr. Joseph Cowen, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Raikes; Answers, Mr. Speaker, The Attorney General, Mr. Gladstone *June 21*, 1147

Special Report brought up, and read *June 26*, 1510 [No. 225]; Minutes of Proceedings to be printed [No. 226]

Standing Committee on Trade

Chairmen's Panel—Mr. Goschen to be Chairman of the Standing Committee on Trade, &c. *Mar 19*, [277] 775; Sir Lyon Playfair appointed Chairman for the Patents for Inventions Bill *June 25*

[cont.]

PARLIAMENT—COMMONS—Standing Committee on Trade—cont.

Committee of Selection—Standing Committee on Trade, Special Reports *July 3*, [281] 177; *July 6*, 599

Standing Committee on Trade, Shipping, and Manufactures, Ordered, That the Standing Committee on Trade, Shipping, and Manufactures have leave to print and circulate with the Votes any amended Clauses of the Bankruptcy Bill from time to time (*Mr. Goschen*) *April 23*

Moved, "That the Standing Committee on Trade, Shipping, and Manufactures have leave to sit on Mondays till half-past Four of the clock, and on Fridays till half-past Two of the clock, during the sitting of the House" (*Mr. Goschen*) *June 7*, [279] 2006

Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Beresford Hope*); after short debate, Question put; A. 34, N. 90; M. 65 (D. L. 120)

Original Question put; A. 97, N. 30; M. 67 (D. L. 121)

Bankruptcy Bill, Bill reported from the Standing Committee on Trade, Shipping, and Manufactures *June 25* [Bill 243]; Minutes of Proceedings to be printed [No. 224]

Patents for Inventions Bill, Bill reported from the Standing Committee on Trade, Shipping, and Manufactures *July 9* [Bill 261]; Minutes of Proceedings to be printed [No. 247]

RULES AND ORDERS OF THE HOUSE
PUBLIC PETITIONS

Special Report brought up [No. 134] *April 20*, [278] 785 (Irregularities in respect of certain Petitions in favour of repealing the Contagious Diseases Acts)

Fraudulent Signatures, Question, Mr. Monk; Answer, Sir Charles Forster *May 28*, [279] 940

Parliamentary Oaths Act (1865) Amendment Bill—Proxy Signatures, Questions, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Labouchere; Answers, Sir Charles Forster *May 10*, [279] 403

RULES OF DEBATE

Production of Documents, Question, Observations, Mr. Raikes; Reply, Mr. Speaker; Observations, Mr. Gladstone *Aug 9*, [282] 2107

Time for Putting Questions, Question, Mr. Healy; Answer, Mr. Speaker *Aug 1*, [282] 1293

NEW RULES OF PROCEDURE

Dropped Orders, Observations, Mr. Speaker *June 7*, [279] 1930

Supply—Army Estimates—Irrelevance of Amendments, Observations, Mr. Speaker; Question, Dr. Cameron; Answer, Mr. Speaker *Mar 12*, [277] 221

Motions on going into Supply, Questions, Mr. Labouchere, Mr. Selater-Booth; Answers, Mr. Speaker *Mar 19*, [277] 814

Parliamentary Oath (The Standing Orders), Withdrawal of Motion, Lord Randolph Churchill *May 31*, [279] 1335

[cont.]

PARLIAMENT—COMMONS—*New Rules of Procedure*
—cont.

Blocking, Questions, Mr. Monk, Captain Aylmer; Answers, Mr. Gladstone April 2, [277] 1171; Question, Colonel Nolan; Answer, Mr. Warton April 3, 1278
Rule as to Blocking Notices [97A], Question, Mr. Anderson; Answer, Mr. Speaker May 7, [279] 49
The Half-past Twelve o'Clock Rule—Blocking, Observations, Question, Colonel King-Harman; Answer, Mr. Speaker; short debate thereon June 5, [279] 1749; — *Money Bills—Pensions to Lord Alcester and Lord Wolseley*, Observations, Mr. Labouchere; Reply, Mr. Gladstone April 20, [278] 749

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Questions, Mr. Stewart MacLiver, Mr. O'Donnell; Answers, Mr. Gladstone May 24, [279] 782
Alteration of Questions—The Kilmainham "Agreement", Question, Mr. Kennard; Answer, Mr. Mundella Feb 19, [276] 306

ORDER

Impeding the Entrance to this House, Question, Mr. Agnew; Answer, Mr. Speaker Aug 15, [283] 587
Prints of Bills, Question, Viscount Emlyn; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Mar 19, [277] 805
Survey (Trial of Causes) Bill, Question, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answer, Mr. Speaker May 9, [279] 320

PRIVILEGE

A Challenge—Mr. McCoan and Mr. O'Kelly, Observations, Mr. McCoan May 31, [279] 1336; Moved, "That Mr. O'Kelly do attend in his place To-morrow" (Mr. Gladstone); after short debate, Question put; A. 250, N. 19; M. 231 (D. L. 109); Observations, Mr. Speaker; Reply, Mr. O'Kelly; short debate thereon June 1, [279] 1488
Controverted Elections—Salisbury Election, Judges' Certificate and Report received by Mr. Speaker; and ordered to be entered in the Journals of this House Feb 27, [276] 1016
Interference of a Peer in Elections—Lord Carrington, Question, Mr. J. R. Yorke; Answer, The Attorney General Mar 8, [276] 1727
Parliamentary Oath (Mr. Bradlaugh), Questions, Mr. Lewis, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answers, Mr. Speaker May 8, [279] 236
Petitions—Fraudulent Signatures, Question, Mr. Monk; Answer, Mr. Charles Forster May 28, [279] 940
Reflections upon a Member, Observations, Mr. Warton, Mr. Caine April 9, [277] 1838

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Resignation of the Right Hon. Lyon Playfair (Chairman of Ways and Means), Statement, 276] Mr. Lyon Playfair Mar 1, 1247; Observations, Sir Stafford Northcote Mar 2, 1260
Appointment of Chairman of Ways and Means, Moved, "That Sir Arthur Otway do take the Chair of the Committee" (The Marquess of Hartington) Mar 2, 1321; after short debate, Question put, and agreed to

PARLIAMENT—COMMONS—cont.

Orders of the Day—The Address

Moved, "That the Notices of Motion a first Order of the Day be postponed until the Order of the Day for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Address to Her Majesty" (The Marquess of Hartington) 276] 398; after short debate, Motion agreed to
Moved, "That the first four Orders of the Day be postponed until after the Order of the Day for resuming the Adjourned Debate on an Amendment to the Address to Her Majesty" (The Marquess of Hartington) Feb 21, 503; Motion agreed to
Moved, "That the Notices of Motions first six Orders of the Day be postponed until after the Order of the Day for the Adjourned Debate on Motion Address to Her Majesty" (The Marquess of Hartington) Feb 27, 1025; after Motion agreed to
Moved, "That the other Orders of the Day be postponed until after the Order of the Day for resuming the Adjourned Debate on Motion for an Address to Her Majesty further proceedings thereon" (The Marquess of Hartington) Feb 28, 1097; Motion agreed to
Explosive Substances Bill, Orders of the Day postponed (Mr. Gladstone) April 9
Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Amendment Bill, Moved, "That the Order resuming the Adjourned Debate on the Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Amendment have precedence this day of the Notices of Motions and the other Orders of the Day" (Mr. Gladstone) May 1, [278] 157; debate, Question put; A. 157, N. 102 (D. L. 78)
Agricultural Holdings Bill, Orders of the Day postponed (Mr. Gladstone) May 2 1109
Suez Canal Company, Orders of the Day postponed (Mr. Gladstone) July 30
Precedence of Government Orders
Moved, "That Government Orders have precedence, this Evening, of the Notices of Motions and other Orders of the Day, Government Orders have precedence to-morrow" (Sir Charles W. Dilke) 281] 181; after short debate, Motion agreed to
Ministerial Statement, Mr. Gladstone 1099
Moved, "That, for the remainder of the Session, Orders of the Day to have precedence of Notices of Motions on Tuesday, Government Orders having priority; and that Government Orders have priority this day each succeeding Wednesday" (Mr. Gladstone); after debate, Question agreed to

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE AND A BUSINESS

Order of Public Business, Ministerial Statement, The Marquess of Hartington 276] 1148; — Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote Mar 1, 1166; Answers, The Marquess of Hartington Mar 1, 1166; Question put, Sir Stafford Northcote, Sir Walter B. E.

Parliament—Commons—Business of the House and Public Business—cont.

- 276] Answers, The Marquess of Hartington, The Chancellor of the Exchequer *Mar 2, 1280*; Questions, Mr. J. Lowther, Lord Randolph Churchill, Colonel Makins, Sir Walter B. Barttelot, Mr. Gorst, Mr. W. H. Smith; Answers, The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Gladstone *Mar 9, 1908*;—*The Government Measures*, Question, Lord John Manners; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington *Feb 19, 308*;—*Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Amendment Bill*, Question, Mr. Schreiber; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington *Feb 23, 714*; Question, Mr. Schreiber; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *Mar 6, 1436*; Question, Mr. Hicks; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *Mar 9, 1903*;—*Seed Advances (Scotland) Bill*, Question, Mr. A. J. Balfour; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *Mar 8, 1757*;—*Sittings in Supply*, Question, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *Mar 8, 1753*
- Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. Dixon-Hartland, Mr. Waddy, Mr. Onslow, Mr. Ritchie; Answers, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Chamberlain *Mar 12, 218*; Question, Mr. Arthur O'Connor; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer *Mar 14, 515*; Questions, Baron De Ferrières, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answers, Mr. Gladstone *Mar 16, 700*; Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. Onslow, Mr. Dillwyn; Answers, Mr. Gladstone, Sir Charles W. Dilke *Mar 19, 812*; Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answers, Mr. Ilibert, Mr. Chamberlain *April 2, 1177*; Question, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *April 3, 1281*; Questions, Sir R. Assheton Cross, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answers, Mr. Gladstone *April 10, 1972*;—*Votes on Account—The New Rules of Procedure*, Question, Mr. Arthur O'Connor; Answer, Mr. Speaker *Mar 12, 220*;—*Order—Ballot for Precedence*, Questions, Mr. Dick-Peddie, Lord Randolph Churchill, Mr. Hopwood; Answers, Mr. Speaker *Mar 13, 375*;—*The Easter Recess*, Questions, Mr. Joseph Cowen, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answers, The Marquess of Hartington, The Chancellor of the Exchequer *Mar 15, 561*;—*Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Amendment Bill*, Questions, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Gorst; Answers, The Marquess of Hartington *Mar 15, 566*; Questions, Mr. Newdegate; Answers, Sir William Harcourt *Mar 29, 993*;—*Government Legislation*, Question, Mr. Jesse Collings; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *Mar 19, 807*;—*The Count-out on Friday, March 16*, Question, Sir R. Assheton Cross; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer *Mar 19, 810*; Question, Mr. Gorst; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *April 2, 1177*;—*"Counts-out,"* Question, Mr. Callan; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *April 3, 1282*;—*The Tenants' Compensation Bill*, Question, Mr. Arthur Arnold; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *Mar 20, 932*;—*Ballot Act Continuance and Amendment Bill*, Question, Mr. Onslow; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke *Mar 20, 994*;—*The Police Bill*, Question, Colonel Alexander; Answer, Sir William Harcourt *April 3, 1280*;—*Public Business*

PARLIAMENT—COMMONS—Business of the House and Public Business—cont.

- 277] (*Ireland*)—*The Returns*, Question, Mr. Arthur O'Connor; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan *April 9, 1820*;—*The Universities (Scotland) Bill*, Question, Mr. Dalrymple; Answer, The Lord Advocate *April 9, 1832*;—*Spain—Expulsion of certain Cuban Refugees from Gibraltar—The Debate*, Observations, Sir R. Assheton Cross *April 9, 1833*;—*The Criminal Code (Indictable Offences Procedure) Bill*, Question, Mr. Sexton; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *April 9, 1841*
- Observations, Mr. Gladstone; Questions, Mr. A. F. Egerton, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. Beresford Hope, Mr. Onslow; Answers, Mr. Gladstone, The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Charles W. Dilke *April 12, 88*; Question, Mr. Henegage; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *April 13, 200*; Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answers, The Marquess of Hartington *April 20, 858*; Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote, Sir Walter B. Barttelot; Answers, Mr. Gladstone *April 26, 1166*; Questions, Earl Percy, Mr. J. Stewart; Answers, The Marquess of Hartington, Mr. Gladstone *May 3, 1724*; Ministerial Statement, Mr. Gladstone; Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answers, Mr. Gladstone, The Chancellor of the Exchequer *May 4, 1878*;—*The Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Amendment Bill*, Questions, Mr. McLagan, Mr. Labouchere; Answers, The Attorney General *April 12, 60*; Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. Labouchere, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answers, Mr. Gladstone, 82;—*The Board of Public Works (Ireland)*, Question, Mr. P. Martin; Answer, Mr. Courtney *April 12, 73*;—*The Transvaal Debate*, Questions, Lord George Hamilton, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Mr. Cropper; Answers, Mr. Evelyn Ashley *April 12, 86*; Question, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *April 16, 323*;—*The Transvaal—Policy of Her Majesty's Government*, Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answers, Mr. Gladstone, Lord Richard Grosvenor *April 27, 1279*;—*State of Public Business—Tuesdays and Fridays*, Questions, Mr. Carbutt, Lord Henry Lennox; Answers, Mr. Gladstone; Question, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answer, Mr. Gorst; Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answers, Mr. Gladstone *April 19, 631*;—*Agricultural Tenants' Compensation—Legislation*, Question, Mr. Chaplin; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *April 23, 913*;—*The Tenants' Compensation Bill and the Government of London Bill*, Question, Sir Alexander Gordon; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *April 24, 1061*;—*The Agricultural Holdings Bill*, Question, Mr. Henegage; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *May 1, 1578*;—*Police Superannuation Bill*, Question, Sir Henry Selwin-Ibbetson; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *April 23, 913*;—*Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) Bill*, Question, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *April 27, 1279*; Question, Sir R. Assheton Cross; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *May 1, 1575*;—*The Navy Estimates*, Question, Mr. Gorst; Answer,

PARLIAMENT—COMMONS—Business of the House and Public Business—cont.

- 278] Mr. Gladstone April 27, 1279; Question, Mr. W. H. Smith; Answer, Mr. Gladstone May 1, 1578;—*The Government of London Bill*, Questions, Mr. Firth, Mr. Hopwood, Mr. P. A. Taylor, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Lewis; Answers, Mr. Gladstone April 30, 1436;—*The Cuban Refugees*, Questions, Sir R. Assheton Cross, Mr. Arthur Arnold; Answers, Mr. Gladstone May 1, 1575;—*Lords Alcester and Wolseley Annuities Bills*, Question, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answer, Mr. Gladstone May 4, 1880
- Ministerial Statement*, Question, Mr. Firth;
- 279] Answer, Mr. Gladstone May 7, 45; Questions, Mr. Jesse Collings, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answers, Mr. Gladstone, The Attorney General May 10, 408;—Questions, Mr. Mitchell Henry, Mr. J. G. Hubbard, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. Ritchie; Answers, The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Gladstone May 10, 418;—*Ministerial Statement*, Questions, Mr. Moore, Sir Stafford Northcote, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answers, Mr. Gladstone May 11, 533;—Questions, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett, Sir Walter B. Barttelot, Sir Stafford Northcote, Sir George Campbell; Answers, Mr. Gladstone May 25, 899;—*Ministerial Statement*, Questions, Sir R. Assheton Cross, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Mr. Stuart-Wortley, Lord George Hamilton, Viscount Emlin, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett, Mr. Macartney; Answers, Mr. Gladstone May 29, 1105;—Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answers, Sir William Harcourt May 30, 1263; Questions, Mr. Lewis, Sir Stafford Northcote, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answers, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Courtney May 31, 1343; Question, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answer, Mr. Gladstone June 1, 1487;—*Ministerial Statement*, Questions, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. Gorst, Sir Herbert Maxwell; Answers, Mr. Gladstone June 4, 1648; Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. Beresford Hope, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach; Answers, Mr. Gladstone, Sir Charles W. Dilke; Question, Sir Walter B. Barttelot; [no reply] June 7, 1925;—*Debates on Indian Affairs*, Question, Mr. E. Stanhope; Answer, The Chairman of Ways and Means May 7, 27;—*Lords Alcester and Wolseley Annuities Bills*, Question, Mr. Gorst; Answer, Mr. Speaker May 7, 46;—*Drainage Consolidation (Ireland) Bill*, Question, Mr. Marum; Answer, Mr. Courtney May 8, 232;—*Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill*, Questions, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Sir Walter B. Barttelot, Sir Henry Selwin-Ibbetson; Answers, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Gladstone May 10, 419; Questions, Mr. Henegge, Sir Stafford Northcote, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answers, Mr. Gladstone May 24, 781;—*South Africa—The Transvaal—Policy of Her Majesty's Government*, Question, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach; Answer, Mr. Gladstone May 10, 608;—*East India (Expenditure)*, Observations, Mr. Onslow; short debate thereon May 10, 510;—*The National Debt Bill*, Question, Mr. Mitchell Henry; Answer, Mr. Gladstone May 11, 532; Question, Sir

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- 279] Stafford Northcote; Answer, The cellor of the Exchequer May 24, *Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt Practices) Bill*, Question, Mr. Gorst; Answer, Sir William Harcourt May; Question, Mr. Gorst; Answer, Mr. Gladstone May 24, 782;—*Scotch Business*, Question, Mr. A. Elliot; Answer, Sir William Harcourt May 24, 777;—*Agricultural (Scotland) Bill*, Question, Sir Herbert well; Answer, Mr. Gladstone May 28 *The "Count-out" on Friday*, May 2 tions, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. Mr. Joseph Cowen, Mr. Gorst; Answer, Mr. Gladstone May 28, 963;—*University (Ireland) Bill*, Question, Mr. Craig-Sell; Answer, Mr. Gladstone May 29, 110 *boursers (Ireland) Bill*, Questions, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Buchanan; Answer, Mr. Gladstone May 29, 1100;—*The Medical Amendment Bill*, Questions, Lord F. Churchill; Answers, Mr. Gladstone May 29, 1022;—*Police Superannuation Bill*, Questions, Mr. A. Peel, Sir Henry Selwin; Answers, Mr. Gladstone June 1 *Ballot Act Continuance and Amendment*, Question, Mr. Newdegate; Answer, Mr. Gladstone June 8, 26; Question, Mr. Gladstone June 8, 31;—*Ministerial Statement*, Question, Mr. Henegge, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. George Campbell; Answers, Mr. Gladstone June 8, 31;—*Setting up Supply*, Questions, Mr. Caverdish Bentinck; Re Gladstone; short debate thereon June 10;—*Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill*, Questions, Colonel Kingscott Chaplin; Answers, Mr. Dolson June 22;—*Ministerial Statement*, Question, Mr. Gladstone June 14, 564;—*Ministerial Statement*, Mr. Gladstone; short debate thereon June 15, 694;—*Royal Commission on Parliamentary Reform*, Question, Sir John Hay; Answer, Mr. Gladstone June 18, 797;—*The Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) Bill*, Questions, Mr. Henegge; Answer, Mr. Gladstone June 18, 801;—*Payment of Public-Houses Prohibition Bill*, Questions, Mr. Warton June 22, 1379;—*Business*, Questions, Mr. J. W. Sir Herbert Maxwell, Mr. Dalrymple; Answers, Mr. Gladstone June 25 Questions, Dr. Cameron, Sir Herbert well; Answers, Sir William Ibbetson June 28, 1713;—*Ministerial Statement*, Mr. Gladstone; short debate thereon June 28, 1707;—*Higher Education in Wales Bill*, Question, Mr. Stanle; Answer, Mr. Mundella June 2;—*Universities (Scotland) Bill*, Question, Mr. Craig-Sell; Answer, Mr. Gladstone June 28, 1707;—*Ministerial Statement*, Mr. Gladstone; short debate thereon June 28, 1707;—*Order of Business*, Questions, Colonel Alexander Stafford Northcote, Mr. W. F. Randolph Churchill, Mr. J. G. H. Answers, Mr. Gladstone July 2, 58;

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- Act Continuance and Amendment Bill*, Questions, Mr. Cavendish Bentinck, Viscount
281] Folkestone, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answers, Mr. Gladstone July 5, 480;—*Crown Lands Bill*, Question, Mr. W. H. James; Answer, Mr. Courtney July 6, 604;—*The Shannon Trust*, Question, Mr. Kenny; Answer, Mr. Courtney July 6, 606;—*Ministerial Statement*, Mr. Gladstone; short debate thereon July 9, 808;—*Arrangement of Business*, Questions, Sir John Ilay, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Mr. Guy Dawnay, Mr. Parnell; Answers, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Labouchere, Mr. Courtney July 12, 1236;—*Ministerial Statement*, Observations, Mr. Guy Dawnay, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Mr. Labouchere; Reply, Mr. Gladstone; short debate thereon July 13, 1359;—*Contagious Diseases Acts*, Questions, Captain Price, Mr. Puleston; Answers, Mr. Gladstone July 16, 1521;—*Sunday Closing (Ireland) Bill*, Question, Mr. J. N. Richardson; Answer, Mr. Gladstone July 16, 1523;—*Suez (Second) Canal—The Provisional Agreement with M. de Lesseps—Ministerial Statement*, Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. Rathbone, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Mr. Onslow; Answers, Mr. Gladstone July 16, 1524;—*Agricultural Holdings and Local Government Board (Scotland) Bills*, Question, Mr. Dalrymple; Answer, Mr. Gladstone July 16, 1527;—*Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) Bill*, Questions, Mr. Lewis, Sir R. Assheton Cross; Answers, Mr. Gladstone, The Attorney General July 19, 1911
282] Observations, Mr. Gladstone July 23, 141; Observations, Sir Stafford Northcote; Reply, Mr. Gladstone; short debate thereon July 26, 561; Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. T. P. O'Connor, Mr. Anderson, Colonel King-Harman; Answers, Sir William Harcourt, Mr. Trevelyan, Sir Stafford Northcote Aug 4, 1539;—*The "Count-out" on Friday, July 20*, Question, Sir George Campbell; Answer, Mr. Gladstone July 23, 163;—*Order of Public Business*, Question, Sir Massey Lopes; Answer, Mr. Gladstone; short debate thereon July 31, 1152; Questions, Mr. Gorst, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Healy, Mr. Dixon-Hartland, Mr. Parnell; Answers, Mr. Gladstone, Lord Richard Grosvenor Aug 8, 2030; Question, Sir John Lubbock; Answer, Mr. Gladstone; short debate thereon Aug 9, 2111;—*The "Count-out" on Friday, August 3*, Question, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answer, Sir William Harcourt Aug 4, 1536;—*Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill*, &c. Observations, Mr. Gladstone; short debate thereon July 20, 44; Question, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach; Answer, Mr. Gladstone; short debate thereon, 94;—*Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) Bill*, Question, Mr. Raikes; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington July 23, 250;—*Detention in Hospitals (No. 2) Bill*, Question, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington July 23, 250;—*Supply*, Questions, Mr. Justin McCarthy, Mr. W. H. Smith, Sir H. Drummond Wolff,

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- Colonel Stanley; Answers, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Courtney, The Marquess of Hartington
282] July 24, 308;—*Re-arrangement of Supply*, Observations, Sir Charles W. Dilke July 24, 422;—*Ministerial Statement*, Mr. Gladstone; short debate thereon July 25, 426;—*Saturday Sittings*, Questions, Sir George Campbell, Mr. Dalrymple; Answers, Mr. Gladstone July 27, 788;—*Court of Criminal Appeal Bill*, Questions, Sir R. Assheton Cross, Mr. Healy; Answers, Mr. Speaker, The Attorney General July 31, 1143;—*Land Improvement and Arterial Drainage (Ireland) Bill*, Question, Colonel Colthurst; Answer, Mr. Courtney Aug 2, 1328;—*Ministerial Statement*, Question, Sir R. Assheton Cross; Answer, Mr. Gladstone; debate thereon Aug 2, 1342;—*Ministerial Statement*, Mr. Gladstone; short debate thereon Aug 3, 1484;—*Contempts of Court Bill*, Question, Mr. Edward Clarke; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Aug 6, 1656;—*Rivers Conservancy and Floods Prevention Bill*, &c., Questions, Colonel Alexander, Mr. Rylands; Answers, Mr. Dodson Aug 7, 1852;—*Bankruptcy Bill, Petroleum Bill*, &c., Questions, Mr. Ritchie; Answers, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Hlibbert Aug 7, 1854
283] Question, Sir George Campbell; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Aug 10, 69; Question, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Aug 13, 282; Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Cavendish Bentinck, Mr. Biggar, Mr. Callan, Dr. Cameron; Answers, Mr. Gladstone Aug 17, 963; Questions, Sir Walter B. Barttelot, Mr. Parnell, Mr. Callan; Answers, The Chancellor of the Exchequer, 1021; Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. Buchanan, Mr. Plunket; Answers, Mr. Gladstone Aug 20, 1366;—*Medical Act Amendment Bill*, Question, Dr. Lyons; Answer, Mr. Mundella Aug 10, 73; Question, Sir Lyon Playfair; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Aug 13, 273; Questions, Mr. Dick-Peddie, Mr. Callan; Answers, Mr. Gladstone Aug 22, 1646;—*Bankruptcy Bill*, Question, Mr. Callan; Answer, The Attorney General for Ireland Aug 11, 144;—*Post Office Bills*, Question, Mr. Francis Buxton; Answer, Mr. Fawcett Aug 13, 281;—*National Debt Bill*, Question, Sir Joseph M'Kenna; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer Aug 13, 282;—*The Maharajah Dhuleep Singh—The Indian Financial Statement*, Notice of Question, Mr. Onslow; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Aug 13, 283;—*Revenue and Friendly Societies Bill*, Question, Mr. Bulwer; Answer, Mr. Courtney Aug 13, 284;—*Army Estimates*, Questions, Sir Walter B. Barttelot, Mr. Healy; Answers, The Marquess of Hartington, Mr. Gladstone Aug 14, 472;—*Court of Criminal Appeal Bill*, Question, Sir George Campbell; Answer, The Attorney General Aug 15, 588; Questions, Sir Eardley Wilmot, Sir R. Assheton Cross; Answers, Mr. Gladstone; short debate thereon Aug 16, 747;—*Course of Public Business*, Questions, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett, Mr. Joseph Cowen, Sir John Hay, Mr. J. Lowther, Sir Stafford Northcote, Sir

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George Campbell; Answers, Mr. Gladstone 283] Aug 18, 1113;—*Government Conduct of Public Business during the Session*, Observations, Sir Stafford Northcote; Reply, Mr. Gladstone Aug 21, 1514;—*Results of Public Business*, Observations, Mr. Warton Aug 21, 1552;—*Parliamentary Registration (Ireland) Bill*, Questions, Mr. Parnell; Answers, Mr. Gladstone Aug 22, 1645;—*Local Government Board (Scotland) Bill*, Question, Sir George Campbell; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Aug 22, 1646

SITTINGS AND ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE

Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (Lord Richard Grosvenor) July 24, [282] 422; Motion agreed to

Sittings of the House, Resolved, That whenever the House shall meet at Two of the Clock, the Sittings of the House shall be held subject to the Resolutions of the House of the 30th day of April 1869 (Mr. Gladstone) Mar 16

Ascension Day, Moved, "That Committees shall not sit To-morrow, being Ascension Day, until Two of the Clock, and have leave to sit until Six of the Clock, notwithstanding the sitting of the House" (Mr. Gladstone) May 2, [278] 1671; after short debate, Question put; A. 69, N. 20; M. 49 (D.L. 79)

The Committees and Ascension Day, Question, Mr. Arthur Arnold; Answer, Sir Joseph Bailey May 3, [278] 1725

The Derby Day, Question, Mr. Bourke; Answer, Mr. Gladstone May 8, [279] 234; Questions, Sir Wilfrid Lawson, Mr. Arthur O'Connor; Answers, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Speaker May 11, 530; Moved, "That the House, at its rising, do adjourn till Thursday" (Sir Herbert Maxwell) May 22, 701; after debate, Question put; A. 185, N. 85; M. 100 (D.L. 97)

Proposed Alteration of the Sittings, Question, Mr. Broadhurst; Answer, Mr. Gladstone June 25, [280] 1422

Saturday Sittings, Question, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Aug 6, [282] 1658; Observation, Sir R. Assheton Cross Aug 8, 1988

Business of the House, Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (Mr. Chamberlain) Aug 4, [282] 1590; after short debate, Question put; A. 52, N. 66; M. 14 (D.L. 260)

Supply—Arrangement of Votes, Question, Mr. Arthur O'Connor; Answer, Mr. Speaker Mar 2, [276] 1261; Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (Sir Arthur Hayter) Aug 16, [283] 925; Motion agreed to Moved, "That this House, at its rising, adjourn until Saturday, at Two o'clock" (The Marquess of Hartington) Aug 23; Motion agreed to

The Easter Recess, Question, Mr. Montague Guest; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Mar 8, [276]

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PARLIAMENT—COMMONS—*Sittings and Adjournment of the House*—cont.

1759; Moved, "That this House rising, do adjourn until Thursday, 1st of March" (Mr. Gladstone) Mar 2, 944; after debate, Question put, and *The Whitsuntide Recess*, Question Walter B. Barttelot, Mr. Hopwood, Mr. Gladstone; Question, Mr. O'Connor; [no reply] April 30, [27] Moved, "That this House, at its rising, adjourn till Monday the 21st instant (Gladstone) May 11, [279] 535; after debate, Question put, and agreed to

QUESTIONS

Acts of Parliament—Promulgation Statutes, Question, Mr. Mitchell Answer, Mr. Gladstone July 5, [281] *Printing and Distribution*, Question, Lewis Fry; Answer, Mr. Courtney [281] 773

[See title *Statutes—Promulgation Alleged Candidature of Mr. Sub-Comm. Wylie*, Question, Mr. Long; Answer, Trevelyan May 28, [279] 939

Business of the House

Introduction of Measures in the House, Question, Mr. Joseph Cowen; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Aug 13, [283] 278

Lord Alcester's and Lord Wolseley's Bills, Questions, Mr. Arthur Sir Stafford Northcote, Lord I. Churchill, Mr. Labouchere; Answer, Gladstone May 11, [279] 527

Grants to Lords Alcester and Wolseley's, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answer, Gladstone May 25, [279] 901

Poor Relief (Ireland) Bill, Question, O'Brien; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan [281] 56

Private Bill Legislation, Questions, Mr. son, Mr. Parnell, Mr. Newdegate; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Aug 23, [283] 1756

Private Estate Bills, Questions, Mr. Arnold, Mr. Raikes; Answers, Mr. Gladstone Aug 7, [282] 1851

Public Bills—Memorandum of Purport Enactments, Question, Mr. Joseph Answer, Mr. Speaker Mar 5, [276] 1

Provisional Order Bills, Question, Mr. Smith; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain [282] 959

Scotch Business—The Earl of Rosebery's, Mr. A. Elliot, Mr. Dalrym James Stewart; Answers, Sir Willcourt, Mr. Gladstone June 7, [279]

Corrupt Practices at Elections—The S. Boroughs, Question, Captain Aylmer, The Attorney General Mar 2, 1113; Questions, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Answers, Mr. Gladstone May 29, [27] —*The Disfranchised Irish Boroughs*, Question, Mr. O'Brien; Answer, Mr. C May 31, [279] 1334

Election of Mr. Timothy Harrington's, meath, Questions, Mr. T. D. Sullivan; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan Feb 1929

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Parliamentary Elections—The Borough of Southampton, Questions, Lord Randolph Churchill, Mr. Gorst; Answers, Lord Richard Grosvenor *Mar 30*, [277] 1117;—*The Stigo Election—Alleged Intimidation*, Question, Mr. Healy; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan *Aug 16*, [283] 726;—*The Wexford Election*, Question, Mr. O'Brien; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan *June 18*, [280] 787

The Mid Cheshire Election, Questions, Mr. Broadhurst, Mr. Guy Dawnay, Lord Claud Hamilton, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answers, The Attorney General *Mar 8*, [276] 1733

Parliamentary Constituencies,
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Parliamentary Franchises—Foreign Countries, Questions, Mr. Buxton, Mr. Brodrick; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice *April 16*, [278] 317 P.P. [3665]

Parliamentary Oaths Act, 1866, Question, Sir William Hart Dyke; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *April 17*, [278] 427

Parliamentary Papers—Distribution of, Question, Mr. Buxton; Answer, Mr. Courtney *Mar 8*, [276] 1720;—*The Consular Reports*, Question, Mr. Slagg; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice *July 30*, [282] 943

Parliamentary Registration—Registration of Voters under the Divided Parishes Act, 1879, Question, Mr. Long; Answer, Mr. George Russell *July 26*, [282] 536

Inland Revenue Department—Grievances of Officers—Right of Petition, Question, Mr. Gorst; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer *Mar 15*, 560; Questions, Mr. Gorst, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answers, The Chancellor of the Exchequer *Mar 19*, 783; Questions, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answers, Mr. Speaker, 810; Questions, Lord Randolph Churchill, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answers, The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Speaker *Mar 30*, 1110; Questions, Lord Randolph Churchill, Mr. Raikes; Answers, The Chancellor of the Exchequer, [278] Mr. Speaker *April 26*, 1163; Questions, Lord Randolph Churchill, Mr. Gorst; Answers, The Chancellor of the Exchequer *April 27*, 1272

Parliament (Mr. Bradlaugh), Questions, Mr. P. A. Taylor, Mr. Labouchere; Answers, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Speaker *June 21*, [280] 1145

The Board of Public Works (Ireland)—Legislation, Question, Mr. P. Martin; Answer, Mr. Courtney *April 12*, [278] 73

The Board of Trade and Railway Bills, Question, Mr. R. H. Paget; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain *Mar 16*, [277] 700

The Ministry

Department of the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, Question, Mr. James Howard; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *May 7*, [279] 47

Extra-Parliamentary Speeches—Speech of Mr. Herbert Gladstone at Leeds, Question, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answer, The Marquess

PARLIAMENT—COMMONS—The Ministry—cont.

of Hartington *Feb 23*, [276] 704; Question, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answer, Mr. Courtney, 715; Question, Mr. J. R. Yorke; Answer, Mr. Herbert Gladstone; Observations, Mr. J. R. Yorke, Mr. Speaker *Mar 15*, [277] 568;—*Speech of Mr. Herbert Gladstone at Acton*, Questions, Mr. Tottenham, Mr. Brodrick; Answers, Mr. Gladstone *July 9*, [281] 794

Policy of the Ministry—Speech of Mr. Chamberlain at Birmingham, Notice, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Question, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answer, Mr. Speaker *April 5*, [277] 1499; Questions, Mr. Warton, Mr. J. Lowther; Answers, Mr. Gladstone *June 18*, [280] 798

House of Commons—The First Lord of the Admiralty, Question, Mr. Puleston; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *June 21*, [280] 1144

Ministerial Arrangements—The Department of the Lord President, Question, Mr. Sexton; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *Mar 13*, [277] 375; Question, Sir John Lubbock; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *Mar 20*, 933

The Office of Lord Privy Seal, Question, Mr. Broadhurst; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *June 21*, [280] 1146

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House of Lords

The Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, Question, Mr. Labouchere; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *July 5*, [281] 477
[See title—Office of Gentleman Usher, &c. (Lords)]

The Peers' Robing Room, Observations, Lord Mount-Temple; Reply, Lord Thurlow; short debate thereon *July 27*, [282] 690

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Kitchen and Refreshment Rooms, Question, Mr. Sheil; Answer, Mr. Courtney *June 14*, [280] 556

The Electric Light, Questions, Lord Randolph Churchill, Viscount Folkestone; Answers, Mr. Shaw Lefevre; Question, Mr. R. N. Fowler; [no reply] *April 17*, [278] 426

The Post Office in the Lobby, Question, Mr. Stewart Maccliver; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre *July 2*, [281] 33

Ventilation of the Committee Rooms, Question, Mr. Vivian; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre; Observations, Mr. J. R. Yorke *June 7*, [279] 1012

Telephonic Communication with the Exchanges, Question, Mr. Ritchie; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre *Mar 2*, [276] 1261; Questions, Mr. Agnew, Mr. T. P. O'Connor; Answers, Mr. Shaw Lefevre *Aug 17*, [283] 961

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Interior, Question, Dr. Lyons; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre *Aug 2*, [282] 1337

Western Side, Question, Sir George Campbell; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre *May 10*, [279] 389; Question, Mr. R. H. Paget; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre *July 19*, [281] 1885

The Statues in Westminster Hall, Notice, Mr. Bromley-Davenport *April 16*, [278] 325; Question, Mr. Bromley-Davenport; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre *April 19*, 511

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The Houses of Parliament—The Central Hall, Observations, Mr. Schreiber, Mr. Cavendish Bentinck; Reply, Mr. Shaw Lefevre *Mar 29*, [277] 1032

The Old Law Courts, Question, Sir George Campbell; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre *Feb 16*, [276] 170; Question, Mr. R. H. Paget; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre *Mar 15*, [277] 540; Question, Sir George Campbell; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *Mar 19*, 805

Parliament—Business of the House—
“Counts out”

Moved, “That if it shall appear, on notice being taken, during any Debate, that forty Members are not present, the question under discussion shall be treated as a dropped Order, and the House will proceed to the consideration of the next Order of the Day or Motion on the Paper” (*Sir Hussey Vivian*) *April 10*, [277] 1973

Amendt. to leave out from “That,” add “it is inexpedient to institute any rule or practice whereby discussion of Motions in order, and before the House can be evaded by the withdrawal from the House of Members favourable to some Motion later in the Orders of the same day” (*Sir Joseph McKenna*) *v.*; Question proposed, “That the words, &c.,” after short debate, Amendt. withdrawn; Motion withdrawn

Parliament—Committee of Selection

Standing Order No. 98 read, as followeth:—
“There shall be a Committee, to be designated ‘The Committee of Selection,’ to consist of the Chairman of the Select Committee on Standing Orders, who shall be *ex officio* Chairman thereof, and Five other Members, who shall be nominated at the commencement of every Session, of which Committee Three shall be a quorum”

276] *Feb 27*, 973

Amendt. to leave out “Five,” insert “Seven” (*Sir John Mowbray*) *v.*; Question proposed, “That ‘Five,’ &c.,” after long debate, Question put, and negatived

Question proposed, “That ‘Seven,’ &c.”

Amendt. to the said proposed Amendt. to leave out “Seven,” insert “Ten” (*Mr. Rylands*) *v.*; Question proposed, “That ‘Seven,’ &c.,” after short debate, Question put; A. 213, N. 54; M. 159 (D. L. 12)

Moved, “That Mr. Cubitt be one other Member of the Committee” (*Sir John Mowbray*), 1007; after short debate, Question put, and agreed to

Moved, “That Sir Charles Forster be one other Member of the Committee” (*Sir John Mowbray*); Question put, and agreed to

Moved, “That Mr. Mitchell Henry be one other Member of the Committee” (*Sir John Mowbray*)

Amendt. to leave out the name of “Mr. Mitchell Henry,” insert “Mr. Justin McCarthy” (*Mr. Parnell*) *v.*; Question proposed, “That ‘Mr. Mitchell Henry,’ &c.,” after short debate, Question put; A. 157, N. 22; M. 135 (D. L. 13)

Parliament—COMMONS—Committee of
—cont.

Mr. Orr Ewing, Mr. Illingworth, Mr. bread, Sir Henry Wolff, and the C of the Select Committee on Standing nominated other Members of the said mittee

Committee of Selection (Special Report Chairmen's Panel, Mar 5, [276] 143

Parliament—New Writ for the Co
Monaghan

Moved, “That Mr. Speaker do is Warrant to the Clerk of the C Ireland to make out a New Writ electing of a Member to serve in this Parliament for the County of Mona the room of John Givan, esquire, w his Election for the said County l cepted the office of Crown Solicitor Counties of Meath and Kildare *Richard Grosvenor*) *June 12*, [280]

Amendt. to leave out from “Tha “the issue of the Writ for the C Monaghan be suspended until the of Parliament has been had regard Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt legal Practices) Bill now before this (*Mr. Biggar*) *v.*; Question, “That th &c.,” put, and agreed to

Main Question put, and agreed to

Parliament—Order in Debate

Mr. O’Kelly, Member for Roscommon been Named by Mr. Speaker for di interruption of the debate, Moved. Mr. O’Kelly be suspended from the of the House” (*The Marquess of t-on*) *Feb 22*, [276] 628; Mr. Speake with put the Question: A. 305, M. 285

Parliament—Private Bill Legislati

Moved, “That, in the opinion of this the system of Private Bill Legislat for the attention of Parliament, and Majesty’s Government, and requires (*Mr. Craig Sellar*) *Mar 6*, [276] 161 After debate, Amendt. to leave ou “That,” add “this House adhere Resolution upon Private Bill Leg agreed to on the 22nd of March, 187 (*Dodson*) *v.*; Question proposed, “T words, &c.,” after further short [House counted out]

Parliament—Private Bills—S
Order 167

Standing Order 167 read: An addition moved (Payment of Interest out of (*The Chairman of Ways and Means*) [279] 1837; Question proposed, “11 words be there added;” after long Moved, “That the Debate be r journed” (*Mr. Molloy*); after furth debate, Motion withdrawn; Questi A. 133, N. 123; M. 8 (D. L. 117)

Parliament—Privilege—“Bradlaugh v. Gosset”

281] Communication to the House July 19, 1815
Ordered, That the said Communication “be taken into Consideration To-morrow, at Two of the Clock” (*Mr. Attorney General*)
Writ and other Documents considered July 20, 282] 49

Moved, “That leave be given to Ralph Allen Gosset, esquire, Serjeant-at-Arms, to appear and plead in the Action brought against him by Charles Bradlaugh, esquire” (*Mr. Attorney General*); Moved, “That the Debate be now adjourned” (*Sir Hardinge Giffard*); after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Original Question again proposed, 58; after short debate, Original Question put, and agreed to

Moved, “That the Attorney General be directed to defend the Serjeant-at-Arms against the said Action” (*Mr. Attorney General*), 65

Amendt. to add at end “but that the Attorney General be instructed that the orderly fulfilment of his statutory obligation by a duly elected Member of this House is not to be held as disturbing the proceedings of the House” (*Sir Wilfrid Lawson*) v.; Question proposed, “That those words be there added;” after short debate, Amendt. withdrawn

Original Question put, and agreed to

Parliament—Privilege—Member Imprisoned (*Mr. Healy*)

Question, Mr. Parnell; Answer, Mr. Speaker Feb 15, [276] 66; Question, Mr. Sexton; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Mar 9, 1898

Letter received by Mr. Speaker from the Right Honourable the Chief Justice of the Court of Queen’s Bench in Ireland Feb 15, 67

Moved, “That the Letter do lie on the Table” (*The Marquess of Hartington*)

Amendt. to leave out “do lie on the Table,” add “informing the House of the trial, arrest, and imprisonment of Mr. Healy, a Member of this House, be referred to a Select Committee, for the purpose of inquiring into all the matters connected with the proceedings referred to therein, and of reporting whether they demand the further attention of this House” (*Mr. Parnell*) v.; Question proposed, “That the words, &c. ;” after debate, Question put; A. 353, N. 47; M. 306 (D. L. 1)

Main Question put; Ordered, That the Letter of the Chief Justice of the Court of Queen’s Bench in Ireland do lie upon the Table

Parliament—Privilege—The Speeches of Mr. John Bright at Birmingham

Paragraph complained of read; Moved, “That the words complained of are a Breach of the Privileges of this House” (*Sir Stafford Northcote*) June 18, [280] 801; after debate, Question put; A. 117, N. 151; M. 34 (D. L. 139)

PARLIAMENT—HOUSE OF LORDS**Took the Oath for the First Time**

Mar 8—The Lord Bishop of Rochester

Mar 12—The Lord Archbishop of Canterbury

New Peers

Feb 15—The Lord Chancellor—The Earl Granville, one of Her Majesty’s Principal Secretaries of State, acquainted the House that Her Majesty had been pleased to create Roundell, Lord Selborne, Lord Chancellor of Great Britain, a Viscount and Earl of the United Kingdom, by the style and title of Viscount Wolmer of Blackmoor, in the county of Southampton, and Earl of Selborne in the said county

Sir Garnet Joseph Wolseley, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., General and Adjutant-General of Her Majesty’s Forces, and late General Commanding-in-Chief the Expeditionary Force in Egypt, created Baron Wolseley of Cairo, and of Wolseley in the county of Stafford

April 12—Sir Frederick Beauchamp Paget Seymour, G.C.B., Admiral and Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty’s Naval Forces in the Mediterranean, created Baron Alcester of Alcester in the county of Warwick

Sat First

Feb 15—The Lord Keane, after the death of his brother

Mar 2—The Lord Minster (the Marquess of Conyngham), after the death of his father

Mar 13—The Lord Greville, after the death of his father

April 5—The Lord Egerton, after the death of his father

The Lord Vaux of Harrowden, after the death of his grandfather

April 27—The Lord Wemyss (The Earl of Wemyss and March), after the death of his father

May 31—The Earl of Lonsdale, after the death of his brother

June 4—The Lord Lurgan, after the death of his father

June 8—The Lord O’Neill, after the death of his father

June 11—The Lord Castletown, after the death of his father

The Lord Haldon, after the death of his father

The Lord Chesham, after the death of his father

The Earl of Guilford, after the death of his grandfather

June 21—The Viscount Exmouth, after the death of his uncle

July 12—The Lord Carew, after the death of his father

July 13—The Lord Sherborne, after the death of his father

PARLIAMENT—HOUSE OF COMMONS

New Writ Issued

During Recess—For Chelsea Borough, v. Right Hon. Sir Charles Wentworth Dilke, baronet, President of the Local Government Board

For Iladdington County, v. Hon. Francis Charteris, commonly called Lord Elcho, called up to the House of Peers

For Mallow Borough, v. Right Hon. William Moore Johnson, one of the Judges of the High Court of Justice in Ireland

Feb 15—For the County of Dublin, v. Right Hon. Thomas Edward Taylor, deceased

Feb 16—For Newcastle upon Tyne, v. Ashton Wentworth Dilke, esquire, Manor of Northstead

For Westmeath County, v. Hugh Joseph Gill, esquire, Chiltern Hundreds

Feb 19—For Portarlington, v. Hon. Bernard Edward Barnaby Fitzpatrick, now Lord Castleton, called up to the House of Peers

Mar 1—For Wycombe Borough, v. Lieutenant Colonel William Henry Peregrine Carington, commonly called the Hon. William Henry Peregrine Carington, Manor of Northstead

For Chester County (Mid Division), v. Hon. Wilbraham Egerton, called up to the House of Peers

Mar 7—For the County of Tipperary, v. John Dillon, esquire, Chiltern Hundreds

April 2—For Southampton, v. Charles Parker Butt, esquire, one of the Justices of Her Majesty's High Court of Justice

June 4—For the County of Wexford, v. Garrett Michael Byrne, esquire, Manor of Northstead

June 6—For Leicester County (Northern Division), v. Major-General Edwyn Sherard Burnaby, deceased

For Derby Borough, v. Michael Thomas Bass, esquire, Chiltern Hundreds

June 12—For the County of Monaghan, v. John Givan, esquire, Crown Solicitor for the Counties of Meath and Kildare

June 14—For Peterborough, v. George Hampden Whalley, esquire, Manor of Northstead

June 22—For the Town and Port of Hastings, v. Charles James Murray, esquire, Manor of Northstead

July 9—For the Borough of Wexford, v. Timothy Michael Healy, esquire, Chiltern Hundreds

Aug 6—For the County of Sligo, v. Denis Maurice O'Connor, esquire, deceased

Aug 16—For Essex County (Eastern Division), v. Colonel Samuel Ruggles-Brise, Chiltern Hundreds

Aug 21—For Rutland County, v. the Right Hon. Gerard Noel, Chiltern Hundreds

New Members Sworn

Feb 15—Right Hon. Sir Charles W Dilke, baronet, *Chelsea*

Hon. Algernon Fulke Egerto Samuel Smith, esquire, *Living*
Lord Elcho, *Haddington Co*
William O'Brien, esquire, *M*

Feb 27—John Morley, esquire, *City castle upon Tyne*

Mar 1—Edward Robert King-Harmer *County of Dublin*

Mar 5—Robert Abraham Brewster Brewster, esquire, *Borough arlington*

Mar 12—Lieutenant Colonel Gerard *Borough of Chipping Wy*

Mar 19—The hon. Alan de Tatton *Mid Division of the C Chester*

Mar 20—Thomas Mayne, esquire, *Ti*

April 9—Alfred Giles, esquire, *South*

April 20—Timothy Harrington, esqui *meath County*

June 12—Thomas Roe, esquire, *D rough*

June 18—The hon. Montague Curzon, *County (Northern Divisio*

June 25—Sydney Charles Buxton, *City of Peterborough*

July 2—Henry Bret Ince, esqui *Town and Port of Hasti*

July 16—John Francis Small, esquire, *of Wexford*

July 19—Timothy Michael Healy, *County of Monaghan*

Aug 23—Nicholas Lynch, esquire, *Sligo*

Parliamentary Franchise (Exter Women)

Amendt. on Committee of Supply J leave out from "That," add "in th of this House, the Parliamentary] should be extended to women wh the qualifications which entitle me and who in all matters of local go have the right of voting" (*Mr. Hug v.*, [281] 664; Question proposed, " words, &c.;" after long debate, put; A. 130, N. 114; M. 16 Div. List, A. and N., 722

Parliamentary Oath (Mr. Bradlau

Letter received by Mr. Speaker f Bradlaugh, one of the Members f ampton Feb 15

Question, Mr. Labouchere; Ans

276] Marquess of Hartington Feb 15, 6 tions, Mr. Newdegate; Answers, Mr.

The Marquess of Hartington Feb

Question, Sir Herbert Maxwell; An

278] Gladstone April 12, 88; Question Drummond Wolff, Mr. Newdegate,

Ham Hart Dyke, Lord Randolph C

Answers, Mr. Gladstone April 1

Observations, Question, Mr. Ne

Reply, Mr. Gladstone; Questio

Randolph Churchill, Sir H. Di

Wolff, Mr. Newdegate; Answers, A

stone, The Attorney General April

Parliamentary Oath (Mr. Bradlaugh)—cont.

Letter received by Mr. Speaker from Mr. Bradlaugh, one of the Members for Northampton May 4, 1842

Moved, "That, having regard to the Resolutions of this House of the 22nd June 1880, of the 26th April 1881, and of the 7th February and 6th March 1882, and to the Reports and Proceedings of two Select Committees therein referred to, Mr. Bradlaugh be not permitted to go through the form of repeating the words of the Oath prescribed by the Statutes 29 Vic. c. 19, and 31 and 32 Vic. c. 72" (Sir Stafford Northcote)

Moved, "That Mr. Bradlaugh be heard at the Bar" (Mr. Labouchere); Question put, and agreed to

Previous Question proposed, "That the Original Question be now put" (Mr. Labouchere); after short debate, Question put; A. 271; N. 165; M. 106; original Question put, and agreed to

Div. List, A. and N., 1859

Letter of Mr. Bradlaugh addressed to Mr. Gladstone, Question, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answer, Mr. Gladstone July 9, 801

Moved, "That the Serjeant-at-Arms do exclude Mr. Bradlaugh from the House until he shall engage not further to disturb the proceedings of the House" (Sir Stafford Northcote); after short debate, Question put; A. 232, N. 65; M. 167 (D. L. 183)

Questions, Sir Wilfrid Lawson, Mr. Labouchere; Answers, Mr. Speaker July 12, 1239; Question, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answer, Mr. Speaker, 1334

Parliamentary Reform

Amendt. on Committee of Supply Mar 30, To leave out from "That," add "in the opinion of this House, it would be desirable, so soon as the state of public business shall permit, to establish Uniformity of Franchise throughout the whole of the United Kingdom by a Franchise similar in principle to that established in the English Boroughs" (Mr. Arthur Arnold) v., [277] 1118; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, [House counted out]

Parliamentary Elections (Closing of Public-houses) Bill

(Mr. Carbutt, Mr. Arthur Pease, Mr. Illingworth, Mr. Jacob Bright, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Burt, Mr. O'Connor Power)

e. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 22 [Bill 102]

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" Mar 19, [277] 917; after short debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (Mr. Callan); Question put; A. 17, N. 55; M. 38 (D. L. 40)

Original Question again proposed, 919; after short debate, Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (Mr. Whitley); Question put; A. 19, N. 43; M. 24 (D. L. 41)

Original Question again proposed; Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (Colonel Alexander); Question put, and agreed to; Debate adjourned

Bill withdrawn * Aug 7

Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) Bill

Question, Mr. Lewis; Answer, Mr. Gladstone April 16, [279] 326; Question, Sir R. Assheton Cross; Answer, Mr. Gladstone May 28, [279] 962; Question, Mr. Callan; Answer, The Attorney General June 4, 1650; Question, Mr. Broadhurst; Answer, The Attorney General June 21, [280] 1141
Conveyance of Electors—Hours of Polling, Questions, Mr. S. Smith, Mr. Onslow; Answers, Sir Charles W. Dilke Aug 13, [283] 252; Question, Mr. Healy; Answer, The Attorney General, 284

Municipal and School Board Elections, Questions, Mr. Jackson, Sir R. Assheton Cross, Mr. Joseph Cowen; Answers, The Attorney General, Mr. Gladstone July 30, [282] 958

Recommendation of Parliamentary Candidates, Question, Mr. Stanley Leighton; Answer, Mr. Gladstone May 8, [279] 235

Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) Bill

(Mr. Attorney General, Secretary Sir William Harcourt, Mr. Chamberlain, Sir Charles Dilke, Mr. Solicitor General)

e. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 7]

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" 279] June 4, 1651

Amendt. to leave out "now," add "upon this day three months" (Mr. Warton); Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" after long debate, Question put, and agreed to

Main Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 2^o Order for Committee read June 7, 1930

Moved, "That it be an Instruction to the Committee that they have power to insert a new Clause in the Bill charging the returning officer's expenses at Parliamentary Elections upon the rates in boroughs and counties" (Mr. Broadhurst); after debate, Question put; A. 80, N. 247; M. 167 (D. L. 118)

Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair," 1944

Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "in the opinion of this House, the question of Corrupt and Illegal Practices at Parliamentary Elections in Ireland should be reserved for separate consideration" (Mr. Parnell), v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after long debate, Question put; A. 243, N. 31; M. 212 (D. L. 119)

Main Question, "That Mr. Speaker, &c.," put, and agreed to; Committee—R.P., 1981

280] Committee—R.P. [Second Night] June 12, 386

. Committee—R.P. [Third Night] June 14, 566

. Committee—R.P. [Fourth Night] June 15, 696

. Committee—R.P. [Fifth Night] June 18, 836

. Committee—R.P. [Sixth Night] June 19, 929

. Committee—R.P. [Seventh Night] June 21, 1150

. Committee—R.P. [Eighth Night] June 22, 1274

. Committee—R.P. [Ninth Night] June 25, 1432

. Committee—R.P. [Tenth Night] June 26, 1557

. Committee—R.P. [Eleventh Night] June 29, 1874

Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) Bill—cont.

- 281] Committee—R.F. [Twelfth Night] July 2, 61
 Committee—R.F. [Thirteenth Night] July 3, 192
 Committee—R.F. [Thirteenth Night] July 3, 251
 Committee—R.F. [Fourteenth Night] July 4, 318
 Committee—R.F. [Fifteenth Night] July 5, 481
 Committee—R.F. [Sixteenth Night] July 6, 612
 Committee—R.F. [Seventeenth Night] July 9, 831
 Committee—R.F. [Eighteenth Night] July 10, 967
 Committee—R.F. [Nineteenth Night] July 11, 1120
 Committee—R.F. [Twentieth Night] July 12, 1279
 Committee—R.F. [Twenty-First Night] July 13, 1365
 Committee; Report [Twenty-First Night] July 13, 1408 [Bill 265]

Order for Consideration, as amended, read 282] Aug 8, 1899

Moved, "That the Bill be re-committed in respect of Schedule 1" (*Mr. Warton*); after short debate, Question put, and negatived; Bill considered; after further long debate, further Proceeding on Consideration adjourned

283] Further Proceeding resumed Aug 10, 73; further Consideration adjourned

- Further Proceeding resumed Aug 10, 91; after long time, Moved, "That the Bill be re-committed in respect of Clause 34" (*Mr. Attorney General*); after further short debate, Motion agreed to; Committee; Report; Considered; read 3^d

- 1. Read 1st * (*Earl of Northbrook*) Aug 13 (No. 189)
- Read 2^d, after short debate Aug 16, 696
- Committee Aug 20, 1315
- Report * Aug 21
- Read 3^d, after short debate Aug 22, 1604
- c. Lords Amends. [Bill 305]
- l. Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 61]

Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) [Payment of Costs and Expenses]

- c. Considered in Committee June 7, [279] 2018
- Resolution reported June 8
- Res. considered in Committee, and agreed to Aug 7, [282] 1986

Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Amendment Bill

(*Mr. Attorney General, The Marquess of Hartington, Secretary Sir William Harcourt, Mr. Solicitor General*)

- c. Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair (for Committee to consider of amending the Law relating to Parliamentary
- 276] Oaths)" Feb 16, 251; Question put; A. 180, N. 70; M. 90 (D. L. 3); Matter considered in Committee

Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Amendment—cont.

Moved, "That the Chairman be directed to move the House, that leave be given to in a Bill to amend the Law relating to Parliamentary Oaths" (*Mr. Attorney General*); after short debate, Moved, "That the Chairman do report Progress, and ask to sit again" (*Mr. Chaplin*); after short debate, Question put; A. 69, N. M. 87 (D. L. 4)

276] Original Question again proposed, Moved, "That the Chairman do now leave the Chair" (*Lord Henry Lennox*); Question put; A. 68, N. 151; M. 83 (D. L. 5)

Original Question again proposed; after debate, Moved, "That the Chairman do report Progress, and ask leave to sit again" (*Mr. Molloy*); after further short debate, Question put; A. 64, N. 145; M. 83 (D. L. 6)

Original Question again proposed, 266 short debate, Moved, "That the Chairman do report Progress, and ask leave to sit again" (*Mr. Beresford Hope*); Question put, and agreed to; Committee—R.F.

Matter again considered in Committee 384

Question again proposed, "That the Chairman be directed to move the House, that leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Law relating to Parliamentary Oaths" (*Attorney General*); after short debate, Question put; A. 184, N. 53; M. 131 (D. L. 10) Resolution reported; Bill ordered

Question, Lord Randolph Churchill; A. 278] Mr. Gladstone April 17, 436

Moved, "That the Bill be now read" April 23, 915

Amend. to leave out "now," add "up to day six months" (*Sir Richard Cross*); Motion proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" after long debate, Moved, "That the Bill be now adjourned" (*Sir H. Drummond*); Question put, and agreed to; Debate adjourned

Questions, Mr. Schreiber; Answers, Mr. Gladstone April 23, 915; April 24, 1062

Debate resumed [Second Night] April 24, 1167; after long debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Lord Randolph Churchill*); after further short debate, Motion agreed to; Debate further adjourned

Debate resumed [Third Night] April 30, after long debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Walter*); after further short debate, Question put, and agreed to; Debate further adjourned

Petitions, Question, Mr. Labouchere; Mr. Gladstone May 1, 1570

Debate resumed [Fourth Night] May 1, after long debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Neudegate*); after further short debate, Question put, and agreed to; Debate further adjourned

Debate resumed [Fifth Night] May 3, after long debate, Question put; A. 192, M. 3

Parliamentary Oaths Act (1806) Amendment Bill
—cont.

- 278] Div. List, A. and N., 1821
Words added; main Question, as amended,
put, and agreed; 2R. put off
Personal Explanation, Mr. E. Stanhope *May 3*,
1702; Question, Mr. H. S. Northcote;
Answer, The Attorney General, 1709

Parliamentary Registration (Ireland)
Bill (Mr. Trevelyan, Mr. Attorney
General for Ireland)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o *April 26* [Bill 155]
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"
282] *Aug 4*, 1541
Amendt. to leave out "now," add "upon this
day three months" (*Mr. Ion Hamilton*);
Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;"
after short debate, Question put; A. 97,
N. 17; M. 80 (D. L. 257)
Main Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 2^o
Observations, Mr. Gladstone; Question, Sir
R. Assheton Cross; Answer, Mr. Gladstone
283] *Aug 11*, 143
Order for Committee deferred
Order for Committee read; Moved, "That
Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair"
(*Mr. Trevelyan*) *Aug 14*, 472
Amendt. to leave out "now," add "upon
this day three months" (*Mr. Gibson*); Ques-
tion proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" after
short debate, Question put; A. 118, N. 29;
M. 89 (D. L. 293)
Main Question, "That Mr. Speaker, &c." put,
and agreed to; Committee; Report, 481
Considered; read 3^o *Aug 17*, 1102
l. Read 1^o (*Lord President*) *Aug 20* (No. 204)
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"
Aug 21, 1448
Amendt. to leave out ("now") add ("this day
three months") (*The Earl of Kilmorey*);
after short debate, on Question, That
("now,") &c. f Cont. 32, Not-Cont. 52;
M. 20; resolved in the negative
Div. List, Cont. and Not-Cont., 1459

PARNELL, Mr. C. S., Cork City

- Address, The — Mr. Parnell's Amendment,
[276] 316
Bankruptcy, Consid. [283] 188
Belfast Harbour, Consid. [280] 369, 370
Borough Franchise (Ireland), 2R. [276] 1705,
1880
Consolidated Fund (Appropriation), Comm. cl. 1,
[283] 1643; 3R. 1797, 1798
Constabulary and Police Administration (Ire-
land), Motion for Leave, [282] 1060
Constabulary and Police (Ireland) [Pay and
Pensions], Res. Motion for Adjournment,
[278] 1826
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1246
Criminal Code (Indistable Offences Procedure),
2R. [278] 161; Motion for Commitment,
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Elective Councils (Ireland), 2R. [278] 28
Ireland—Questions
Distress in Sligo, [276] 1434
Kilmainham Prison—Release of Mr. Par-
nell, &c. [277] 1174, 1175

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- Land Law Act, 1881—Judicial Rents—
"Chaine v. Nelson," [279] 779;—Re-
turns, [277] 207, 208;—Sec. 31—Loans,
[277] 209
Landlord and Tenant—Evictions on Lord
Cloncurry's Estate, Murroe, Co. Lime-
rick, [278] 1707
Law and Justice—Belfast Assizes, [278]
1432;—Trial of Joseph Brady for
Murder, [278] 193, 194
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Clonakilty Union, Co. Cork—Mr. H.
Hungerford, J.P., [277] 1114, 1115
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New Prison Rules, [280] 550
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[276] 315
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Ireland—Prevention of Crime Act, 1882—
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Defence of Prisoners—Collection of Volun-
tary Subscriptions, [278] 745
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Harrington, Mr. E., [282] 537, 538
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nesses, [279] 414, 416, 417;—Untried
Prisoners, [276] 312, 313, 314
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784, 785, 965, 966, 971
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Comm. cl. 14, [282] 1784; add. cl. 1788
Land Law (Ireland) Act (1881) Amendment,
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Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881 (Purchase
Clauses), Res. [280] 435, 451, 460
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[282] 1640
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Business of the House, [281] 1238; [283]
1645, 1646;—Order of Business, [282]
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meath, [276] 1022
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and Mr. O'Kelly, [279] 1342
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996; Amendt. 1008
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276] swer to, 449, 451, 452, 618, 622, 624, 627,
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279] Practices), Comm. Amendt. 1947
280] cl. 2, Amendt. 618, 624, 625, 650, 696, 718,
719, 720, 731, 740, 745, 842, 850, 865, 879,
885, 886, 888, 931, 935; cl. 3, Amendt. 936,
937, 939
282] Consid. cl. 2, 2007, 2013, 2014; cl. 4,
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[cont.]

[cont.]

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 Queen's Colleges, Ireland, [283] 1061, 1078
 Supply—Supplementary Estimates, 1882-3—
 Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, &c. [276] 1808, 1816, 1840, 1841
 Commissioners of Police, &c. of Dublin, [277] 100, 101
 County Court Officers, &c. Ireland, [277] 81, 84
 Criminal Prosecutions, &c. in Ireland, Motion for reporting Progress, [276] 1868, 1876, 1885, 1889, 2004
 Irish Land Commission, Motion for reporting Progress, [276] 2006
 Royal University (Ireland) Buildings, [276] 1544
 Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland), Leave, [282] 1971, 1973, 1980; 2R. [283] 550; Comm. cl. 1, 980; cl. 2, 1007; cl. 7, Amendt. 1012; cl. 11, 1017; cl. 12, Amendt. 1090, 1096
 Union Officers' Superannuation (Ireland), 2R. [282] 1539

Parochial Boards (Scotland) Bill

(*Dr. Cameron, Mr. Baxter, Mr. Barclay, Mr. Mackintosh*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o * Feb 16 [Bill 12]
 Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" April 18, [278] 529
 Amendt. to leave out "now," add "upon this day six months" (*Sir Herbert Maxwell*); Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" after long debate, Question put; A. 107, N. 103; M. 4 (D. L. 63)
 Main Question put; A. 91, N. 83; M. 8 (D. L. 61); Bill read 2^o
 Question, *Sir Edward Colebrooke*; Answer, *Dr. Cameron* April 23, 914
 Committee [Dropped]

Parochial Charities (London) Bill

(*Mr. Bryce, Mr. Pell, Sir Henry Peek, Mr. Walter James, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Davey*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o * Feb 16 [Bill 23]
 Read 2^o, after short debate, and committed to a Select Committee of Eighteen Members, Twelve to be nominated by the House, and Six by the Committee of Selection May 2, 278] 1695

Parochial Charities (London) Bill—cont.

Committee nominated as follows:—*M. Lefevre* (Chairman), *Mr. Baring*, *Mr. Mr. Cubitt*, *Mr. Horace Davey*, *Mr. Mr. Gorst*, *Mr. Walter James*, *Mr. Lawrence*, *Mr. Macfarlane*, *Earl Pe Matthew Ridley*, *Mr. Lyulph Stan Mr. John Talbot*
 And, on May 8, *Mr. Lewis Fry dis Thomas Acland*, *Mr. Brett*, and *Mr. added*

Mr. Jackson added by the Committee c tion

Ordered, That the Report of the C sioners appointed by Her Majesty to into the Parochial Charities of the London, which was presented to this in the year 1880, be referred to the Committee on the Parochial Chariti don) Bill

Ordered, That the Report of the Committee on the London Parochial ties (London) Bills, together w Minutes of Evidence presented House in the year 1882, be referre Select Committee on the Parochial C (London) Bill (*Mr. Lefevre*) May 2:

Report of Select Committee June 5 [2 Order for Committee (*on re-comm. Moved*, "That *Mr. Speaker* do no 282] the Chair" July 28, 683; Moved, the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr worth*); after short debate, Question negatived

Original Question put, and agreed to mittee—R.P. [Bill

. Committee; Report July 27, 869 . Considered July 30, 1095

After short debate, Moved, "That the now read 3^o;" after further short Moved, "That the Debate be r journed" (*Mr. Illingworth*); after short debate, Question put, and nega Main Question put, and agreed to; Bill l. Read 1^o * (*The Earl of Camperdown*) (No

. Read 2^o, after short debate Aug 7, 179 Report * Aug 9 Committee * Aug 10 (No Report * Aug 13 Read 3^o * Aug 14 c. Lords Amendts. [Bill l. Royal Assent Aug 20 [46 & 47 Vict.

Parochial Charities (London) [1 and Expenses]

c. Considered in Committee May 10, [27 Resolution reported May 11

Partnerships Bill (*Mr. Serjean*

Mr. Gregory, Mr. Barran, Mr. Le Mr. Norwood)

c. Considered in Committee; Resolution to, and reported; Bill ordered; r Feb 16 [R 2R., Debate adjourned April 18, [278] Bill withdrawn * July 16

Passenger Acts

Emigrant and Passenger Ships—Alleged Starvation of Emigrants, Question, Mr. T. P. O'Connor; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan *June 7*, [279] 1830; — *Scandinavian Emigrants*, Question, Mr. Moore; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain *July 12*, [281] 1213

Infectious Diseases in Emigrant Ships, Question, Mr. Moore; Answer, Mr. George Russell *July 9*, [281] 779

Overcrowding of a River Steamer at Broughty Ferry, River Tay, Scotland, Question, Mr. Henderson; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain *July 16*, [281] 1512

Patents

Patents and Trade Marks—Consolidation of the Law, Questions, Mr. Stuart-Wortley, Mr. W. H. Smith; Answers, Mr. Chamberlain *Mar 1*, [276] 1163

Revised Index of Patents, Question, Sir Eardley Wilmut; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain *Aug 13*, [283] 281

The Commissioners—The Law of Copyright, Question, Mr. Anderson; Answer, The Attorney General *Mar 12*, [277] 201

Report of Commissioners, 1882 P.P. [3780]

Patents for Inventions Bill

(Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Solicitor General, Mr. John Holms)

c. Ordered; read 1^o *Feb 16* [Bill 3]
Read 2^o, after long debate, and committed to the Standing Committee on Trade, Shipping, and Manufactures *April 16*, [278] 349
Reported from the Standing Committee on Trade, &c. *July 9* [Bill 261]
Considered; read 3^o, after short debate *Aug 4*, [282] 1600

l. Read 1^o *(The Lord Chancellor) Aug 6*
Read 2^o *Aug 9*, 2034 (No. 179)
Committee *Aug 10* (No. 180)
Report; Bill re-committed *Aug 13*
Committee *Aug 16* (No. 201)
Report *Aug 20*

c. *Assumption of the Royal Arms*, Question, Mr. Arthur Arnold; Answer, The Solicitor General *Aug 20*, [283] 1346

l. Read 3^o *Aug 21*
c. Lords Amendts. [Bill 303]
Moved, "That the Lords Amendts. be considered" *Aug 22*, 1710; Question put; A. 81, N. 16; M. 65 (D. L. 314); further Consideration adjourned
Lords Amendts. further considered, and agreed to *Aug 23*

l. Royal Assent *Aug 25* [46 & 47 Vict. c. 57]

Patents for Inventions (No. 2) Bill

(Sir John Lubbock, Mr. William Henry Smith, Mr. J. Laurance)

c. Ordered; read 1^o *Feb 16* [Bill 83]
Read 2^o, after short debate *Feb 27*, [276] 1095
Bill withdrawn *July 25*

Patents for Inventions (No. 3) Bill

(Mr. Anderson, Mr. Brown, Mr. Broadhurst, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Hinde Palmer)

c. Ordered; read 1^o *Feb 21* [Bill 99]

[cont.]

Patents for Inventions (No. 3) Bill—cont.

Read 2^o *Feb 27*, [276] 1096
Committee—R.P. *April 10*, [277] 2052
Bill withdrawn *Aug 1*

Patents for Inventions [Salaries and Expenses]

c. Considered in Committee *April 18*, [278] 585;
Resolution agreed to
Resolution reported *April 19*

PATRIOT, Mr. R. W. COCHRAN-, Ayrshire, N.

Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. 4, [281] 1990

Agricultural Holdings (Scotland), Comm. cl. 4, Amendt. [282] 470, 478; cl. 7, Amendt. 1208; cl. 20, Amendt. 1217; cl. 23, 1232, 1242; cl. 28, 1257, 1260; add. cl. 1289

Factory and Education Acts (Scotland), Res. [276] 1910, 1935

High Court of Justice (Service of Writs), 2R. [280] 473

Local Government Board (Scotland), 2R. [282] 1502

Local Option, Res. [278] 1329

Medals, 2R. [279] 874

Parliament—Business of the House, Ministerial Statement, [282] 1347

Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. cl. 15, [281] 257

Parochial Boards (Scotland), 2R. [278] 566

Supply—Board of Lunacy in Scotland, [282] 1395

Pawnbroker's Bill [H.L.]

(The Lord Chancellor)

l. Presented; read 1^o *June 5* (No. 79)
Read 2^o, after debate *June 22*, [280] 1246
Committee *July 3*, 169
Report, after debate *July 10*, [281] 921

Read 3^o *July 12* (No. 136)

c. Read 1^o *(Mr. Hibbert) July 23* [Bill 271]
Question, Mr. Causton; Answer, Mr. Hibbert *July 26*, [282] 560; Question, Mr. Selater-Booth; Answer, Mr. Hibbert *Aug 6*, 1656

Bill withdrawn *Aug 6*

Payment of Wages in Public-houses Prohibition Bill [H.L.]

(The Earl Stanhope)

l. Presented; read 1^o *Feb 16* (No. 1)
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"
[276] *Mar 6*, 1665

Amendt. to leave out ("now,") add ("this day three months") (*The Lord Bramwell*); after debate, on Question, That ("now,") &c.? Cont. 58, Not-Cont. 20; M. 38; resolved in the affirmative; Bill read 2^o

List of Cont. and Not-Cont, 1582

[277] Committee *Mar 13*, 314

Report *Mar 15*, 517 (No. 21)

Read 3^o, after short debate *Mar 16*, 634

c. Read 1^o *(Mr. Samuel Morley) Mar 19*

[cont.]

Payment of Wages in Public-houses Prohibition Bill—cont.

- Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"
 277] Mar 20, 1102; Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Callan*); after short debate, Question put, and negatived
 Original Question again proposed; original Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 2^o [*Bill 126*]
 Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" Aug 4,
 282] 1595; after short debate, Question put; A. 66, N. 13; M. 53 (*D. L. 261*); Committee—A.R.
 . Committee; Report Aug 6, 1788
 Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3^o"
 Amendt. to leave out "now read 3^o," add "re-committed" (*Mr. Warton*); Question, "That the words, &c.," put, and agreed to
 Main Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 3^o
 I. Royal Assent Aug 20 [*46 & 47 Viet. c. 31*]

Peace Preservation (Ireland) Act, 1881

Arms' Licences, Question, *Mr. O'Sullivan*; Answer, *Mr. Trevelyan* Aug 7, [282] 1558;
 Question, *Mr. Synan*; Answer, *Mr. Trevelyan* Aug 20, [283] 1334

Extra Pay to Prison Surgeons, Question, *Mr. Gibson*; Answer, [*Mr. Trevelyan* July 9, [281] 774

Police Hut at Kilmoors, Co. Clare, Question, *Mr. Kenny*; Answer, *Mr. Trevelyan* July 19, [281] 1893

Section 1—*Arrest of Mr. James O'Connor*, Question, *Mr. Arthur O'Connor*; Answer, *Mr. Trevelyan* April 13, [278] 71

[See title *Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Act, 1882*]

PEASE, Sir J. W., *Durham, S.*

Agricultural Holdings (England), *Comm. cl. 1*, [281] 1785, 1799, 1811; *cl. 4*, 1959, 1966, 1963; Amendt. 1966; *cl. 6*, Amendt. [282] 181, 182; *cl. 7*, 216, 226; *cl. 12*, 246; *cl. 13*, 319; Amendt. 321, 324; *Consid. cl. 9*, Amendt. 1181; *cl. 41*, 1193

Alloa, Dunfermline, and Kirkcaldy Railway, 2R. [276] 957, 966, 1596

Army Estimates, 1883-4—*Land Forces*, [277] 277

Coolies (Indian) at La Réunion, [282] 916

Employers' Liability Act (1880) Amendment, 2R. Amendt. [280] 506

Hull, Barnsley, and West Riding Junction Railway, and Dock (Interest), *Res.* [281] 1677

Hull, Barnsley, and West Riding Junction Railway and Dock (Interest), *Consid. Amendt.* [282] 18, 25, 26

London and North-Western Railway (Additional Powers), 3R. [279] 290

Lord Alcester's Annuity, 2R. [278] 667

Mercantile Marine—Harbour Accommodation on the East Coast, Motion for a Select Committee, [277] 397

Opium Duties (China), Motion for an Address, [277] 1333

Opium Smuggling (Hong Kong), [276] 1013

PEASE, Sir J. W.—cont.

Parliament—Business of the House, Ministerial Statement, [280] 1710

Private Bill Legislation—Resolutions, [276] 1637

Parliament—Standing Orders, *Res. Amendt.* [279] 1844, 1851, 1854, 1978

Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), *Comm. cl. 6*, [280] 1563, 1899

Railway Passenger Duty, &c. 2R. [280] 1244

Seed Advances (Scotland), [276] 1907

Supply—Supplementary Estimates, 1882-3—*Criminal Prosecutions, &c. in Ireland*, [276] 1981

Treaty of Tien-Tsin—Opium Duties, [276] 572

Vaccination, Res. Amendt. [280] 1013, 1049

Ways and Means—Financial Proposals—Duty on Silver Plate, [278] 311
 Ministerial Statement, [277] 1543

PEASE, Mr. A., *Whitchy*

Metropolitan Improvements—Hyde Park Corner—Re-building of the Wellington Arch, [280] 404

M—Slavery and Slave Dealing at Tan- [280] 1691; [282] 941

Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), *Comm. cl. 12*, [281] 339

Sea Fisheries, 2R. [281] 917

Spain—Slavery in Cuba, [276] 828

West Pacific—Orders in Council, [277] 691

PEDDIE, Mr. J. DICK, *Kilmarnock, &c.*

Agricultural Holdings (England), *Comm. cl. 23*, [282] 365

Education (Scotland), [282] 1458; *Comm. cl. 4*, Amendt. [283] 417, 421; *cl. 11*, 423; *add. cl. 426*

High Court of Justice (Service of Writs), 2R. [280] 479

Local Government Board (Scotland), *Leave*, [280] 2040; *Comm.* [283] 611; *cl. 3*, Amendt. 675, 679

Local Option, Res. [278] 1344

Parliament—Business of the House—Order—Ballot for Precedence, [277] 675

Public Business, [283] 1646

Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), *Comm. cl. 6*, [280] 1526; *cl. 45*, [281] 806; *Consid. Schedule 1, Amendt.* [283] 133, 134

Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Amendment, 2R. [278] 1294

Rivers Conservancy and Floods Prevention, Bill withdrawn, [281] 828

Scotland—Criminal Law—Sunday Traffic—Strome Ferry Riots, [282] 1317;—*Sentence on the Rioters*, [283] 1493, 1494

Suppl.—Central Office of the Supreme Court of Judicature, &c. [282] 1441

Metropolitan Fire Brigade, [279] 1016

Queen's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrances

PERK, Sir H. W.—cont.

Merchant Shipping Acts—Emigrant Ship
"Oxford," [277] 198
Metropolitan and Metropolitan District Rail-
ways, [276] 1156
Public Health—Typhoid Fever at Plymouth,
[277] 1491
Supply—Public Offices Site, [279] 608, 608
Revenue Department Buildings, Great
Britain, [279] 614, 615, 616
Ways and Means—Financial Statement, [277]
1545

PEEL, Mr. A. W., Warwick, Bo.

Parliament—Business of the House, [279] 1923
Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal
Practices), Comm. cl. 23, [281] 379; Amendt.
382; Schedule 1, 1406; Amendt. 1421

PELL, Mr. A., Leicestershire, S.

Agricultural Holdings (No. 2), 2R. [277] 447
Agricultural Holdings (England), 2R. [279]
1159; Comm. cl. 1, [281] 1736, 1767; cl. 2,
Amendt. 1852, 1855, 1857; cl. 4, 1930,
1965; cl. 6, [282] 193; cl. 7, 214; Consid.
cl. 1, 1175
Cemeteries, 2R. [278] 1112
Local and County Administration, [277] 563
Local Taxation, Res. [278] 437, 518, 522, 524
National Expenditure, Res. [277] 1697
Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal
Practices), Comm. cl. 15, [281] 202
Tithe Rent-Charge Recovery, 2R. [280] 1831
Windsor, Ascot, and Aldershot Railway,
Consid. [279] 1822

PEMBERTON, Mr. E. L., Kent, E.

Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. 3,
[281] 1929; add. cl. [282] 402; Schedule 1,
408

PEMBROKE, Earl of

Criminal Law Amendment, Comm. cl. 9,
Amendt. [280] 1396
Factories and Workshops Amendment, 3R.
Amendt. [282] 124, 125
Pawnbrokers, Comm. cl. 4, Amendt. [281]
170; cl. 5, 171

**PERCY, Right Hon. Earl, Northumber-
land, N.**

Army—Questions

Armoured Train at Alexandria, [276] 1721
Auxiliary Forces—Antrim Artillery, [279]
1306;—Volunteer Uniforms, [276] 1164
Barracks at Newcastle-on-Tyne, [280] 1867
Forage Allowance—Militia Officers' Horses,
[279] 1635
Militia Officers with Line Regiments, [279]
1635
Recruiting—"Waste" of the Army, [279]
1565
Army Estimates—Militia Pay and Allowances,
[279] 834, 844, 847
Cruelty to Animals Acts Amendment, 2R.
[276] 1684
Friendly, &c. Societies (Nominations), Consid.
[280] 1826; cl. 2, 1829; cl. 6, 1830
Medals, 2R. [279] 876

PERCY, Right Hon. Earl—cont.

Mercantile Marine—Harbour Accommodation
on the East Coast, Motion for a Select
Committee, [277] 404
Parliament—Business of the House, [278] 1724
Half-past Twelve o'Clock Rule—Block-
ing, [279] 1755
Supply—Supplementary Estimates, 1882-3—
Foreign Office, [276] 1555
Houses of Parliament, [276] 1539, 1540

PERCY, Lord A., Westminster

Army (Supplementary Estimate), 1882-3—
Expeditionary Force to Egypt, [276] 1357
Army Estimates—Militia Pay and Allowances,
[279] 825
Cruelty to Animals Acts Amendment, 2R.
[276] 1687
Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 8),
2R. [281] 1195; Amendt. 1208
Law and Police (Metropolis)—William Loakes,
a Cabdriver, Case of, [277] 202
Metropolitan District Railway—Ventilating
Shafts on the Thames Embankment, [276]
1411; [278] 613
Metropolitan District Railway, 2R. Amendt.
[278] 1060
Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Amendment,
2R. [278] 1201

Perpetual Leases Bill (Mr. Barclay,

Mr. Howard, Dr. Farquharson)

a. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 21 [Bill 97]
2R. [Dropped]

**Perranforth, Cornwall—Rescue by a Coast-
guardsman**

Question, Mr. Biggar; Answer, Mr. Hibbert
Aug 20, [283] 1349

PETERBOROUGH, Bishop of

Cathedral Statutes, 2R. [279] 1721, 1731
Criminal Law Amendment, 2R. [280] 772;
Comm. cl. 5, 1388; cl. 8, 1395; cl. 9, 1397

**Petroleum Acts—Storage of Petroleum in
the Metropolitan Area**

Questions, Sir Edward Watkin, Mr. Joseph
Cowen, Mr. Arthur O'Connor; Answers, Sir
William Harcourt; Questions, Mr. Callan;
[no reply] July 6, [281] 606; Question, Sir
Edward Watkin; Answer, Sir William Har-
court Aug 7, [282] 1637

Petroleum Bill [H.L.] (Earl Granville)

l. Presented; read 1^o July 19 (No. 154)
Order for 2R. read, and discharged July 26,
[282] 506
Petition presented (*The Marquess of Salisbury*):
Petition read, and ordered to lie on the
Table
Read 2^a, and referred to a Select Committee,
after short debate Aug 3, 1460
And, on Aug 6, the Lords following were named
of the Committee:—D. Somerset, E. Mill-
town, L. Monson, L. Ramsay, L. Norton
Report of Select Comm.* Aug 9

Power, Right Hon. Earl-Grand

Mercantile Marine—Harbour Accommodation
 on the East Coast, Motion for a Select
 Committee, 1927, 494
Parliament—Business of the House 1928, 1929
 His East-Twelve Committee on Black-
 and, 1929, 1753
Supply—Supplement by Estimates, 1929-30—
 Foreign Office, 1929, 1555
 Houses of Parliament, 1929, 1539, 1540

Præf. v. Lord A. Westminster

Army Supplementary Estimate, 1862-3—
 Expéditionary Force to Egypt, 276 1357
 Army Estimates—Military Pay and Allowances,
 1870-25
 Criminals to Animate Acts Amendment, 2R,
 276 1067
 Electric Lighting Provisional Orders No. 61,
 2R 281 1295, Amendt 1204
 Law of the City of Metropolitan—William Loake,
 a table Case of, 277 202
 Metropolitan District Railway—Ventilating
 Shafts on the Thames Embankment, 276
 1011, 278 213
 Metropolitan District Railway, 2R, Amendt,
 278 1050
 Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Amendment,
 2R 278 1201

Perpetual Leases Bill (Mr. Barclay,
Mr. Hall and Dr. Farquharson)

• Ord. rel. rec'd 10 Feb 21 [H. 107]
211 dropped

Perrinitia, Cornuti—Roses by a Cast-
guardman

Question, Mr. Hagar, Answer, Mr. Hagar
 May 20, 1883 142

Primate and Bishop of

Constitutional Statutes, 24 1799-1721, 1721
 Criminal Law Amendment, 24 1850-1772;
 Comp. of 3, 1799, of 4, 1803, of 9, 1807

Petroleum Acts: Storage of Petroleum in the Metropolitan Area

Q. Colonel, Sir Edward Wigham, Mr Joseph
C. W. Mr Arthur O'Connor, Answers, Sir
W. and Harcourt, Questions, Mr. Callan;
Answers, July 6, 1881 and, Questions, Sir
Edward Wigham, Answer, Sir William Har-
court, Aug 7, 1881, 1887

Prisoner's real 1st July 19 (No. 134)
Order for 2R read, and discharged July 26,
p. 134
Prisoner presented *The Magazine of Statistics*;
Prisoner read, and ordered to be sent to the
Jail
Read 2nd and 1st referred to a Select Committee,
after short debate Aug 3, 1866
Adj. on Aug 6 the Lords for voting were named
as follows:—The Earl of Somerset, E. Mills-
town, E. Mowat, C. Manning, C. Denton
Report of Select Comm. Aug 6

1. General

PHIPPS, Mr. P., Northamptonshire, S.
 Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. 1,
 [281] 1089, 1735, 1741; cl. 4, 1982, 1984;
 cl. 6, [282] 197
 Post Office—Parcel Post, [278] 300

**Pier and Harbour Provisional Orders
 (Inverness, &c.) Bill**

(Mr. John Holms, Mr. Chamberlain)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o April 19 [Bill 147]
 Read 2^o April 30
 Report May 25
 Considered May 28
 Read 3^o May 29
 l. Read 1^o (Lord Sudeley) May 31 (No. 68)
 Read 2^o June 8
 Committee; Report June 11
 Read 3^o June 12
 Royal Assent June 29 [46 & 47 Vict. c. xliii]

**Pier and Harbour Provisional Order
 (No. 2) (Whitby) Bill**

(Mr. John Holms, Mr. Chamberlain)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o May 1 [Bill 168]
 Read 2^o May 8
 Report June 5
 Considered June 6
 Read 3^o June 7
 l. Read 1^o June 8 (No. 82)
 Read 2^o June 18
 Committee; Report June 19
 Read 3^o June 21
 Royal Assent June 29 [46 & 47 Vict. c. xlv]

PLAYFAIR, Right Hon. Sir Lyon (†Chairman of Committees of Ways and Means and Deputy Speaker), Edinburgh and St. Andrew's Universities

- Agricultural Holdings (Scotland), Comm. cl. 6,
 [282] 823
 Bankruptcy, 2R. [277] 967, 989
 †Barry Dock and Railways, 2R. [276] 966
 Compulsory Education (Ireland), Res. [276]
 1273
 Egypt—Health of the Troops, [282] 1535
 Factory and Education Acts (Scotland), Res.
 [276] 1920
 Local Government Board (Scotland), Comm. cl.
 2, [283] 632, 633
 Minister of Education, Res. [280] 1957; Amendt.
 1973
 Parliament—Business of the House, [283] 273,
 750
 Standing Committees (Chairmen's Panel),
 [277] 775
 †Parliament—Resignation of the Right Hon.
 Lyon Playfair (Chairman of Committees),
 Statement, [276] 1247
 Parliament—Standing Orders, Res. [279] 1882
 †Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Amendment,
 Motion for Leave, [276] 257, 260, 265
 †Private Bills—New Standing Order, Res. [276]
 293
 Standing Committee on Trade, Shipping, and
 Manufactures, Res. [279] 2014
 Supply—Public Education in England and
 Wales, [282] 600
 Queen's Colleges in Ireland, [283] 1084
 Science and Art Department, [279] 680

PLAYFAIR, Right Hon. Sir Lyon—cont.

- Universities (Scotland) Bill, [278] 915
 Vaccination—Syphilitic Infection, [279] 1
 Vaccination, Res. [280] 1014, 1045
 Vivisection Abolition, 2R. [277] 1426, 1
 Windsor, Ascot, and Aldershot Railways
 port of Select Committee, [279] 1301; 6
 1836

**PLUNKET, Right Hon. D. R., 1
 University**

- Borough Franchise (Ireland), 2R. [276]
 Constabulary and Police (Ireland) (Pensions), Comm. add. cl. [279] 1442
 Elective Councils (Ireland), 2R. [278] 2
 Ireland—Poor Law Elections, [279] 574
 Royal Irish Constabulary—Commiss
 Grievances, [277] 191
 London and North-Western Railway (Add
 Powers), Consid. [278] 1559, 1560,
 3R. [279] 210, 213, 220
 Madagascar—Action of the French at
 tayo, [283] 1363;—Case of the Re
 Shaw, [283] 1504, 1505, 1510
 Manchester Ship Canal, 2R. [277] 689
 Parliament—Business of the House,
 1307
 Parliament—Queen's Speech, Address
 ther to, [276] 541, 544, 899, 1209, 13
 Parliamentary Registration (Ireland),
 add. cl. [283] 1108, 1107
 Registration of Voters (Ireland), 2R.
 514
 Tramways and Public Companies (Ir
 Comm. cl. 6, Amendt. [283] 1012

**Pluralities Acts Amendment Bill
 (The Lord Bishop of Rochester)**

- l. Presented; read 1^o April 23 (No.
 Read 2^o May 1, [278] 1539
 Committee, after short debate May 7, [278]
 Report May 8
 Read 3^o May 10
 c. Read 1^o (Mr. Acland) June 1 [Bill
 2R. [Dropped]

**Poisons, Sale of — Legislation —
 Medicines**

- Question, Mr. Warton; Answer, Mr. M
 Mar 9, [276] 1908

**Police Bill (Mr. Hibbert, S
 Sir William Harcourt, The Lord Ad**

- c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 26 [Bill
 Order for 2R. discharged; Bill with
 after short debate July 9, [281] 830

Police Force, The

- Superannuation, Question, Sir Henry
 Ibbetson; Answer, Mr. Hibbert
 [276] 178
 Total Cost, Question, Viscount Folt
 Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke May
 1719

Poor, Dwellings of the—Legislation

- Question, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett;
 Mr. Gladstone July 6, [281] 609
 [See title Artizans' Dwellings]

Poor Law Conferences Bill

(Mr. Pell, Mr. Stansfeld, Lord Randolph Churchill, Mr. Holland)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o May 10 [Bill 187]
- Read 2^o May 22
- Committee*; Report May 24
- Read 3^o May 28
- l. Read 1^o (Lord Henniker) May 29 (No. 65)
- Read 2^o May 31
- Committee*; Report June 1
- Read 3^o June 7
- Royal Assent June 18 [46 Vict. c. 11]

Poor Law (England and Wales)

(Questions)

Boarded-out Children, Questions, Viscount Cranbrook; Answers, Lord Carrington July 5, [281] 397

Catholic Children in Workhouses, Questions, Mr. Macfarlane, Mr. Healy; Answers, Mr. George Russell July 30, [282] 945

Case of William Davis, Question, Mr. Lewis; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke May 28, [279] 936

Deportation of Paupers—Poor Removal and Settlement (Ireland) Bill, Question, Mr. Shaw; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke Mar 8, [276] 1726

Emigration of Pauper Children, Question, Mr. Rankin; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke April 23, [278] 899

Kensington Poor Rates, Question, Mr. Healy; Answer, Mr. George Russell Aug 23, [283] 1728

Lady Inspectors, Question, Observations, Viscount Enfield; Reply, Lord Carrington April 12, [278] 53

Payment of Outdoor Relief, Question, Mr. Caine; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke Aug 17, [283] 959

Repayments for Pauper Relief, Questions, Mr. E. Stanhope; Answers, Sir Charles W. Dilke May 29, [279] 1007

Pauper Lunatics, Ireland and Scotland, Question, Mr. O'Sullivan; Answer, Mr. Courtney Aug 3, [282] 1472

Parish of Early (Wokingham Union), Question, Mr. Hopwood; Answer, Mr. George Russell Aug 14, [283] 458

The Maidstone Union, Question, Mr. Selater-Booth; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke Aug 3, [282] 1473

Toys for Workhouse Children, Question, Mr. Hicks; Answer, Mr. Hibbert Mar 13, [277] 365

Vaccination of Pauper Children, Question, Mr. Hopwood; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke Mar 6, [276] 1607

Vaccination in Workhouses—St. Pancras Workhouse, Questions, Mr. Hopwood; Answers, Mr. George Russell July 13, [281] 1349

Workhouse Dietary, Question, Mr. Caine; Answer, Mr. George Russell Aug 3, [282] 1477

Workhouses

Guardians of the Parish of St. Pancras—Vaccination of Female Paupers immediately after Child-birth, Question, Mr. Hopwood; Answer, Mr. George Russell Aug 2, [282] 1318

Poor Law (England and Wales)—cont.

Guardians of the Poor, Westminster, Question, Dr. Farquharson; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke May 25, [279] 891

Metropolis—Westminster Union Workhouse—Case of Ann Kane, Question, Mr. Biggar; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke July 2, [281] 33; Questions, Mr. Biggar; Answers, Mr. George Russell July 16, 1803; July 19, 1894; July 20, [282] 34

Poland Street Workhouse, Question, Mr. Small; Answer, Mr. George Russell July 30, [282] 936

St. James's Workhouse, Questions, Mr. Dillwyn, Mr. W. H. Smith; Answers, Sir Charles W. Dilke May 29, [279] 1094

Poor Law Guardians (Ireland) Bill

(Mr. McCoan, Mr. Gray, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Macfarlane)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 30]
- Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" June 13, [280] 483
- Amendt. to leave out "now," add "upon this day three months" (*Colonel King-Harman*), Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" after debate, Amendt. withdrawn
- Main Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 2^o Question, Mr. McCoan; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan June 25, 1432
- Committee [Dropped]

Poor Relief (Ireland) Bill

(Mr. Trevelyan, Mr. Herbert Gladstone)

- c. Motion for Leave (*Mr. Trevelyan*) April 26, [278] 1257; after short debate, Question put; A. 124, N. 9; M. 115 (D. L. 72); Bill ordered; read 1^o [Bill 154]
- Outdoor Relief*, Question, Colonel Colthurst; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan May 3, 1706
- The Second Reading*, Question, Mr. Sexton; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan May 4, 1880
- [280] Read 2^o, after debate June 29, 1981
- Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" July 2, [281] 150; after short debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Biggar*); Question put, and agreed to; Debate adjourned
- Debate resumed July 5, 551; Question put, and agreed to; Committee; Report
- Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3^o" July 9, 893
- Amendt. to leave out "now," add "upon this day three months" (*Captain Aylmer*); Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" after debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. O'Shea*)
- The House proceeded to a Division:—Mr. Speaker stated he thought the Noes had it; and, his decision being challenged, he directed the Ayes to stand up in their places, and Thirteen Members only having stood up, Mr. Speaker declared the Noes had it
- Question again proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" after short debate, Question put; A. 79, N. 12; M. 67 (D. L. 188)
- Main Question put; A. 80, N. 10; M. 70 (D. L. 189); Bill passed

Poor Relief (Ireland) Bill—cont.

- l. Read 1st * (*The Lord President*) July 10
 281] Read 2nd July 19, 1876 (No. 140)
 282] Committee; Report July 23, 125
 Read 3rd * July 24
 Royal Assent Aug 2 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 24]

Poor Removal and Settlement (Ireland) Bill

(*Sir Hervey Bruce, Mr. Corry, Mr. Lewis, Mr. O'Sullivan*)

- c. Ordered; read 1st * Feb 18 [Bill 20]
 Order for 2R. read April 25, [278] 1082
 Notice taken, that the Bill was not prepared pursuant to the Order of Leave (*Mr. Buchanan*); after short debate, Moved, "That the Order for 2R. be discharged" (*Sir Hervey Bruce*); Question put, and agreed to; Order discharged; Bill withdrawn

PORTER, Right Hon. A. M. (Attorney General for Ireland), Londonderry Co.

- Bankruptcy Bill—Extension to Ireland, [282] 1645, 1646
 Bankruptcy [Salaries]. Res. [282] 1091, 1092
 Cholera Hospitals (Ireland), Consid. add. cl. [283] 430; Amendt. 431
 Consolidated Fund (Appropriation), 3R. [283] 1776, 1792, 1793, 1796, 1797, 1798
 Constabulary and Police (Ireland) (Pay and Pensions), Comm. cl. 7, [279] 1057, 1061
 Constabulary and Police Administration (Ireland), [282] 1295
 Harrison's Estate, 2R. [282] 1116
 Ireland—Questions
 Arrears of Rent Act, 1882—Allowances to Tenants for Payment of Poor Rates, [283] 459
 Crime and Outrage—Attack upon the Informer Walsh at Castleisland, [282] 2071;—Reported Murder of Lord Ardilaun's Bailiff, [276] 1609
 Criminal Law—Arrests of Emigrants at Queenstown, [282] 947;—J. W. Nally, Case of, [282] 1470, 1471, 1845
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 Irish Land Commission Court—Judicial Rents, [282] 1467;—Sales to Tenants, [277] 554, 555
 Poor Relief Act—Rating of Cemeteries and Buildings, Co. Dublin, [282] 1321
 State of Ireland—Inflammatory Language at Belturbet, [282] 2076
 Trinity College, Dublin—Leases, [283] 957
 Ireland—Law and Justice—Questions
 Disqualification of Jurors, [280] 1696
 James Carey, the Approver, [280] 1551
 Phoenix Park Murders—Patrick Delaney, [279] 576, 577
 "Regina v. Madden," [281] 35
 The Informer Walsh, [282] 779, 1157
 Trial of Patrick Conolly, [277] 1485
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 Conviction of Mrs. Fallon, [283] 1
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 Londonderry Petty Sessions—Mr. [276] 707
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 Ireland—Prevention of Crime Act, Questions
 Arrest of Mr. B. M'Hugh, [283] 2
 Arrests for Murder, &c. [282] 776
 Charge for Extra Police, [280] 127
 Seizure of the "Kerry Sentinel" 981
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 Labourers (Ireland), Comm. cl. 5, [28 cl. 7, 1776, 1777; cl. 13, Amendt. 1781, 1782; cl. 14, Amendt. 1783 add. cl. 1785, 1786, 1787, 1788
 Municipal Disqualification (Ireland) Amendt. [281] 155, 157
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 Parliament—Queen's Speech, Address answer to, [276] 557, 562, 875, 877, 8
 Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt Practices), Comm. [279] 1961; cl. 638; cl. 4, 1321; Consid. cl. 2, [28 cl. 5, 2024
 Parliamentary Registration (Ireland), cl. 4, [283] 484, 491, 492, 494; cl. Consid. add. cl. 1104
 Prison Service (Ireland), Comm. cl. 1335
 Sea Fisheries (Ireland), 2R. [280] 106
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 Supply—Chief Secretary to the Lord ant of Ireland, &c. [283] 1377
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 Tramways and Public Companies [283] Comm. cl. 1, 977, 980; Amendt. 9 994, 1005, 1006; cl. 4, 1011; cl. 1015; cl. 10, 1016; add. cl. 1100
 Consid. cl. 1, 1305; cl. 10, id., 13 1307
 Vice-Royalty (Ireland), 2R. [280] 108

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Africa (South) — Angola, Question, Lord George Hamilton; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice April 19, [278] 630
Mozambique Tariff, 1877, Question, Mr. Stevenson; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Feb 26, [276] 848
The River Congo, Question, Mr. Bourke; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Mar 5, [276] 1420 [See *Africa (West Coast)*]
International Sailing Code — The "City of Mecca," Question, Mr. Anderson; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice May 10, [279] 404 P.P. [3556]

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Mail Carts and Newspaper Parcels, Questions, Mr. Macartney, Mr. O'Donnell; Answers, Mr. Fawcett May 7, [279] 20

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Mails to the United States, Question, Mr. Baxter; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre Feb 22, [276] 572; Question, Mr. Baxter; Answer, Mr. Fawcett Mar 5, 1409
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The West Coast of Africa, Questions, Mr. Slagg; Answers, Mr. Courtney, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice April 26, [278] 1141

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Ardley Post Office, Question, Mr. E. W. Harcourt; Answer, Lord Richard Grosvenor June 14, [280] 537
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General Post Office—Extension of Buildings, Question, Sir Henry Peek; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre Feb 16, [276] 167
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New Post Offices at Leeds and Liverpool, Questions, Mr. Jackson, Lord Claud Hamilton; Answers, Mr. Fawcett July 26, [282] 521
Rural Post Offices, Question, Mr. Macfarlane; Answer, Mr. Fawcett April 16, [278] 305
Municipal Reform League—Forged Tickets, Questions, Mr. Firth, Sir Trevor Lawrence; Answers, Mr. Fawcett June 14, [280] 563
Postal Order System—Extension to the Colonies, Question, Mr. Monk; Answer, Mr. Fawcett April 9, [277] 1818; Question, Mr. Rankin; Answer, Mr. Fawcett June 26, [280] 1554
Postal Service (Scotland), Question, Mr. Craig-Sellar; Answer, Mr. Fawcett June 5, [279] 1747
Post Office Annuities and Life Assurance Tables, Question, Mr. Hollond; Answer, Mr. Courtney June 11, [280] 210
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Mails from the Seychelles to the Mauritius, Question, Sir John Hay; Answer, Mr. Fawcett July 5, [281] 475; Question, Dr. Cameron; Answer, Mr. Fawcett July 6, 601
Postal Service to the West Indies, Question, Lord Claud Hamilton; Answer, Mr. Fawcett July 23, [282] 135
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The Irish Mail Service, Questions, Mr. Gibson, Lord Claud Hamilton, Mr. Dawson, Mr. Macartney, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Tottenham; Answers, Mr. Fawcett, The Chancellor of the Exchequer Mar 19, 785; Questions, Mr. French-Brewster, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Tottenham, Lord John Manners, Mr. Dawson; Answers, The Chancellor of the Exchequer Mar 20, 928; Question, Mr. Carington; Answer, Mr. Fawcett, 939; Question, Mr. Tottenham; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer Mar 30, 1112; Questions, Mr. Puleston, Mr. Gibson; Answers, The Chancellor of the Exchequer April 2, 1152; Questions, Mr. French-Brewster, Mr. Brodrick, Mr. Gibson; Answers, Mr. Fawcett, The Chancellor of the Exchequer April 2, 1179; Questions, Mr. Gibson; Answers, Mr. Fawcett April 9, 1813; Questions, Mr. Totten-

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- 277] ham; Answers, Mr. Fawcett April 10, 1966; Question, Mr. Maurice Brooks; Answer, 278] Mr. Fawcett April 12, 60; Question, Dr. Lyons; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer April 16, 325;—*The Papers*, Question, Mr. Dawson, Mr. Gray; Answers, Mr. Courtney April 12, 80;—Question, Lord Claud Hamilton; Answer, Mr. Fawcett 279] May 10, 402; Question, Mr. Findlater; Answer, Mr. Fawcett May 31, 1316; Questions, Mr. M. Brooks, Mr. T. P. O'Connor, Mr. Gibson; Answers, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Fawcett June 5, 1756; Questions, Mr. Gray, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Macartney, Mr. Mitchell Henry; Answers, Mr. Fawcett June 7, 1913; Question, Mr. Gray; Answer, Mr. Fawcett 280] June 12, 380; Question, Mr. Kenny; Answer, Mr. Fawcett June 18, 788; Question, Mr. Tottenham; Answer, Mr. Fawcett 281] July 12, 1222; Question, Mr. Richard Power; Answer, Mr. Fawcett July 19, 1906; Questions, Mr. Corry, Mr. Tottenham, Mr. Callan; Answers, Mr. Fawcett 282] July 26, 540; Questions, Mr. Tottenham, Mr. Gray, Lord Claud Hamilton, Sir John Hay; Answers, Mr. Fawcett Aug 2, 1330; Question, Mr. Onslow; Answer, Mr. Fawcett 283] Aug 13, 260

Mail Contracts (Holyhead and Kingstown)—Ordered, That the contract dated 20th August 1883, between Her Majesty's Postmaster General and the City of Dublin Steam Packet Company, for the conveyance of Mails between Holyhead and Kingstown, be approved (*Mr. Courtney*) Aug 23 (P.P. 334)

The Irish and Scotch Mail Services, Question, Mr. Tottenham; Answer, Mr. Fawcett April 10, [277] 1967

The Service to the North of Ireland—Acceleration, Questions, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Gray; Answers, Mr. Fawcett April 23, [278] 893; Question, Mr. J. N. Richardson; Answer, Mr. Fawcett, 902; Questions, Sir Hervey Bruce, Mr. Lewis; Answers, Mr. Fawcett May 3, 1708

The Scotch Mail Service—Acceleration, Question, Mr. Webster; Answer, Mr. Fawcett April 27, [278] 1271

Carriage of Mails, Ireland (Railways) (P.P. 342)

The Parcel Post

Question, Mr. W. H. Smith; Answer, Mr. Fawcett Mar 15, [277] 543; Question, Mr. Burt; Answer, Mr. Fawcett, 557; Questions, Mr. Stuart-Wortley, Mr. Pickering Phipps; Answers, Mr. Fawcett April 16, [278] 299; Question, The O'Donoghue; Answer, Mr. Fawcett May 3, 1720; Question, Mr. Warton; Answer, Mr. Fawcett May 25, [279] 886; Question, Mr. Justin McCarthy; Answer, Mr. Fawcett July 9, [281] 800; Question, Mr. H. T. Davenport; Answer, Mr. Fawcett July 31, [282] 1159; Question, Sir Eardley Wilmot; Answer, Mr. Fawcett Aug 6, 1631; Question, Observation, Lord Lamington; Reply, Lord Thurlow; Observations, The Marquess of Lothian Aug 14, [283] 453

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Appointment of Officials, Question, Mr. Answer, Mr. Fawcett May 7, [279] *Mail Car Contractors*, Question, Mr. Answer, Mr. Fawcett June 11, [280] *Registration*, Questions, Mr. Jacob B. Thorold Rogers; Answers, Mr. Aug 16, [283] 739 *Rural Letter Carriers*, Question, Mr. Answer, Mr. Fawcett June 18, [281] Question, Mr. J. G. Talbot; Answer, Mr. Fawcett Aug 16, [283] 744; Question, Mr. Harrington; Answers, Mr. Fawcett 1348; Question, Mr. Waddy; Answer, Mr. Fawcett Aug 23, 1754

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Appointment of Controller, Question, Mr. Kennard; Answer, Mr. Fawcett April 815; Question, Mr. O'Donnell; Answer, Mr. Fawcett July 5, [281] 470 *Irish Deposits*, Question, Mr. Dawson; Answer, Mr. Fawcett Mar 19, [277] 7 *Post Office Savings Banks*, Question, Mr. Kennard, Mr. E. Stanhope, Mr. Ma Answers, Mr. Fawcett June 29, [280] *Re-organization*, Questions, Mr. Fawcett, 1604; Questions, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. O'Donnell; Answer, Mr. Fawcett, 1608; Question, Mr. Fawcett, 1608; Question, Mr. Fawcett Mar 8, 1744 *Salaries*, Question, Mr. Kennard; Answer, Mr. Fawcett May 3, [278] 1722 *The New Building*, Question, Mr. Fawcett, 1608; Question, Mr. Fawcett June 21, [280] (P.P. 141)

Telegraph Department

Cheap Postal Telegrams, Question, Mr. man W. Lawrence; Answer, The C. of the Exchequer July 2, [281] 57 *Female Telegraphists*, Question, Mr. Maeliver; Answer, Mr. Fawcett [282] 1841 *Imitation Telegrams*, Question, Mr. Answer, Mr. Fawcett June 18, [280] *Overhead Telegraph and Telephone* Question, Mr. O'Donnell; Answer, Mr. Fawcett June 14, [280] 556; Question, Mr. Stuart-Wortley; Answer, Mr. June 21, 1121; Questions, Mr. Wortley; Answers, Sir Charles W. June 25, 1415;—*Underground and Telephone Wires*, Question, Mr. Viscount Sidmouth, The 1 Buccleuch; Reply, Lord Thurlow [283] 213 *Portage of Telegrams*, Question, Mr. Answer, Mr. Fawcett Aug 2 [278] 75 *Postal Delivery of Telegrams*, Question, Mr. R. H. Paget; Answer, Mr. Fawcett [281] 1884 *Sixpenny Telegrams—Liability of Gue* Question, Mr. Guy Dawson; Answer, Mr. Fawcett April 26, [278] 1151; Question, Mr. Lewis; Answer, Mr. Fawcett [281] 475; Question, Mr. Alder; Answer, Mr. Fawcett 799; Question, Mr. Joseph Cowe Answer, Mr. Fawcett Aug 16, [283] 74

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Telegraph Clerks (Belfast), Question, Mr. Biggar; Answer, Mr. Fawcett *May 7*, [279] 21;—*Leave*, Questions, Mr. Arthur O'Connor; Answers, Mr. Fawcett *Aug 23*, [283] 1736

Telegraphic Messages between England and France, Question, Sir Edward Watkin; Answer, Mr. Fawcett *July 26*, [282] 522

Telegraph Messengers, Question, Mr. T. D. Sullivan; Answer, Mr. Fawcett *April 19*, [278] 610

The General Post Office—Accommodation, Question, Mr. Ritchie; Answer, Mr. Fawcett *May 7*, [279] 25 (P.P. 10, 42)

Post Office—Inland Postal Telegrams

Amendt. on Committee of Supply *Mar 29*, To leave out from "That," add "the time has arrived when the minimum charge for Inland Postal Telegrams should be reduced to sixpence" (*Dr. Cameron v.*, [277] 995; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put; A. 50, N. 68; M. 18 (D. L. 43)

Words added; main Question, as amended, put

Resolved, That the time has arrived when the minimum charge for Inland Postal Telegrams should be reduced to sixpence

Action of the Government, Question, Mr. Puleston; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer *April 2*, [277] 1158

Treasury Minute on Minimum

Charge P.P. 214

Post Office (Money Orders) Acts Amendment Bill

(*Mr. Fawcett, Mr. Courtney*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o *July 10* [Bill 263]

Read 2^o *Aug 21*

Committee*; Report; read 3^o *Aug 22*

l. Read 1^o (*Lord Thurlow*) *Aug 22* (No. 219)

Read 2^o; Committee negatived *Aug 23*, [283] 1713

Read 3^o *Aug 24*

Royal Assent *Aug 25* [46 & 47 Vict. c. 58]

Post Office (Protection) Bill

(*Mr. Fawcett, Mr. Courtney*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o *July 16* [Bill 266]

Read 2^o, after short debate *July 23*, [282] 253

Committee; Report *Aug 16*, [283] 919

Bill withdrawn *Aug 20* [Bill 298]

Potato Crop Committee, 1880—Report of the Select Committee—Experiments

Questions, Sir Herbert Maxwell; Answers, Mr. Dodson *June 22*, [280] 1271

POTTER, Mr. T. B., Rochdale

Parliament—Queen's Speech, Address in Answer to, [276] 783.

POWER, Mr. J. O'Connor, Mayo

Fishery Board (Scotland). [276] 1791

Inland Revenue—Inhabited House Duty, [280] 98

POWER, Mr. J. O'Connor—cont.

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Irish Famine of 1847—Payment of the Debt Resulting, [276] 1171, 1172

Irish Land Commission—Payments under the Arrears Act, [278] 422;—Sub-Commissions, Co. Mayo, [280] 205

Land Law Act, 1881—Sec. 31—Applications for Loans, [276] 583; [277] 209; [280] 1273

Prevention of Crime Act, 1882—Searches, [278] 422

Relief of Distress Act—Seed Loans, [276] 583

State of Ireland—Distress in the West—Deputation of Catholic Bishops, [276] 584

Ireland—Compulsory Education, Res. [276] 1294

Ireland—Distress, Res. [277] 1984, 2009, 2010, 2023, 2024, 2052

Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881 (Purchase Clauses), Res. [280] 453, 454, 458, 460

Lord Alcester's Grant, Comm. [280] 56

Parliament—Privilege—Speeches of Mr. John Bright at Birmingham, [280] 831

Parliament—Business of the House, Motion for Adjournment, [282] 1592

Parliament—Queen's Speech, Address in Answer to, [276] 471, 1068, 1077, 1078, 1081, 1084, 1087, 1091, 1176

Parliament—Standing Orders, Res. [279] 1892

Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. cl. 1, [280] 593; cl. 4, 1223; cl. 6, 1567, 1578, 1581, 1588, 1589, 1595, 1601, 1891; cl. 13, [281] 125; cl. 15, 294, 295, 304

Public Health—Nazareth House, Hammersmith—Report of Mr. Spears, [279] 1927

Sea Fisheries (Ireland), 2R. [280] 1071

Supply—Supplementary Estimates, 1882-3—Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, &c. [276] 1828

Criminal Prosecutions, &c. in Ireland, [276] 1092

Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland), 2R. [283] 568; Comm. cl. 1, Amendt. 987, 988, 989; cl. 11, 1019; cl. 12, 1091, 1093; Amendt. 1094, 1095, 1096

POWER, Mr. R., Waterford

Constabulary and Police Administration (Ireland), Motion for Leave, [282] 890

Local Government Board, [278] 1723

Parliament—Queen's Speech, Address in Answer to, [276] 939, 1123

Poor Law Guardians (Ireland), 2R. [280] 494

Post Office (Contracts)—Irish Mail Service, [281] 1906

Registration of Voters (Ireland), 2R. [277] 512

Rivers Conservancy and Floods Prevention, Bill withdrawn, [281] 824

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Medical Act Amendment, Comm. cl. 3, Amendt. [278] 586; cl. 9, 595; Report, cl. 9, 1123

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Arrests at Milltown Malbay, Question, Mr. Kenny; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan April 27, [278] 1268; Questions, Mr. Kenny, Mr. Parnell; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan; Questions, Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Harrington; [no reply] April 30, 1425
Arrests for Murder, Conspiracy to Murder, and Treason-Felony, Question, Mr. Healy; Answer, The Attorney General for Ireland July 27, [282] 776
Belfast Magistrates, Question, Mr. Broadhurst; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan April 6, [277] 1636
Case of John Harte, Question, Mr. Justin McCarthy; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Mar 29, [277] 990
Compensation for Malicious Injuries, Question, Mr. Ion Hamilton; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Mar 13, [277] 368; —*Case of Patrick Kinane, Ennis*, Question, Mr. Kenny; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Aug 9, [282] 2081
Conviction of Reporters, Question, Mr. Biggar; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Mar 19, [277] 777
Cost of Erection of Police Huts, Question, Mr. Kenny; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan July 30, [282] 931
Defence of Prisoners—Collection of Voluntary Subscriptions, Questions, Mr. T. P. O'Connor, Mr. Biggar; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan April 19, [278] 617; Questions, Mr. Sexton, Mr. Parnell; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan April 20, 745
Intimidation, Questions, Mr. Sexton; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan April 10, [277] 1969
Messrs. O'Brien, Gilhooly, and Hodnett, Questions, Mr. O'Brien, Colonel King-Harman; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan Mar 9, [276] 1896
Mr. Timothy Harrington, Questions, Mr. Jacob Bright, Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Parnell; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan Feb 23, [276] 712; Question, Colonel King-Harman; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan; Question, Mr. Sexton; [no reply] Mar 9, 1897
Newspapers—Seizure of the "Kerry Sentinel", Questions, Mr. Parnell, Colonel King-Harman, Mr. Harrington, Mr. T. P. O'Connor; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan May 24, [279] 784; Questions, Mr. Parnell, Mr. Harrington; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan May 28, 865

Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Act, 1882—*cont.*

Moved, "That Motion for Adjournment be made" (Mr. Harrington); Question: A. 137, N. 135; M. 2 (D. L. 100)
 Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (Mr. Harrington); after debate, Mr. withdrawn
Police Protection, Questions, Mr. O'Brien, Harrington; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan Aug [283] 249; —*Mr. O'Neill, of Rathfolf*, Question, Mr. Kenny; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan June 4, [279] 1636
Police Supervision, Question, Mr. Healy; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Aug 14, [283] 4

Proclamations

Proclamation of Co. Louth, Question, Callan; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Aug [283] 1849
Louth and Drogheda, Question, Mr. Callan; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Aug 23, [283] 1849
Proclamation of Tipperary Co., Question, Mayne; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan April [278] 1266
Proclamation of Co. Wicklow, Question, M'Coan; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Aug [282] 1638
Proclaimed Districts, Question, Mr. A. O'Connor; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan April [277] 1179; —*Proclaimed Districts in K Co.—Extra Police*, Question, Mr. Mooney; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan May 29, [279] 1638

Section 8

Charge for Extra Police, Questions, O'Sullivan; Answers, The Attorney General for Ireland June 22, [280] 1270
Decrease of Crime—Withdrawal of 1 Police, Questions, Mr. Justin McCarthy, Colonel King-Harman; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan May 21, [279] 571
Extra Police at Ballinalough and Kilcubbin, Question, Mr. T. P. O'Connor; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan June 5, [279] 1742
Extra Police at Kilmallock, Questions, O'Sullivan; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan June [279] 1907; June 14, [280] 547; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan [282] 1630
Extra Police Tax, King's Co., Question, Justin McCarthy; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan April 30, [278] 1435
Extra Police Tax at Latters, Co. Tipperary, Question, Mr. O'Donnell; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Mar 12, [277] 183
Extra Police at Tipperary, Question, Arthur O'Connor; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan May 21, [279] 575

Section 9—The Resident Magistracy, Questions, Mr. Healy; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan Aug [283] 953

Section 12—Case of John O'Connor, Questions, Mr. Harrington; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan May 28, [279] 948

Section 14

Domiciliary Visits by the Police, Questions, Mr. Healy; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan Aug 13, [283] 247

Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Act, 1882—cont.

Police Searches, Question, Mr. O'Connor Power; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan April 17, [278] 422; Questions, Mr. Biggar; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan April 23, 895; April 30, 1409; Question, Mr. Arthur O'Connor; Answer, [279] Mr. Trevelyan May 7, 31; Question, Mr. Biggar; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan, 52; Questions, Mr. Harrington, Mr. Parnell; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan May 10, 397
Searches for Documents—Mr. John Cullen, of Manorhamilton, Question, Mr. O'Brien; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan; Question, Mr. Arthur O'Connor: [no reply] May 11, [279] 524
Searches in Public Houses, Question, Mr. T. D. Sullivan; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Mar 15, [277] 551
Seizure of Documents—Mr. Matthew Harris, Question, Mr. Sexton; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan April 5, [277] 1493; Questions, Mr. Sexton, Mr. O'Donnell; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan April 9, 1828;—*Captain Dugmore*, Questions, Mr. Sexton; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan April 19, [278] 624; April 20, 744;—*Mr. Kennedy*, Questions, Mr. O'Brien; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan April 19, [278] 616; April 30, 1422

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Private Examination of Witnesses—Untried Prisoners, Questions, Mr. Parnell; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan, Sir William Harcourt April 16, [278] 312; Questions, Mr. Kenny, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Harrington; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan May 8, [279] 223; Questions, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Harrington; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan, 233; Questions, Mr. Parnell; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan May 10, 414

Secret Inquiries, Questions, Mr. O'Donnell; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan, Mr. Gladstone April 30, [278] 1428; Question, Mr. O'Brien; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan May 3, 1715

The Assassinations—Magisterial Inquiry at Kilmainham, Notices, Sir Herbert Maxwell, Lord Randolph Churchill; Question, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Feb 19, [276] 295; Questions, Sir Herbert Maxwell, Major Dickson; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan, Sir William Harcourt Feb 20, 406; Question, Mr. O'Brien; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Feb 26, 847

The Inquiries in Dublin Castle, Notice of Question, Mr. O'Brien Feb 19, [276] 317

Interviews with James Carey, the Informer, Question, Mr. George Russell; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Feb 26, [276] 852

Return of Persons confined for Refusing to give Evidence, Questions, Mr. O'Brien; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan April 19, [278] 614

Sittings of the Special Commissions, Question, Colonel King-Harman; Answer, The Attorney General for Ireland June 28, [280] 1708

Summary Jurisdiction Clauses—Mr. Edward Harrington's Case, Question, Mr. T. P. O'Connor; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan July 24, [282] 308; Questions, Mr. Parnell, Mr. Healy; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan July 26, 537

Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Act, 1882—cont.

The Compensation Clause—Murder of Mr. W. M. Bourke, Question, Mr. Kenny; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan June 1, [279] 1482

Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Act, 1882—Compensations

Moved, "That there be laid before this House, Minutes of Evidence taken in Court, before the investigators, under the Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Act, and the reports upon which His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland has awarded compensation to persons injured and to the families of persons who have been murdered" (*The Marquess of Waterford*) June 1, [279] 1466; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Act (1882) (Audience to Solicitors) Bill

(*Mr. Findlater, Mr. Dodds, Mr. Gregory, Mr. Givan*)

a. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 61]
Read 2^o April 12

Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" April 16, [278] 394; Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Lord Randolph Churchill*); Question put, and negatived
Main Question, "That Mr. Speaker, &c.," put, and agreed to; Committee; Report

Read 3^o April 17

l. Read 1^o (*Lord O'Hagan*) April 19 (No. 34)

Read 2^o May 10

Committee; Report May 24

Read 3^o May 25

Royal Assent June 18 [46 Vict. c. 12]

PRICE, Captain G. E., Devonport

Army—Questions

Auxiliary Forces—Dockyard Employées, [277] 1488

Compassionate Allowances—Captain Wardell, [278] 197

Lieut.-General Wilby, [279] 962

Staff Officers of Pensioners, [282] 2099

Contagious Diseases Acts—Questions

Compulsory Examination—Metropolitan

Police at Plymouth, [282] 1143

Detention in Hospitals, [282] 955

Statistics, [281] 1209

Greenwich Hospital, [281] 1209; 2R. 2038;

Comm. [282] 250

Naval Discipline and Enlistment Acts Amendment Bill, [279] 1906

Navy—Questions

Dockyards and Steam Branch—Compulsory

Retirement—Gratuities to Hired Men, [277] 795

Engine-Room Artificers, [279] 18

Greenwich Pensions, [282] 1135

Iron-Clads for Foreign Powers, [279] 27

Naval Engineers, [277] 1487

Naval Schoolmasters, [282] 933

Purchase of Cloth, [278] 198

Seamen and Marines—Establishment of a

Pension Fund, [278] 1721

Victualling, &c.—Seamen's Rations, [278] 230

Price, Captain G. E.—cont.

Navy Estimates—Civil Pensions and Allowances, [281] 1651
 Coastguard Service and Royal Naval Reserves, &c. [281] 1580
 Dockyards and Naval Yards, [281] 1604
 Half-Pay, &c. to Officers of Navy and Marines, [280] 1802
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 New Works, Buildings, &c. [281] 1649
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 Victuals and Clothing for Seamen and Marines, [279] 113, 145
 Parliament—Business of the House, [277] 1521; Ministerial Statement, [280] 1713; [281] 1361, 1362
 Supply, Report, [281] 2028, 2033
 West Indies (Jamaica)—Questions
 Commission of Inquiry, [279] 947; [280] 558
 Executive Government, [281] 1238, 1357, 1358, 1683
 Exports and Imports, 1851 to 1882, [279] 961

Prison Service (Ireland) Bill

(*Mr. Attorney General for Ireland, Mr. Trevelyan*)

a. Ordered; read 1^o * June 23 [Bill 248]
 Read 2^o, after debate July 2, [281] 150
 Committee; Report July 12, 1334
 Read 3^o * July 13
l. Read 1^o * (*Lord President*) July 16 (No. 145)
 Read 2^o * July 26
 Committee; Report July 27
 Read 3^o * July 30
 Royal Assent Aug 2 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 25]

Prisons (England and Wales)

Convict Labour, Question, Mr. Guy Dawnay; Answer, Sir William Harcourt May 3, [278] 1705
Flogging escaped Prisoners, Question, Mr. Labouchere; Answer, Sir William Harcourt Mar 19, [277] 782
Warders in Convict Prisons, Question, Mr. R. N. Fowler; Answer, Sir William Harcourt Feb 22, [276] 580

Private Lunatic Asylums (Ireland) Bill

(*Mr. William Corbet, Mr. Blake, Mr. Dillon,*

(Mr. Dawson, Mr. Richard Power)

a. Ordered; read 1^o * Feb 19 [Bill 90]
 2R. [Dropped]

Privy Council—Committee of Agriculture

—See titles *Agriculture—Public Departments*

Prosecution of Offences Act, 1879

The Director of Public Prosecutions—The Regulations, Questions, Sir Henry Holland, Mr. Gorst; Answers, Sir William Harcourt May 28, [279] 955
The Draft Regulations (P.P. 177)
 Return of Prosecutions 1880 to 1883 116

Prosecution of Offences Act, 1879—cont.

The "Queen v. Taylor and Boynes," tions, Sir George Campbell, Mr. Paget; Answers, The Attorney (June 5, [279] 1748

Protection of Juvenile Morals—1 tion

Question, Mr. Tomlinson; Answer, Sir Harcourt Mar 19, [277] 803

Protection of Young Girls—Legisla

Question, Mr. J. R. Yorke; Answer, Sir Harcourt April 23, [278] 904

Protection of Women and Children

Question, The Bishop of Rochester; The Earl of Rosebery April 6, [277]

Provident Nominations and Sma testacies Bill—See title

Friendly, &c. Societies (Nomin Bill

Public Buildings (Doors) Bill

(*Mr. Coleridge Kennard, Mr. Beresford Viscount Folkestone, Mr. William For*

a. Ordered; read 1^o * June 19 [Bill Moved, "That the Bill be now re June 28, [280] 1833
 After short debate, Amendt. to le: "now," add "upon this day three n (*Mr. W. H. James*); Question p "That 'now,' &c.;" after short Amendt. withdrawn; Motion with Bill withdrawn

Public Departments—The Employn Pensioners

Question, Sir Trevor Lawrence; Answ Marquess of Hartington Mar 8, [276]

Public Departments—The Ministry

Foreign Office—Pensions to State Ser Foreign Countries, Question, Mr. Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice [283] 728

Home Office, The—Transfer of B Question, Sir R. Assheton Cross; Sir William Harcourt June 11, [280]

India Office—Permanent Under Secr State—Appointment of Mr. Godley, tion, Mr. Onslow; Answer, Mr. J. K June 14, [280] 562; Questions, Lord Hamilton, Colonel Nolan; Answers, K. Cross June 21, 1122

Local Government Board for Scotlan Staff, &c., Question, Sir Alexander C Answer, Sir William Harcourt July 1 1505

Privy Council—Committee of Council o culture—The Proposed Staff, Quest R. H. Paget; Answer, Mr. Dodson J [280] 1694

Agriculture, Order appointing a Coun Council for the consideration of all relating to Agriculture P. P. [

Public Departments—The Ministry—cont.

The Office of Lord Privy Seal, Question, Mr. Broadhurst; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *June 21*, [280] 1146

War Office—Supplementary Clerks, Questions, Viscount Lewisham, Mr. Arthur O'Connor; Answers, The Chancellor of the Exchequer, The Marquess of Hartington *June 21*, [280] 1135

Public Documents—Premature Disclosure to the Press

Question, Mr. Dalrymple; Answer, The Lord Advocate *April 2*, [277] 1158

The Army Medical Inquiry, Questions, Sir Walter B. Barttelot, Mr. Puleston, Dr. Cameron, Mr. O'Donnell; Answers, The Marquess of Hartington, Mr. Gladstone *May 24*, [279] 760; Question, Dr. Cameron; Answer, Sir Arthur Hlayter *May 25*, 894

Public Entertainment, Licences to Places of—The Sunderland Calamity

Questions, Mr. Macfarlane; Answers, Sir William Harcourt *June 22*, [280] 1271
[See title *Law and Police*]

Public Expenditure—Redemption of the National Debt

Amendt. on Committee of Supply *April 9*, To leave out from "That," add "it is inexpedient that the accounts of the Court of Chancery should be complicated through the employment of its funds in the operations of the Finance Minister upon the Public Debt, or that its fixed investments should be converted into Terminable Annuities, wholly alien to the objects, the convenience, or the advantage of the Funds in Chancery" (*Mr. J. G. Hubbard*) *v.*, [277] 1865; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after short debate, Amendt. withdrawn

Public Funds, The—Transfers of Stock

Question, Mr. Gregory; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer *May 3*, [278] 1716

Public Health (Questions)

Drainage, &c.—Certificates, Question, Mr. Anderson; Answer, Mr. George Russell *Aug 20*, [283] 1335

Horse Flesh, Question, Mr. Macfarlane; Answer, Sir William Harcourt *July 5*, [281] 471

Infection from Imported Rags, Question, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke *Aug 15*, [283] 588

Lead Poisoning, Question, Mr. Burt; Answer, Sir William Harcourt *Feb 19*, [276] 311

Metropolitan Asylums Board—Hampstead Hospital, Question, Mr. W. M. Torrens; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke *June 11*, [280] 202;—*The Small-pox Hospital at Darent*, Question, Mr. Alderman Cotton; Answer, Mr. George Russell *June 14*, [280] 535

Nasareth House, Hammersmith, Question, Mr. Daly; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke *April 26*, [278] 1136;—*Report of Mr. Spears*, Ques-

Public Health—cont.

tion, Mr. O'Connor Power; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke *June 7*, [279] 1927

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Sanitary Authority of the Isle of Wight, Question, Sir Hardinge Giffard; Answer, Mr. Hibbert *April 23*, [278] 899

Sanitary Condition of Somerset House, Question, Lord George Hamilton; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer *June 21*, [280] 1138; Question, Earl Fortescue; Answer, Lord Thurlow *July 24*, [282] 279

Hornsey Sanitary District, Question, Mr. Anderson; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke *Aug 25*, [283] 1848

Thoroughfare through Peel Grove Burial Ground, Bethnal Green, Question, Mr. Francis Buxton; Answer, Sir James M'Garel-Hogg *July 30*, [282] 956

Typhoid Fever at Plymouth, Question, Sir Henry Peek; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain *April 5*, [277] 1491

Unsound Meat—The "Orient," Questions, Mr. Ritchie; Answers, Mr. Brand *Mar 12*, [277] 200

Vaccination

Questions, Mr. Hopwood; Answers, Mr. George Russell *Aug 16*, [283] 719

Death in St. Pancras Workhouse, Questions, Mr. Hopwood; Answers, Sir Charles W. Dilke *June 11*, [280] 199; *June 18*, 789

Vaccination Acts—Case of Mr. Arnfield, Question, Mr. P. A. Taylor; Answer, Mr. Hibbert *Mar 8*, [276] 1757

Vaccination of Pauper Children, Question, Mr. Hopwood; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke *Mar 6*, [276] 1607

Vaccination in Workhouses—St. Pancras Workhouse, Questions, Mr. Hopwood; Answers, Mr. George Russell *July 13*, [281] 1349

[See titles *Poor Law—Vaccination*]

The Cholera

Disinfection of Imported Textile Fabrics, Question, Mr. Brinton; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke *Aug 3*, [282] 1477

Importation of Rags from Egypt, Questions, Mr. Ritchie; Answers, Sir Charles W. Dilke *July 26*, [282] 580; *Aug 15*, [283] 588

Outbreak of Cholera in Egypt—Sanitary Precautions, Question, The Earl of Wemyss; Answer, Earl Granville *July 3*, [281] 158

Circular . . . P.P. [3729]

Dr. Hunter's Despatch . . . [3732]

Precautions against Cholera, Questions, Viscount Folkestone, Mr. Stewart Maclier, Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Macfarlane, Sir Walter B. Barttelot, Mr. Eeroyd; Answers, Sir Charles W. Dilke, Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice, Mr. J. K. Cross *July 10*, [281] 957; Question, Earl De La Warr; Answer, Lord Carrington *July 27*, [282] 688

Reported Cases of Cholera, Question, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke *July 27*, [282] 783

Reported Outbreak in Holland, Question, Mr. R. N. Fowler; Answer, Mr. George Russell *Aug 14*, [283] 470

Public Health Act, 1875 (Support of Sewers) Amendment Bill

(*Mr. Brogden, Sir George Elliot, Sir Joseph Pease, Mr. Salt, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Tomlinson*)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o * July 18 [Bill 287]
- Read 2^o * July 28
- Committee *; Report July 30
- Considered *; read 3^o July 31
- l. Read 1^a * (*Earl of Milltown*) Aug 2 (No. 172)
- Read 2^a Aug 9, [282] 2033
- Committee *; Report Aug 13
- Read 3^a * Aug 16
- Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 37]

Public Health Acts Amendment Bill

(*Mr. Dodds, Sir Edward Reed, Mr. Arnold Morley*)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o * May 1^o [Bill 161]
- Bill withdrawn * July 13

Public Health (Dairies, &c.) Bill [u.l.]

(*The Lord President*)

- l. Presented; read 1^o * June 14 (No. 92)
- Read 2^a, after short debate June 19, [280] 922
- Committee; Report July 3, [281] 173
- Read 3^a * July 5
- c. Read 1^o * (*Mr. Dodson*) Aug 6 [Bill 280]
- 2R. deferred Aug 22, [283] 1711
- Question, Sir Walter B. Barttelot; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke Aug 23, 1706
- Order for 2R. discharged; Bill withdrawn

Public Health (Scotland) Provisional Order (Fraserburgh Waterworks) Bill

(*The Lord Advocate, Secretary*)

Sir William Harecourt)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o * Feb 16 [Bill 2]
- Read 2^o * April 30
- Report * May 11
- Read 3^o * May 21
- l. Read 1^a * (*E. Dalhousie*) May 24 (No. 63)
- Read 2^a * June 26
- Committee * June 29
- Report * July 2
- Read 3^a * July 3
- Royal Assent July 16 [46 & 47 Vict. c. xcviil]

Public House Licensing Committees Bill

See title—

Licensing Justices Disabilities Removal Bill

Public Offices—Rent of

Moved, "That there be laid before this House, Return of the rents paid for the hire of public offices other than the War Office and Admiralty" (*The Lord Lamington*) Aug 13, [283] 212; after short debate, on question, resolved in the negative

Public Offices Site Act, 1882—The New Buildings for the Admiralty and the War Office

Question, Mr. W. H. Smith; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre April 5, [277] 1481

Public Offices Site Bill

Question, Observations, Lord Strathclyde Campbell; Reply, Lord Thurlow debate thereon Aug 20, [283] 1317

Public Offices, The—Explosions Local Government Board and "Times" Office

Questions, Sir R. Assheton Cross, M. ton, Viscount Folkestone; Answer, William Harcourt Mar 15, [277] 65
tion, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answer, Gladstone Mar 16, 701; Question Assheton Cross; Answer, Sir William court Mar 19, 808
Colonel Majendie's Report . P. I

Public Works Loan Commissioners

rest on Loans—Harbour Loan

Question, Mr. Marjoribanks; Answer, Chancellor of the Exchequer Aug 1339

Public Works Loans [Advances, &c.]

c. Resolutions considered in Committee [283] 682
Resolutions reported Aug 16

Public Works Loans Bill

(*Mr. Courtney, Mr. Trevelyan*)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o * Aug 16 [Bill 280]
- Read 2^o * Aug 17
- Committee *; Report; read 3^o Aug 1
- l. Read 1^a * (*Lord Thurlow*) Aug 20 (No. 63)
- Read 2^a * Aug 21
- Committee *; Report Aug 22
- Read 3^a * Aug 23
- Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 37]

Public Works Loans—Legislation

Question, Sir Stafford Northcote; The Chancellor of the Exchequer [279] 1909

Public Worship Regulation Act Amendment Bill

(*Mr. Albert Grey, Mr. Stuart-Wort*)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o * Feb 28 [Bill 280]
- 2R. [Dropped]

Public Worship, Return of Places

Questions, Mr. Cropper, Mr. Riches, answers, Mr. Hibbert June 21, [280]

PUGH, Mr. L. P., Cardiganshire

Agricultural Holdings (England), Cor
[281] 1710, 1732; cl. 2, 1829, 1836, 18.
cl. 4, 1953, 1963, 1967
[282] cl. 6, 189; cl. 7, 218, 221; cl. 12
244; cl. 17, 349; cl. 28, Amend.
Consid. cl. 9, Amendt. 1185; cl. 10,
ib.; cl. 18, Amendt. 1187; cl. 19,
ib.; Schedule, Amendt. 1197
[283] Lords Amendts. Consid. Amendt. 1
Agricultural Holdings (Scotland), Cor
[282] 438

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Criminal Code (Indictable Offences Procedure), 2R. [278] 126
 Customs and Inland Revenue, Comm. *cl.* 8, [279] 486
 Egypt—International Sanitary Board—Quarantine, [280] 777
 India—Criminal Procedure Amendment Bill—Reports of Local Governments, [279] 1324
 India—East India (Expenditure), Res. [279] 293, 315
 Law and Justice—Queen's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice—Delay and Procedure, [278] 910
 Municipal Corporations (Unreformed), Comm. *cl.* 12, [278] 1584

PULESTON, Mr. J. H., *Devonport*

Army—Cavalry of the Line, [277] 1158
 Army Estimates—Army Reserve Force, [283] 1258
 Commissariat, Transport, &c. Establishments, [280] 1725
 War Office, [283] 1266, 1267
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 Navy—Warrant Officers, [278] 306
 Navy Estimates—Dockyards and Naval Yards, &c. [281] 1636, 1636
 Machinery and Ships Built by Contract, [281] 1648
 Military Pensions and Allowances, [280] 1804, 1807, 1814, 1815; Motion for reporting Progress, 1819, 1820, 1823
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Queensland—Law and Justice—Reception of Native Evidence in Courts of Justice

Question, Sir George Campbell; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley July 26, [282] 527

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Africa (South)—Transvaal—Policy of H.M. Government, Res. [278] 203
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280] cl. 1, Amendt. 388, 398; cl. 2, 885, 931; cl. 3, 960; Amendt. 971, 975, 1150, 1151; cl. 4, 1278; cl. 5, 1439; cl. 6, 1521, 1564; cl. 7, 1929
281] cl. 10, 110; cl. 11, 111; cl. 13, 112, 113, 117; cl. 15, 290, 297; cl. 16, 309; cl. 31, 523; cl. 34, 619; cl. 38, 643, 644; cl. 40, 655; cl. 48, Amendt. 883, 884; add. cl. 996, 1001, 1309, 1376; Schedule 1, Amendt. 1405, 1412, 1419, 1426, 1427, 1445, 1446
282] Consid. cl. 3, Amendt. 2018, 2019
283] cl. 37, Amendt. 90; cl. 44, Amendt. 93
Parliamentary Franchise (Extension to Women), Res. [281] 708, 712
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Universities Committee of Privy Council, 2R. [277] 1395

Railway Commission

- Permanency—Legislation*, Question, Mr. Gregory; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain Mar 13, [277] 360
Amendt. on Committee of Supply May 4, To leave out from "That," add "it is expedient that the Railway Commission be made permanent and a Court of Record; and that, in general conformity with the recommendations of the Committee, the powers of the Commission be extended; and that, on application by a Railway undertaking for Parliamentary powers, a locus standi be afforded to Chambers of Commerce and Agriculture, and similar bodies, and to persons injuriously affected by the rates and fares sought or already authorised in the case of such undertaking" (Mr. B. Samuelson) v., [278] 1881; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put, and negatived
Words added; main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to
Ninth Report P.P. [3578]

Railway Passenger Duty, &c. Bill

- (Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. berlain, Sir Arthur Hayter)
c. Ordered; read 1st June 7 [Bill : Read 2^o, after debate June 21, [280] 124 Committee*; Report July 5 [Bill : Questions, Sir Edward Watkin; Answer 282] Chancellor of the Exchequer July 26 July 30, 949
Committee: Report, after short debate July 672
Considered * July 27
Moved, "That the Bill be now read July 30, 1094
Amendt. to leave out "now," add "up day three months" (Mr. Warton); Question put, "That 'now,' &c.;" A. 70, N. 62 (D. L. 246)
Main Question put, and agreed to; Bill l. Read 1st (Lord Thurlow) July 31 (No. 2. Read 2nd, after short debate Aug 6, 1611 Committee*; Report Aug 7
Read 3rd Aug 9, 2061
Royal Assent Aug 20 [46 & 47 Vict. c.

Railways

- Continuous Brakes*, Question, Observations, Earl De La Warr, Viscount Bury; Lord Sudeley June 22, [280] 1260
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Engine Drivers—Hours of Duty, Question, Mr. Theodore Fry; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain July 9, [281] 770
Insecurity of the Hoo Brook Viaduct Great Western Railway, Question Brinton; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain July 280] 1149
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Rates and Fares—Recommendations Select Committee, Questions, Mr. Tomlinson; Answers, Mr. Chamberlain Feb 19, 208; Feb 22, 593
Workmen's Tickets, Questions, Mr. Broadbent; Sir R. Assheton Cross; Answers Chamberlain Feb 26, [276] 827
Workmen's Trains, Question, Mr. Granville; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain June 21, 1141
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Railways and Tramways—Tramway

- Question, Colonel Colthurst; Answer Courtney July 19, [281] 1593

Railways (Continuous Brakes) Bill

- (The Earl De La Warr)
l. Presented; read 1st July 3 (No. Bill withdrawn, after short debate July 281] 1345

Railways (Ireland) Bill

- (Mr. Mr. Joseph Cowen, Mr. Daly, Mr. Dickson, Mr. O'Sullivan, Colonel Nolan, Joseph McKenna, Mr. Beresford)
c. Ordered; read 1st Feb 16 [Bill 2R. [Dropped]

RALLI, Mr. P., Wallingford

Treaty of Berlin—Article XXIII.—Island of Chios, [281] 1508

RAMSAY, Mr. J., Falkirk, &c.

Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. 3, [281] 1927; cl. 5, [282] 91
Agricultural Holdings (Scotland), Comm. cl. 1, [282] 433, 442; cl. 4, 478, 481; cl. 5, 486, 499;
cl. 6, 828, 1206; cl. 7, 1210; cl. 23, 1240,
1242; cl. 26, 1253, 1254, 1255, 1263;
add. cl. 1290
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Customs and Inland Revenue, Comm. [278] 1385
High Court of Justice (Service of Writs), 2R. [280] 478
Lunacy (Scotland) Act, 1862—Transfer of Criminal Lunatics from Perth Prison, [280] 784
Minister of Education, Res. [280] 1973
Parliament—Business of the House—Parliamentary Oaths Act, &c.—Postponement of Orders of the Day, [278] 1595
Railway Commission, Res. [278] 1914
Settlement and Removal Law Amendment, 2R. [281] 725
Supply—Board of Lunacy in Scotland, [282] 1393
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State-aided Emigration, Res. [279] 1809

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Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. 1, [281] 1714
Minister of Education, Res. [280] 1960

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Parliament—Business of the House—Suez (Second) Canal, Ministerial Statement, [281] 1524
Parliament—Queen's Speech, Address in Answer to, [276] 1091
Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. cl. 3, [280] 947
Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland), 2R. [283] 662

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Bankruptcy, 2R. [283] 948; Comm. 1326
Braithwaite and Buttermere Railway, 2R. [276] 1365
Channel Tunnel—Joint Committee, Res. [277] 1630
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Charity Commissioners—Scheme for St. Dunstan's-in-the-East, [276] 1893
Cruelty to Animals Acts Amendment, 2R. Amendt. [283] 932
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Factories and Workshops Amendment, Report, [281] 1874
Isle of Man (Harbours), Comm. [278] 1841
Labourers (Ireland), Comm. [283] 1321
Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881, Res. [276] 691, 702
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London and North-Western Railway (Additional Powers), 2R. [279] 1270
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Manchester Ship Canal, 2R. [282] 259; Select Committee, Notice of Motion, 512, 513
Metropolitan District Railway, Res. [277] 154
Metropolitan Improvements—Hyde Park Corner, [279] 933; [281] 1345
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Metropolitan Improvements—Public Offices, Motion for a Return, [283] 213
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- Public Business—Standing Committees,
[281] 919, 920, 1173, 1659
- Parliament—House of Lords (Construction and
Accommodation), Motion for a Select Com-
mittee, [277] 142
- Parliament—Parliamentary Procedure, Res.
[279] 7
- Payment of Wages in Public Houses Prohibi-
tion, 3R. [277] 684
- Public Offices Site, [283] 1319
- Railway Passenger Duty, &c. 2R. [282] 1614 ;
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- Regent's Canal, City, and Docks Railway
(Various Powers), Consid. [281] 1176
- Representative Peers (Scotland), 2R. [277]
1954 ; Comm. [278] 1830 ; [279] 1077 ;
Report, cl. 2, [280] 20 ; 3R. 329

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- Channel Tunnel Scheme, [283] 1369
- Corea—Treaties with Great Britain and the
United States, [276] 584
- Lord Alcester's Annuity, 2R. [278] 676
- Navy Estimates—Military Pensions and Al-
lowances, [280] 1809, 1813, 1820
- Sea and Coastguard Services, &c. [277]
623
- Victuals and Clothing for Seamen and
Marines, [279] 110
- Patents for Inventions, 2R. [278] 386
- Royal Marines, Res. [277] 589
- Supply—Convict Establishments in England
and the Colonies, &c. [283] 770
- Harbours, &c. under the Board of Trade,
[279] 992

**Regent's Canal, City, and Docks Railway
(Various Powers) Bill [Lords] (by
Order)**

- c. Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2°"
July 31, [282] 1123
- Amendt. to leave out "now," add "upon this
day three months" (*Mr. Monk*) ; Question
proposed, "That 'now,' &c. ;" after short
debate, Question put, and agreed to
- Main Question put, and agreed to ; Bill read 2°
- l. Amendts. made by Committee considered
July 12, [281] 1174
- New Clause moved (*Viscount Bury*) ; after
short debate, on Question ? resolved in the
negative

**Registrar General's Department, The—
The Census Reports**

- Question, Mr. Montague Guest ; Answer, Sir
Charles W. Dilke Mar 30, [277] 1114

**Registration of Births and Deaths (Great
Britain)—Uncertified Deaths**

- Question, Dr. Cameron ; Answer, The Lord
Advocate July 9, [281] 766

Registration of Firms Bill

- (*Mr. Barran, Mr. Norwood, Mr. Mo-*
c. Ordered ; read 1° * Feb 19 [Bi
2R. [Dropped]

**Registration of Voters (Ireland) I
(Mr. William Corbet, Mr. Callan, Mr. J**

- Mr. William O'Brien, Mr. Gray*
c. Ordered ; read 1° * Feb 16 [Bi
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2°"
[277] 510 ; Moved, "That the De
now adjourned" (*Mr. Ion Hamilton*)
short debate, Question put ; A. 219,
M. 180 (D. L. 35) ; Debate adjourned
Order read, for resuming Adjourned
April 2, 1271 ; after short debate
counted out]
- Questions, Mr. Dawson, Colonel King-H
Answers, Mr. Trevelyan April 11, [2
Adjourned Debate on 2R. [Dropped]

Registration of Voters (Ireland) (
Bill (*Mr. Meldon, Mr. Sha*

- Mitchell Henry, Mr. Findlater, Colone*
c. Ordered ; read 1° * Feb 16 [Bi
2R. [Dropped]

Registration of Voters (Ireland) (
Bill (*Mr. Dawson, Mr.*

- Mr. Kenny*
c. Ordered ; read 1° * Mar 19 [Bill
2R. [Dropped]

Registry of Deeds (Ireland) Bill

- (*Dr. Lyons, Mr. Maurice Brooks, Mr. Fi*
c. Ordered ; read 1° * May 23 [Bill
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2°"
[279] 1710 ; Moved, "That the De
now adjourned" (*Mr. Biggar*) ; af-
ter debate, Motion withdrawn
- Original Question put, and agreed to ; Bill
Committee ; Report June 8, [280] 142
- Considered * June 11
- Read 3° * June 14
- l. Read 1° * (*Lord O'Hagan*) June 15 (N
Read 2° July 3, [281] 77
- Committee * ; Report July 5
- Read 3° * July 6
- Royal Assent July 16 [46 & 47 Vict. .

REID, Mr. R. T., Hereford

- Cruelty to Animals Acts Amendmen
[276] 1676
- Explosive Substances, Comm. cl. 4, [27
India (Native States)—Junaghur—M
of Maiyas, [277] 1109
- India—East India (Expenditure), Res
275
- India—East India (Financial Statemen
[279] 717, 723
- Navy—Clyde Court Martial, [277] 1906
- Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and
Practices), Comm. cl. 4, [280] 1279
1591 ; cl. 26, [281] 506 ; add. cl. 99
1169
- Statute of Frauds Amendment, Comm
1464 ; 3R. [282] 864
- Vivisection Abolition, 2R. [277] 1399
1403, 1421, 1437, 1440

Relief of Distress (Ireland) Bill*(Mr. Byrne, Mr. Parnell, Mr. O'Kelly, Mr. William Corbet)*

- c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 66]
2R. [Dropped]

Representative Peers (Scotland) Bill [H.L.]
(The Lord Chancellor)

- l. Presented; read 1^a, after short debate Feb 26, [276] 815 (No. 5)
Question, Observations, The Earl of Galloway;
Reply, The Lord Chancellor Mar 6, 1885
Petition presented *(The Earl of Galloway)*
April 10, [277] 1938
Petition read, and ordered to lie on the Table
Read 2^a, after debate April 10, [277] 1939
Moved, "That the Bill be committed *pro forma*, and reported with Amendments." May 4, [278] 1828; after short debate, Motion agreed to; Committee; Bill re-committed Committee *(on re-comm.)*, after short debate May 29, [279] 1077 (No. 53)
Report June 8, [280] 15 (No. 66)
Read 3^a, after short debate June 12, 324 (No. 84)
Moved, "That the Bill do pass" *(The Lord Chancellor)*; after short debate, Motion agreed to; Bill passed
Protest against 3R.—see Appendix
c. Read 1^o June 21 [Bill 242]
Bill withdrawn * July 9

Representative Peers (Scotland) Election Procedure Bill [H.L.]*(The Earl of Galloway)*

- l. Presented; read 1^a, after short debate Feb 27, [276] 944 (No. 6)
Question, The Earl of Galloway; Answer, The Lord Chancellor Mar 16, [277] 686
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^a" April 10, 1881; after short debate, on Question? Cont. 20, Not-Cont. 31; M. 11; resolved in the negative
Div. List, Cont. and Not-Cont, 1963
Bill withdrawn * July 13

Revenue and Friendly Societies Bill*(Mr. Courtney, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer)*

- c. Ordered; read 1^o July 23 [Bill 269]
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" July 31, [282] 1217; Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" *(Mr. Tomlinson)*; after short debate, Question put, and negatived
Original Question put; A. 41, N. 4; M. 37 (D. L. 253)
Order for Committee read; Moved, "That this House will, upon Monday next, resolve itself into the said Committee" *(The Marquess of Hartington)* Aug 4, 1892
After short debate, Amendt. to leave out "Monday," insert "Tuesday" *(Mr. Warton)*; Question proposed, "That 'Monday,' &c.;" Question put, and agreed to
Main Question put, and agreed to
Committee *—R.P. Aug 6
Committee Aug 14, [283] 585 [House counted out]
Clause 17, Question, Mr. Broadhurst; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Aug 16, 750

Revenue and Friendly Societies Bill—cont.

- Committee*; Report Aug 17
Considered * Aug 18
Read 3^o * Aug 20
l. Read 1^a * *(Lord Thurlow)* Aug 21 (No. 215)
Read 2^a; Committee, after short debate; Bill changed to "Revenue Bill;" Report; read 3^a Aug 22, 1602
Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 55]

Revenue and Friendly Societies [Advances by National Debt Commissioners]

- c. Resolution considered in Committee, and agreed to July 27, [282] 892

Ribble Navigation, Preston Dock and Borough Extension Bill (by Order)

- c. Lords Amendments considered, and, after debate, agreed to July 5, [281] 421

RIBBLESDALE, Lord

- Cruelty to Animals Acts Amendment, 2R. [283] 933

RICHARD, Mr. H., *Morthyr Tydeil*

- Africa (West Coast)—Hostilities at British Sherbro, [281] 29
Burial Acts, [282] 1847
Nonconformist Burials, [279] 1311
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China—Opium Trade, [283] 61
Education (Wales)—Carnarvon Training College, [279] 1310
Intermediate Education (Wales), [281] 59
Lord Alcester's Annuity, 2R. [278] 686, 689
Parliament—Business of the House, Ministerial Statement, [282] 564
Parliament—Queen's Speech, Address in Answer to, [276] 188, 199
Places of Public Worship—The Return, [280] 1140
Rivers Conservancy and Floods Prevention, Bill withdrawn, [281] 818
Supply—Public Education in England and Wales, &c. Amendt. [282] 609, 615

RICHARDSON, Mr. J. N., *Armagh Co.*

- Belfast Harbour, Consid. [280] 360
Constabulary and Police (Ireland) (Pay and Pensions), Comm. cl. 3, [279] 1047
Elective Councils (Ireland), 2R. [278] 11
Ireland—Inland Revenue—Selling Porter without a Licence, [279] 1304
Poor Law—Belfast Workhouse—Irregularity of Officials, [280] 203
Local Option, Res. [278] 1354, 1355
Parliament—Business of the House, Ministerial Statement, [281] 1117, 1118
Sunday Closing (Ireland), [281] 1523
Parliament—Queen's Speech, Address in Answer to, [276] 640, 1116
Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. [279] 1977
Poor Relief (Ireland), Comm. cl. 1, [281] 570
Poor Removal and Settlement (Ireland), 2R. [278] 1083
Post Office (Contracts)—Service to the North of Ireland—Acceleration, [278] 902
House of Commons Lobby, [278] 1265

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- Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Act (1882)
(Audience of Solicitors), Comm. cl. 2, [278]
396
- Rivers Conservancy and Floods Prevention,
Bill withdrawn, [281] 825
- Sale of Liquors on Sunday (Ireland), [280]
228; 2R. 318
- Supply—Public Works in Ireland, [279] 1347
- Vice-Royalty (Ireland), 2R. Amendt. [280]
1083

RICHARDSON, Mr. T., *Hartlepool*

- Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Dur-
ham), Comm. Amendt. [282] 2248

RICHMOND AND GORDON, Duke of

- Agricultural Holdings (England), 2R. [282]
1807, 1818, 1822; Comm. cl. 1, Amendt.
[283] 6, 7, 9; cl. 2, Amendt. 14, 15; cl. 4,
22, 26; cl. 6, Amendt. 33; cl. 10, 41; cl. 40,
44; cl. 43, 46; Schedule 1, 51; Report,
cl. 5, 443; Commons' Reasons Consid. 1620,
1634
- Agricultural Holdings (Scotland), 2R. [282]
2057, 2058; Comm. cl. 1, [283] 220; cl. 2,
Amendt. 222; cl. 4, 223; Amendt. 224;
cl. 6, Amendt. 236; cl. 29, Amendt. 241,
243; Report, cl. 4, 685; cl. 6, 687; Com-
mons Reasons Consid. 1643
- Army (India)—Surgeon-Major Thorburn, [278]
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- Army Medical Department—Hospital Services,
Res. [282] 12
- Contagious Diseases (Animals) Acts—Foot-
and-Mouth Disease, Motion for Correspond-
ence, [278] 273, 291
- Criminal Law Amendment, Comm. cl. 5, [280]
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- Fisheries (Scotland), [278] 1838, 1839
- Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister, Comm.
cl. 1, [280] 918
- Medical Act Amendment, Comm. cl. 3, [278]
587; cl. 9, 593; cl. 10, 597; Report, cl. 9,
1123
- Parliament—Public Business—Standing Com-
mittees, [281] 920
- Pawnbroker's, Comm. cl. 4, [281] 170
- Public Health (Dairies, &c.), 2R. [280] 924;
Comm. cl. 13, [281] 176
- Railways (Continuous Brakes), 2R. [281] 1348
- Representative Peers (Scotland), 2R. [277]
1961; Comm. [278] 1830
- Representative Peers (Scotland) Election Pro-
cedure, 2R. [277] 1962
- Sea Fisheries, 2R. [280] 322, 323
- Tithe Rent-Charge, 2R. [279] 1232
- Tramways Provisional Orders (No. 3), Comm.
[281] 921

RIDLEY, Sir M. W., *Northumberland, N.*

- Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. 15,
[282] 324
- Parliament—Criminal Code (Indictable Of-
fences Procedure), Report, [280] 1550

RITCHIE, Mr. C. T., *Tower Hamlets*

- Africa (South)—Affairs in the Transvaal
218
- Bankruptcy, 2R. [277] 981; Consid. [2]
cl. 55, Amendt. 533
- Customs Re-organisation—New Ware-
house Scheme—Surveyors, [276] 841, 842
- Education Department—Board Sch.
Coborn Street, Bow, [280] 1409
- Egypt—Withdrawal of Army of Occi-
dents, [282] 1341
- Explosive Substances, Comm. cl. 4
1858
- General Post Office (Telegraph Depart-
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- Great Eastern Railway (High Beech
Road), 2R. [277] 183
- Metropolis (North and South)—Com-
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- Metropolitan Board of Works—Coal ar-
dents, [277] 1279, 1280
- Metropolitan Improvements—Commis-
sion across the Thames, [279] 900
- Minister of Education, Res. [280] 1979
- Navy (Supplementary Estimate), 1
- Military Operations in Egypt, [276]
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- Parliament—Business of the House, [2]
[282] 1854
- Count-out of Friday, May 25, [279]
- House of Commons—Telephonic Co-
munication with the Exchange, [276]
1262
- Ministerial Statement, [282] 1344
- Standing Committees, [277] 1838
- Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and
Practices), Comm. cl. 4, [280] 1316
1579, 1597, 1903, 1903, 1909; cl. 1
201, 208, 219, 230, 231, 288, 295;
885; add. cl. 1016, 1124; Amendt.
1130, 1131, 1132, 1375
- Parliamentary Oath (Mr. Bradlaugh)
1854
- Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Ame-
ndt. 2R. [278] 1791
- Public Health—Cholera—Importation
from Egypt, [282] 569
- Unsound Meat—The "Orient," [27]
1908
- Suez (Second) Canal—The Provisional
Agreement with M. de Lesseps, [281] 1906
1908
- Supply—Marlborough House [277] 107;
Public Education in England and
[282] 659
- Royal Palaces, [277] 1068
- Royal Parks and Pleasure Gardens
1088, 1089, 1096, 1099
- Science and Art Department, &c
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**Rivers Conservancy and Floods Pre-
vention Bill**

- (Mr. Dodson, Sir Charles Dilke, Mr. H.
C. Orderd; read 1st Mar 7 [Bill
Question, Observations, The Earl of
Wich; Reply, Lord Carlingford J.
[280] 1518
Order for 2R. discharged; Bill with-
drawn after debate July 9, [281] 808

River Thames—Pimlico Pier

Questions, Dr. Cameron, Mr. Callan : Answers,
Mr. Shaw Lefevre *July* 10, [281] 955 ;
Question, Sir John Hay ; Answer, Sir James
M'Garel-Hogg *July* 12, 1217

ROBERTSON, Mr. H., Shrewsbury

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Sale of Intoxicating Liquors (Ireland) Bill

(*Mr. Meldon, Mr. Whitworth, Mr. Blake*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 49]
 2R. [Dropped]

Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday Bill

(*Sir Joseph Pease, Viscount Castlereagh*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 47]
 2R. [Dropped]

Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (No. 2) Bill

(*Mr. Stevenson, Mr. Birley, Sir William M'Arthur, Mr. Charles Wilson, Mr. Walter James, Mr. Charles Ross*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 51]
 2R., after short debate [House counted out] May 22, [279] 729
 Bill withdrawn* Aug 21

Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Cornwall) Bill

(*Mr. Vivian, Sir John St. Aubyn, Mr. Borlase, Mr. Acland*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 60]
 Bill withdrawn* July 10

Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Cornwall) Bill [H.L.]

(*The Earl of Mount-Edgcumbe*)

l. Presented; read 1^o July 10 (No. 142)
 Read 2^o, after short debate July 16, [281] 1497
 Committee; Report, after short debate July 19, 1875

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3^o" July 30, [282] 907

Amendt. to leave out ("now") add ("this day three months") (*The Earl of Wemyss*); after debate, on Question, That ("now") &c.; Cont. 38, Not-Cont. 38

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The numbers being equal, it was (according to ancient rule) resolved in the negative

Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Durham) Bill

(*Mr. Theodore Fry, Mr. Walter James, Mr. Lambton, Mr. Dodds, Mr. Thomas Richardson, Mr. Gourley, Mr. James Thompson*)

c. Motion for Leave Feb 16, [276] 267; after short debate, Question put, and agreed to; Bill ordered; read 1^o [Bill 21]

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" May 30, [279] 1194

Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Durham) Bill—cont.

Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "this House, while willing to discuss the question of County Government, declines to consider Public Bills affecting only a single county" (*Mr. Thomasson*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after long debate, Question put; A. 153, N. 57; M. 96 (D. L. 108)

Main Question again proposed, 1239; after short debate, main Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 2°

Order for Committee read; Moved, "That the said Order be discharged" Aug 9, [282] 2247

Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "this House will, To-morrow, resolve itself into the said Committee" (*Mr. T. Richardson*); Question, "That the words, &c.;" put, and negatived

Question proposed, "That 'this House will To-morrow,' &c."

Amendt. to proposed Amendt. to leave out "To-morrow," insert "Monday next" (*Sir R. Assheton Cross*) v.; Question proposed, "That 'To-morrow' &c.;" Question put; A. 35, N. 19; M. 16 (D. L. 271)

Main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to Order for Committee read; Moved, "That this House will, To-morrow, resolve itself into the said Committee" Aug 10, [283] 141

Amendt. to leave out "To-morrow," insert "Monday next" (*Sir R. Assheton Cross*), v.; Question proposed, "That 'To-morrow,' &c.;" after short debate, Question put; A. 35, N. 47; M. 12 (D. L. 281)

Moved, "That the Order for Committee be read and discharged;" Motion agreed to; Order discharged; Bill withdrawn

Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Isle of Wight) Bill

(*Mr. Ashley, Mr. Clifford*)

c. Ordered; read 1° Feb 16 [Bill 84]
Question, *Sir R. Assheton Cross*; Answer, *Sir William Harcourt* Feb 19, [276] 312
2R. [Dropped]

Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Monmouth) Bill

(*Mr. Carbutt, Sir Hussey Vivian, Mr. Richard*)

c. Ordered; read 1° Feb 16 [Bill 26]
2R. [Dropped]

Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Northumberland, &c.) Bill

(*Mr. Jerningham, Mr. Albert Grey, Mr. Burt, Mr. John Morley*)

c. Ordered; read 1° April 5 [Bill 133]
2R. [Dropped]

Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Yorkshire) Bill

(*Mr. Charles Wilson, Mr. Barran, Mr. Caine, Mr. Illingworth, Mr. Isaac Wilson, Sir Matthew Wilson, Mr. Pease*)

c. Ordered; read 1° Feb 16 [Bill 56]
2R., Debate adjourned May 30, [279] 1263
Adjourned Debate on 2R. [Dropped]

Sale of Liquors on Sunday (Ireland (1878) Amendment Bill

(*Mr. Richardson, Mr. Corry, Mr. Blake, Arthur Hill, Mr. Thomas Dickson, Meldon, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Ewart, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Redmond*)

c. Ordered; read 1° Feb 16 [Bill]
Bill withdrawn July 17

Sale of Liquors on Sunday (Ireland [H.L.] (The Lord Carlingford)

l. Presented; read 1° Mar 9 (No.)

Read 2°, after short debate Mar 15, [27]; Committee; Report Mar 19, 770

Read 3°, after short debate Mar 20, 923

c. Read 1° (*Mr. Trevelyan*) April 3 [Bill] *The Petition of the Town Council of the of Dublin*, Question, *Mr. Blake*; A *Mr. Dawson* April 12, [278] 70

Question, *Mr. J. N. Richardson*; Answer *Gladstone* June 11, [280] 228

Moved, "That the Bill be now read June 11, 314; after short debate, 1 "That the Debate be now adjourned (Onslow); after further short debate, agreed to; Debate adjourned

Adjourned Debate resumed, and further journe June 28, 1824

Order for resuming Adjourned Debate

Moved, "That the Debate be further journe till Monday 23rd July" *Richard Grosvenor* July 9, [281] 916
short debate, Motion agreed to
Bill withdrawn Aug 6

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e. Ordered, read 1st Feb 24 [Bill 104]
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ship - Iron Hill," and to obtain com-
pensation to the British subjects damaged

[illegible]

the 1990s, the number of people in the United States who are 65 years of age or older has increased by 50% (U.S. Census Bureau, 2000). The number of people aged 65 and older is projected to increase to 20% of the total population by the year 2020 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2000). The number of people aged 65 and older is projected to increase to 20% of the total population by the year 2020 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2000). The number of people aged 65 and older is projected to increase to 20% of the total population by the year 2020 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2000).

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

SPEAKER, The—*cont.*

an hon. Member could possibly be in Order in moving that a Bill be now read a second time, and in then moving an Amendment "That the Bill be read a second time upon this day six months?" Mr. Speaker: It is quite clear that the hon. and learned Member (Mr. Warton) would not be in Order in making both Motions, [279] 320

Questions—Amendments—A Question cannot be withdrawn unless, in the first place, the Amendment to it is withdrawn, [277] 1328

Mr. T. P. O'Connor moved "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair," in order that the Bill might be committed *pro forma*, to allow of the insertion of Amendments by the Chief Secretary for Ireland. Mr. Buchanan asked, if this formal Motion was agreed to, would the House still have the opportunity of a Committee discussion? Mr. Speaker: If the Bill goes through the Committee *pro forma*, the Motion will still stand, that the Speaker leave the Chair for the re-committal of the Bill, [280] 1245

On Mr. E. Stanhope's Motion respecting East India Expenditure, the Under Secretary of State proposed an Amendment, which was negatived. Mr. Onslow had also given Notice of an Amendment; but Mr. Speaker ruled that he was too late to move it. Mr. Onslow said he had concluded that the Amendment of the Under Secretary of State would be carried; and he certainly thought he should have been in Order in moving his Amendment at the end of that Motion. It was not really an Amendment—it was an *addendum*; and if in Order he intended to move it. It was an addition referring to increased expenditure in India. Mr. Speaker said, the words of the hon. Member for Guildford being in the form of an addition, it is competent for him, if he thinks fit, to move them as an addition, [279] 306

Order of Amendments, [276] 979

The Half-past Twelve o'Clock Rule

Mr. Speaker explains the operation of the Standing Order of 18th February, 1879, as amended (Rule 97A), in respect of Notices of Motion and Orders of the Day, [279] 1751, 1752, 1753

The Rule does not apply to the case of a Bill which has come down from the House of Lords, and stands for second reading, unopposed, on the Paper, [277] 1103

Moved, To nominate the Select Committee on the Forest of Dean (Highways) Bill. Mr. Callan: I object. Mr. Speaker: According to the Standing Order the hon. Member cannot object to the Motion being made. The Half-past Twelve o'clock Rule does not apply to Motions of this kind, [279] 1455

Money Bills—In answer to Mr. Biggar—Mr. Speaker: This is a Bill to provide for the Pay and Pensions of the Constabulary and Police of Ireland, and no doubt it is a Money Bill, and therefore exempted from the operation of the Half-past Twelve o'clock Rule, [279] 687

Blocking Notices—The Standing Order relative to this subject (Registration of Voters (Ireland) Bill) appears to me very clear and

SPEAKER, The—*cont.*

positive. The notice of opposition on part of the hon. and learned Gentle (Mr. Warton) having been given on 19th March, and not renewed, does not—April 2—apply to the Motion before House, [277] 1271

The Half-past Twelve o'Clock Rule—Blocking Notices—Mr. Speaker states his view of true intent of the new Rule respecting "blocking Notices." By a strict construction of the Standing Order in question (Rule 97A), no Notice of opposition would be operative on the first day of sitting; any adjournment exceeding one week cannot think this could have been the intention of the House. In order, therefore, conform to what I believe to have been intention of the House, I should feel bound to hold that an allowance should be made for an intervening adjournment of the House, and that a Notice of opposition, given on the adjournment has been agreed to, would not lapse until the end of the week in which the House resumes Business, [279] 50

Mr. Speaker: I understand the contention to be that the Amendment in the name of noble Lord (Lord Burghley) is irregular irrelevant, and therefore does not apply blocking the Bill. The Amendment appears to me to be relevant to the Bill (*Tithe & Charge Recovery Bill*). I cannot rule it out of Order, [280] 1831

AMENDMENTS TO QUESTIONS

If the House decide that the original question should not be adopted, then, on the question that the words of the hon. Member (Mr. H. H. Fowler) be there added Amendment might be moved, [283] 167

Moved, "That the Bill (*Criminal Code (dreadful Offences Procedure) Bill*) be read the second time." Amendment made thereon. Question, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question," put, and agreed to. Mr. Mayne proposed to move an Amendment. Mr. Speaker: I must inform the hon. Member that I cannot move his Amendment, the House having already negatived the Amendment of the hon. Member for North Shropshire (Mr. Stanley Leighton), [278] 117

Mr. Speaker: The only point fully raised was, "That the words proposed to be left out of the Motion stand part of the Question." If the Main Question had been put to the House as a whole, the Amendment of the hon. Member for Guildford (Mr. Onslow) would have been perfectly immisable, because the whole matter is then before the House, no Amendment could be put. The Amendment of the hon. Member for Mid Lincolnshire (Mr. E. Stansfeld) is now before the House, and until that is disposed of no other Amendment can be moved, [279] 1511

The course which has been taken by the House is quite regular. By the leave of the House the Amendment of the hon. Baronet John Lubbock has been withdrawn, there is no irregularity in taking an Amendment, [280] 1979

[cont.]

[co]

SPEAKER, The—*cont.*

The Question immediately before the House is "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question." If the House decides that Question in the negative, then the Amendment of the right hon. Gentleman (Sir Lyon Playfair) can be put as an original Motion, and the hon. Member for Bradford (Mr. Illingworth) would be in Order in moving his Amendment, [280] 1980

There being four Amendments on the Paper, one upon the original Motion, and the other three Amendments upon that Amendment, if the House thought proper to allow the first Amendment to be withdrawn there would be no difficulty, Mr. Speaker thought, in recasting the other Amendments so as to adapt them to the altered conditions of the question. In point of Order, there was no objection to the first Amendment being withdrawn, and any Amendment would be then in Order upon the original Motion, [278] 204

An Amendment cannot be withdrawn without the general consent of the House, [278] 205, 1023

An informal Amendment, [283] 133

RULES OF DEBATE

Right of Precedence—Moved, "That the (National Debt) Bill be now read a second time." Sir Stafford Northcote and Mr. M. Henry rising together, Mr. Speaker called upon the former. Mr. M. Henry said, he had an Amendment standing first upon the Paper; and he would now, as a point of Order, ask for the ruling of the Chair upon the point, whether, as that was the case, he was not entitled to the possession of the House? Mr. Speaker said, the hon. Member had no positive right to precedence in consequence of his Notice of Amendment standing first upon the Paper. The right hon. Gentleman rose, and he felt it his duty to call upon him. In doing so he did not deprive the hon. Member of any right whatever. It rested entirely with the Chair to call upon the Member who should first address the House, [282] 1869

Rules of Debate (General)

Relevancy and Irrelevancy

Relevancy—It is right that I should remind the House that the immediate Question before it is the Motion for the Adjournment of the Debate. If the House desires to debate the Main Question, then the Motion for Adjournment must first be disposed of by being withdrawn, [282] 56

I must point out to the hon. Member (Sir Wilfrid Lawson) that he is going far beyond the scope of the Amendment proposed by the hon. Baronet, [276] 1309

276] 715, 755, 889

279] 72, 74

280] 75, 76, 77, 78, 80, 278, 351, 370, 378, 1267, 1973

281] 157, 597, 910, 911

282] 66, 885, 838, 1093, 1538, 1594, 1595

283] 189, 190, 1541, 1543, 1550, 1556, 1581, 1772, 1874

SPEAKER, The—*cont.*

Relevancy—Dr. Cameron asked whether it would be competent for the hon. Member for Eyo (Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett) to bring forward on the Indian Budget the question of the Indian Criminal Jurisdiction Bill? Mr. Speaker: I consider that on a Motion relating to the Indian Budget it would be open to the hon. Member to make general observations on the Bill referred to, [283] 968

Tedious Repetition—I must remind the hon. Member (Mr. O'Kelly) that there is a Standing Order against tedious repetitions (Rule 152a); and that that Standing Order may be applied against the hon. Member.—Mr. O'Kelly persevering, Mr. Speaker said: The hon. Member has already been cautioned that he must not tediously repeat his observations; and now I must call upon him to discontinue his speech, and to resume his seat.—Mr. O'Kelly thereupon resumed his seat, [282] 1081

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Any Question not put to Ministers of the Crown should relate to some Bill or Motion before the House, [277] 1281; [281] 780

Mr. Morgan Lloyd having put a Question to the Chairman of the Metropolitan Board of Works (Sir James M'Carel-Hogg) relating to the proposed Park for Paddington; Mr. Boord asked Mr. Speaker whether it was in Order for Questions to be put to and answered by the Chairman of the Metropolitan Board of Works? Mr. Speaker said: It appears to me that the Question is justifiable, as it relates to a matter of public interest, and may properly be put to the hon. and gallant Gentleman the Member for Truro, [279] 1629

I must point out to the hon. Member (Mr. Jesse Collings) that he has already asked several Questions and has received Answers; and if he desires to put further Questions on the matter, I submit that Notice should be given, [279] 39

Mr. Speaker points out the inconvenience of putting Questions without Notice, [278] 1875

It has been the general practice of the House—and the House has always concurred in that practice—that no hon. Member should put a Question standing in the name of another Member unless requested to do so by that hon. Member, [279] 1756

Mr. Trevelyan—I put it to you, Sir, that this is not the sort of Question to answer, and that I am not bound to answer. Mr. Speaker: The right hon. Gentleman will exercise his own discretion in the matter, [283] 1350

Mr. Callan wished to ask the President of the Board of Trade two Questions. The first was, how many of these 62 Members read the Bill? Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member cannot put a Question of that kind, [282] 1348

Sir Walter B. Barttelot—I wish to ask Mr. Speaker, whether it is not usual, when Questions are passed by, that they should be taken at the end of the list? Mr. Speaker: The ordinary course is to wait until the Questions are got through, [282] 113

[*cont.*]

SPEAKER, The—*cont.*

Argumentative Questions—Mr. Speaker: It is scarcely necessary to say that the two last lines [of the Question] might involve controversial Questions; but under the circumstances, I have not thought it right to interpose, [278] 807; [279] 892; [280] 206

Mr. Speaker holds that a certain Question is not out of Order; yet as it might be a matter involving controversy, he thought the epithets "violence" and "disloyal and menacing" might well be struck out, [277] 807; [283] 1742, 1743

Explanatory Statements—A Member is in Order in referring to such matters as relate to the Question on the Paper, and are necessary to explain it; but he is not entitled to enter into any controversial matter. And in referring to a former debate during the present Session is clearly out of Order, [276] 1611, 1905

But reference only to a speech made during the present Session is not out of Order, [276] 1696

He is not at liberty to enter into new and debatable matter, [277] 541; [281] 1362, 1511; [282] 539, 1340, 1468; [283] 66, 251, 1510, 1752

Mr. Speaker: I must remind the hon. Member (Dr. Cameron) that he is not entitled to debate the matter, although he may put a Question arising out of the Answer he has received, [277] 1173; [279] 222, 766, 1332, 1920; [281] 474; [282] 45; [283] 1183

Irregular Questions, [279] 44, 532

Hypothetical Questions—Mr. Speaker: I am bound to answer all Questions on points of Order as they arise; but I am not bound to answer hypothetical cases, [277] 811, 1111; [278] 1164

The hon. Member (Mr. O'Brien) is now asking the noble Lord (Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice) for his opinion, which is not regular in a Question, [280] 545; [281] 469; [283] 744

Order in Debate

Reference to a previous debate—The hon. Member (Mr. Mulholland) is entirely out of Order in referring to statements made in another debate in the course of the present Session, [276] 1611, 1693, 1696, 1905; [277] 1683

I did not understand the hon. Baronet (Sir Arthur Otway) to refer to a debate that has taken place on a former occasion; but simply to give an illustration to the House, [282] 1120

It is against the Rules of Debate for an hon. Member to read his speech, [276] 886

[276] Order in Debate (General), 286, 287, 630, 803, 940, 943, 1070, 1130, 1908

[277] 187, 812, 986, 1102, 1104, 1413, 1716, 1831

[278] 125, 150, 154, 159, 160, 164, 165, 333, 335, 336, 675, 689, 988, 1097, 1104, 1106, 1107, 1112, 1918, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1931, 1932

[279] 150, 151, 417, 516, 690, 736, 781, 974, 975, 1762, 1979, 1980, 2002, 2004, 2006

[280] 91, 191, 244, 315, 316, 821, 834, 1429, 1710, 1829, 1871

[281] 829, 1032, 1119, 1181

[282] 46, 156, 524, 800, 883, 1078, 1083, 1092, 1111, 1113, 1144, 1197, 1304, 1310, 1537, 1578, 1591

SPEAKER, The—*cont.*

[283] 265, 1723, 1750, 1793

Speaking a second time—Explanation, [1108]

There being no Amendment before the II the hon. Member (Mr. Richard) was not entitled to make a second speech, [278] 16
Sir Charles Dilke said, the hon. and learned Member (Mr. Warton) had seconded Amendment, and therefore was not competent to speak. Mr. Warton said he not seconded the Amendment, but had acted as a Teller. Mr. Speaker said, the hon. learned Member offered himself as a Teller but did not second the Motion. He did think, under these circumstances, that the hon. and learned Member was out of Order, [277] 911

Mr. Courtney asked whether the noble Lord (Lord R. Churchill), having already spoken on this point, it was competent for him again to speak in reference to it?

Speaker: If the noble Lord raises some point he will be in Order; but otherwise will not, [278] 346

Right of Reply—*Local Government Bill (Scotland) Bill*—Moved, "That the Bill now read a second time." An Amendment moved. After debate, Amendment negatived. Main Question again proposed; debate

Sir W. Harcourt: The rather unbecoming form of procrastination which—Sir D. Wolff: I rise to Order. I wish to know whether the Home Secretary, having spoken on the second reading of this Bill, is entitled to reply or not? Mr. Speaker: This is a new Question before the House, and right hon. and learned Gentleman is fully entitled to reply, [282] 1568

Speaking a second time, [281] 443, 1033

By the general indulgence of the House the hon. Member may speak again, [278] 19

Disorderly Interruptions—Mr. Speaker must call upon the hon. Member for common (Mr. O'Kelly) not further to interrupt the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. W. Forster). If he does, I shall have to name him to the House. [But the hon. Member continuing his disorderly conduct, was suspended from the service of the House], [617]

Un-Parliamentary Language

He (Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett) maintained the Government had no right to prate a international engagements in the House of Speech, and allow a Minister to make a disgraceful statement. Mr. Speaker: he must remind the hon. Member that the expression was un-Parliamentary, [276]

He (Mr. T. D. Sullivan) had listened to speech of the right hon. Gentleman Member for Bradford (Mr. W. E. Forsyth) who had garnered up in his heart for months the hatred and anger of a disreputable man. Mr. Speaker said, the expression by the hon. Member was un-Parliamentary and he was not entitled to make use of it, [276] 928

He (Mr. Callan) believed that prejudice and partisanship had made Mr. Justice Lawlor far more corrupt. Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is not entitled to speak in language

[*cont.*][*con.*]

SPEAKER, The—*cont.*

of that kind of one of the Judges of the land, and called on the hon. Member to withdraw it, [276] 934

If the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. Trevelyan) has attributed want of truth to an hon. Member, he is out of Order, [282] 885

Mr. E. S. Howard asked how they were to believe what hon. Members opposite were saying? Mr. Speaker: If the hon. Member intended—which I cannot imagine he did—to impute want of truth to any body of Members in this House, of course he is out of Order, [278] 1933

He (Mr. Warton) would conclude by moving the adjournment of the Debate, in order to appeal from Philip drunk to Philip sober.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. and learned Member must withdraw that expression, [282] 1599

Mr. Healy: Mr. Speaker, the statement of the Land Commissioners is absolutely untrue, and I will call attention to this case at an early date. Their conduct is disgraceful in the matter. ["Order, Order!"]

Mr. Speaker: I must point out to the hon. Member that if he applies these epithets to the statement of the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. Trevelyan), he knows very well that they are entirely out of Order, [282] 2105

If it were the intention of the hon. Member (Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett) simply to call the attention of the House to the conduct of another Member, without asking for the judgment of the House upon it, he would undoubtedly be out of Order, [277] 1500

Sir H. D. Wolff: The Government, which had itself passed Rules for the better transaction of Business, was obliged to resort to a trickiness which was unworthy of it. ["Order!"]

Mr. Speaker: I was sorry to hear the expression of the hon. Member; but I cannot say that he is out of Order, [278] 1919

Sir Alexander Gordon: I wish to know whether it is in Order for the hon. Gentleman (Mr. Stanley Leighton) to impute to any Committee of this House that they have acted partially, or in a partizan spirit? Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member has made the statement on his own responsibility, and I did not feel called upon to interfere, [278] 1096

The hon. Member (Mr. Findlater) evidently knew but little of the Bill (*Harrison's Estate Bill*), and he had grossly mis-stated the quantities involved. Objected to. The expression used by the hon. Member for Salford (Mr. Arnold) was "grossly mis-stated."

Mr. Speaker: I do not see anything in that expression that is irregular, [282] 1113

Mr. T. P. O'Connor: He was surprised the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. J. Lowther) should give an example of bad manners—Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member for Galway Borough has made use of an expression which is un-Parliamentary, and will probably wish to withdraw it, [278] 1929

Injurious Language—Mr. Herbert Gladstone having, in a speech at Highgate, said—"They would not be able even to read the Bankruptcy Bill before Easter; and everybody knew that that was due to a dangerous and malicious conspiracy on the part of the

SPEAKER, The—*cont.*

Tory Party," and Mr. J. R. Yorke proposing to raise a question of Privilege thereon, Mr. Speaker suggested the dangerous precedent which would be set were the House to treat expressions used outside the House as breaches of Privilege; and added that if the hon. Member would withdraw the words "malicious conspiracy" the matter should go no further, [277] 570

Mr. Speaker: If the noble Lord (Lord R. Churchill) has disavowed the expression attributed to him, that disavowal ought to be accepted, [279] 1511

The hon. Member (Sir H. Drummond Wolff) is bound to accept the explicit statement of the Prime Minister, [280] 116

Interruption of a Member speaking, [280] 369

Mr. Speaker: I have to remind the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. Bright) that, according to the ordinary practice of the House, it is usual, when attention is called to the conduct of a Member, for that Member to withdraw. The pleasure of the House having been signified to the contrary, Mr. Bright did not withdraw, [280] 812

It is irregular to open a debate upon an Amendment that has already been disposed of by the House, [276] 1034

Irregular Discussion of a Question—The hon. and learned Member (Mr. Serjeant Simon) has a Notice on the Paper upon this subject, and it is out of Order for him to discuss the subject-matter of that Notice, [276] 1961, 1962

Mr. Speaker: The observations of the noble Marquess (the Marquess of Hartington) were made in the debate on the Main Question. The Main Question is not now before the House; therefore the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. J. Lowther) is not in Order. The Question now before the House is that of Adjournment, [278] 1927, 1929

The adjournment of the debate having been moved, the hon. Gentleman is out of Order in speaking to the principle of the Bill, [276] 1593; [277] 1727; [280] 1621; [282] 686

Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt, &c. Practices) Bill—Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair." Mr. Lewis (who had given Notice of an Amendment, which he declined to move) addressed the House. Mr. Speaker said, the hon. Member appeared to be going through the Bill clause by clause. That he was not entitled to do, for that was the function of the Committee, [279] 1947

The House being engaged in discussing the second reading of the Bill (*Bankruptcy Bill*), an hon. Member is entitled to refer to any clause in order to support his argument; but he is not entitled to go through the Bill clause by clause, [277] 851

The principle of the Bill (*Criminal Code (Indictable Offences Procedure) Bill*) having already been discussed on the Motion for the second reading, it would be irregular to renew that discussion on the Motion to refer the Bill to a Standing Committee. [278] 345
According to the immemorial practice of the House, after a Bill has been read a second

SPEAKER, The—cont.

time, the Speaker calls upon the Member in charge to say what course he intends to take with regard to the Committee, who would then propose to refer the Bill either to a Committee of the Whole House or to a Select Committee. Sometimes a debate arises upon that; but no discussion upon the merits of the Bill is allowed on such an occasion. The new Rule has made no alteration whatever in that respect, [278] 339, 340, 341

The House having passed the clause to which the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. Dodson) had adverted, clearly it was not now competent for the hon. Member (Mr. A. J. Balfour) to propose anything which would really involve a new arrangement of the Bill (*Agricultural Holdings (England) Bill*), [282] 1198

The hon. Member (Mr. T. P. O'Connor) is now referring to what took place in Committee; and he is, therefore, irregular, [282] 888

Adjournment—Debates on Motion for Adjournment—A Member must confine himself to the Question of the Adjournment of the Debate, [276] 964, 1095, 1596, 1598

Quotation of Documents—If the right hon. Baronet is now quoting from an official document he is bound to present it. Sir C. Dilke—It is not an official document. Mr. Speaker—Not being an official document the House can take it for what it is worth, [280] 259

Production of Documents—Mr. Speaker explains at length the Rule as to the production of documents, public and private. It is a well-known Rule of the House, that when a Despatch or other State Paper is cited by a Minister, it should be laid on the Table of the House; but it has always been held that that Rule does not extend to private communications. Such documents are never ordered to be produced by the House, or presented by command of Her Majesty, [282] 2108

Divisions (New Rules, No 4)

East India Revenue Accounts—Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned;" and a Division being had, Mr. Speaker declared that he thought the Ayes had it; and his decision being challenged, directed the Noes to rise in their places. Objection being made, Mr. Speaker read the Standing Order (187A) in that behalf; and again called upon the Noes to rise in their places. Eight Members only having stood up, Mr. Speaker declared the Ayes had it, [283] 1708

On the London and North-Western Railway, &c. Bill, a division being had, Mr. Plunket voted in the majority. Objected, that Mr. Plunket being a Director of the London and North-Western Railway Company was peculiarly interested in the affairs of that Company, and moved that his vote be disallowed. Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the House that any hon. Member having a direct pecuniary interest in the question before the House is not entitled to vote. But, according to the usual practice, I apprehend that the House will desire to hear the right hon. and learned

[cont.]

SPEAKER, The—cont.

Gentleman. It is a matter for the determination of the House. The House will whether the interest of any hon. Member such that his vote should be disallowed.

On Question, the House negatived Question that Mr. Plunket's vote be allowed, [279] 220

Rules as to the appointment of Tellers—vernment Motions—Supply, [278] 855

Viscount Folkestone wished to know what under circumstances stated, the divi could stand? Mr. Speaker: I have authority to set aside the division, and must stand, [278] 585

Colonel Alexander complained that his name did not appear in the Division List morning (*Lord Wolseley's Annuity Bill*), the number of names did not tally with number announced by the Tellers. Could take any steps to rectify the error? Speaker: The hon. and gallant Member probably have the error remedied if he put himself into communication with Tellers, [278] 749

COMMITTEES OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

Rules of Debate—Committees—Question Mr. Healy asked whether it was in Order put a Question in Committee after a question to 6 o'clock? Mr. Speaker said, he understood the hon. Member to refer to a matter that had occurred in Committee. The Committee had settled that for itself, and he had no authority to interfere, [282] 1293

SELECT COMMITTEES

The House having ordered that the Select Committee on Harbours of Refuge do consist of 23 Members, who were then seven nominated: Mr. O'Donnell proposed Mr. Leamy be added to the Committee. Speaker: The hon. Gentleman cannot add the addition of a name without Notice, [518]

INSTRUCTION TO COMMITTEES

The Instruction to the noble Viscount (Viscount Folkestone) will be a separate Motion if the House agrees to re-commit the Bill, [1818]

JOINT COMMITTEES

Mr. Chamberlain having moved that Members of this House be appointed to serve on the Joint Committee on the Canal Tunnel, Sir Wilfrid Lawson asked: Is it possible to move an Amendment to the Motion? Mr. Speaker said: It is perfectly competent to the hon. Baronet to do [278] 399

COMMITTEE OF SELECTION

The hon. Baronet (Sir Wilfrid Lawson) can move an Instruction to the COMMITTEE OF SELECTION without Notice, [278] Moved, "That Mr. Mitchell Henry be other Member of the Committee." Parnell moved an Amendment to leave the name of "Mr. Mitchell Henry," insert the name of "Mr. Justin McCarty." Mr. Speaker pointed out to the hon. M

[con]

[illegible]

STATIONARY; ...

For the purpose of this study, the following hypotheses were formulated:

the 1990s, the number of people in the world who are under 15 years of age is expected to increase by 1.2 billion, from 1.1 billion in 1990 to 2.3 billion in 2010. The number of people aged 65 and over is expected to increase by 1.1 billion, from 0.3 billion in 1990 to 1.4 billion in 2010. The number of people aged 15-64 is expected to increase by 1.1 billion, from 1.7 billion in 1990 to 2.8 billion in 2010. The number of people aged 65 and over is expected to increase by 1.1 billion, from 0.3 billion in 1990 to 1.4 billion in 2010. The number of people aged 15-64 is expected to increase by 1.1 billion, from 1.7 billion in 1990 to 2.8 billion in 2010.

the 1990s, the number of people in the world who are illiterate has increased from 1.2 billion to 1.5 billion. The number of illiterate people in the world is projected to reach 1.7 billion by the year 2015. The number of illiterate people in the world is projected to reach 1.7 billion by the year 2015. The number of illiterate people in the world is projected to reach 1.7 billion by the year 2015.

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Figure 1. A. Schematic of the experimental design. B. Mean number of correct responses for each condition.

As a result of the above, the authors have concluded that the use of the proposed method is effective in the diagnosis of the type of the fault in the power transformer. The proposed method is also effective in the diagnosis of the type of the fault in the power transformer. The proposed method is also effective in the diagnosis of the type of the fault in the power transformer.

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

the 1990s, the number of people in the United States who are 65 years of age or older has increased by 50 percent, and the number of people 75 years of age or older has increased by 100 percent. The number of people 85 years of age or older has increased by 200 percent. The number of people 95 years of age or older has increased by 400 percent. The number of people 100 years of age or older has increased by 1,000 percent. The number of people 105 years of age or older has increased by 2,000 percent. The number of people 110 years of age or older has increased by 4,000 percent. The number of people 115 years of age or older has increased by 8,000 percent. The number of people 120 years of age or older has increased by 16,000 percent. The number of people 125 years of age or older has increased by 32,000 percent. The number of people 130 years of age or older has increased by 64,000 percent. The number of people 135 years of age or older has increased by 128,000 percent. The number of people 140 years of age or older has increased by 256,000 percent. The number of people 145 years of age or older has increased by 512,000 percent. The number of people 150 years of age or older has increased by 1,024,000 percent. The number of people 155 years of age or older has increased by 2,048,000 percent. The number of people 160 years of age or older has increased by 4,096,000 percent. The number of people 165 years of age or older has increased by 8,192,000 percent. The number of people 170 years of age or older has increased by 16,384,000 percent. The number of people 175 years of age or older has increased by 32,768,000 percent. The number of people 180 years of age or older has increased by 65,536,000 percent. The number of people 185 years of age or older has increased by 131,072,000 percent. The number of people 190 years of age or older has increased by 262,144,000 percent. The number of people 195 years of age or older has increased by 524,288,000 percent. The number of people 200 years of age or older has increased by 1,048,576,000 percent. The number of people 205 years of age or older has increased by 2,097,152,000 percent. The number of people 210 years of age or older has increased by 4,194,304,000 percent. The number of people 215 years of age or older has increased by 8,388,608,000 percent. The number of people 220 years of age or older has increased by 16,777,216,000 percent. The number of people 225 years of age or older has increased by 33,554,432,000 percent. The number of people 230 years of age or older has increased by 67,108,864,000 percent. The number of people 235 years of age or older has increased by 134,217,728,000 percent. The number of people 240 years of age or older has increased by 268,435,456,000 percent. The number of people 245 years of age or older has increased by 536,870,912,000 percent. The number of people 250 years of age or older has increased by 1,073,741,824,000 percent. The number of people 255 years of age or older has increased by 2,147,483,648,000 percent. The number of people 260 years of age or older has increased by 4,294,967,296,000 percent. The number of people 265 years of age or older has increased by 8,589,934,592,000 percent. The number of people 270 years of age or older has increased by 17,179,869,184,000 percent. The number of people 275 years of age or older has increased by 34,359,738,368,000 percent. The number of people 280 years of age or older has increased by 68,719,476,736,000 percent. The number of people 285 years of age or older has increased by 137,438,953,472,000 percent. The number of people 290 years of age or older has increased by 274,877,906,944,000 percent. The number of people 295 years of age or older has increased by 549,755,813,888,000 percent. The number of people 300 years of age or older has increased by 1,099,511,627,776,000 percent. The number of people 305 years of age or older has increased by 2,199,023,255,552,000 percent. The number of people 310 years of age or older has increased by 4,398,046,511,104,000 percent. The number of people 315 years of age or older has increased by 8,796,093,022,208,000 percent. The number of people 320 years of age or older has increased by 17,592,186,044,416,000 percent. The number of people 325 years of age or older has increased by 35,184,372,088,832,000 percent. The number of people 330 years of age or older has increased by 70,368,744,177,664,000 percent. The number of people 335 years of age or older has increased by 140,737,488,355,328,000 percent. The number of people 340 years of age or older has increased by 281,474,976,710,656,000 percent. The number of people 345 years of age or older has increased by 562,949,953,421,312,000 percent. The number of people 350 years of age or older has increased by 1,125,899,906,842,624,000 percent. The number of people 355 years of age or older has increased by 2,251,799,813,685,248,000 percent. The number of people 360 years of age or older has increased by 4,503,599,627,370,496,000 percent. The number of people 365 years of age or older has increased by 9,007,199,254,740,992,000 percent. The number of people 370 years of age or older has increased by 18,014,398,509,481,984,000 percent. The number of people 375 years of age or older has increased by 36,028,797,018,963,968,000 percent. The number of people 380 years of age or older has increased by 72,057,594,037,927,936,000 percent. The number of people 385 years of age or older has increased by 144,115,188,075,855,872,000 percent. The number of people 390 years of age or older has increased by 288,230,376,151,711,744,000 percent. The number of people 395 years of age or older has increased by 576,460,752,303,423,488,000 percent. The number of people 400 years of age or older has increased by 1,152,921,504,606,846,976,000 percent. The number of people 405 years of age or older has increased by 2,305,843,009,213,693,952,000 percent. The number of people 410 years of age or older has increased by 4,611,686,018,427,387,904,000 percent. The number of people 415 years of age or older has increased by 9,223,372,036,854,775,808,000 percent. The number of people 420 years of age or older has increased by 18,446,744,073,709,551,616,000 percent. The number of people 425 years of age or older has increased by 36,893,488,147,419,103,232,000 percent. The number of people 430 years of age or older has increased by 73,786,976,294,838,206,464,000 percent. The number of people 435 years of age or older has increased by 147,573,952,589,676,412,928,000 percent. The number of people 440 years of age or older has increased by 295,147,905,179,352,825,856,000 percent. The number of people 445 years of age or older has increased by 590,295,810,358,705,651,712,000 percent. The number of people 450 years of age or older has increased by 1,180,591,620,717,411,303,424,000 percent. The number of people 455 years of age or older has increased by 2,361,183,241,434,822,606,848,000 percent. The number of people 460 years of age or older has increased by 4,722,366,482,869,645,213,696,000 percent. The number of people 465 years of age or older has increased by 9,444,732,965,739,290,427,392,000 percent. The number of people 470 years of age or older has increased by 18,889,465,931,478,580,854,784,000 percent. The number of people 475 years of age or older has increased by 37,778,931,862,957,161,709,568,000 percent. The number of people 480 years of age or older has increased by 75,557,863,725,914,323,419,136,000 percent. The number of people 485 years of age or older has increased by 151,115,727,451,828,646,838,272,000 percent. The number of people 490 years of age or older has increased by 302,231,454,903,657,293,676,544,000 percent. The number of people 495 years of age or older has increased by 604,462,909,807,314,587,353,088,000 percent. The number of people 500 years of age or older has increased by 1,208,925,819,614,629,174,706,176,000 percent. The number of people 505 years of age or older has increased by 2,417,851,639,229,258,349,412,352,000 percent. The number of people 510 years of age or older has increased by 4,835,703,278,458,516,698,824,704,000 percent. The number of people 515 years of age or older has increased by 9,671,406,556,917,033,397,649,408,000 percent. The number of people 520 years of age or older has increased by 19,342,813,113,834,066,795,298,816,000 percent. The number of people 525 years of age or older has increased by 38,685,626,227,668,133,590,597,632,000 percent. The number of people 530 years of age or older has increased by 77,371,252,455,336,267,181,195,264,000 percent. The number of people 535 years of age or older has increased by 154,742,504,910,672,534,362,390,528,000 percent. The number of people 540 years of age or older has increased by 309,485,009,821,345,068,724,781,056,000 percent. The number of people 545 years of age or older has increased by 618,970,019,642,690,137,449,562,112,000 percent. The number of people 550 years of age or older has increased by 1,237,940,039,285,380,274,899,124,224,000 percent. The number of people 555 years of age or older has increased by 2,475,880,078,570,760,549,798,248,448,000 percent. The number of people 560 years of age or older has increased by 4,951,760,157,141,521,099,596,496,896,000 percent. The number of people 565 years of age or older has increased by 9,903,520,314,283,042,199,193,993,792,000 percent. The number of people 570 years of age or older has increased by 19,807,040,628,566,084,398,387,987,584,000 percent. The number of people 575 years of age or older has

the 1990s, the number of people in the world who are under 15 years of age is expected to increase from 1.1 billion to 1.5 billion. The number of people aged 65 and over is expected to increase from 250 million to 450 million. The number of people aged 15 and over is expected to increase from 3.5 billion to 4.5 billion. The number of people aged 15 and over is expected to increase from 3.5 billion to 4.5 billion. The number of people aged 15 and over is expected to increase from 3.5 billion to 4.5 billion.

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SPEAKER, The—*cont.*

Public and Private Bills—Electric Lighting Provisional Orders Bill—Mr. Sheridan said, he was under the impression that by the Standing Order any Notice of opposition given to a Bill of this nature rendered it essential that the discussion should be postponed until another day. Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is mistaken. The Standing Order does not apply in this case, because the Bill is a Public Bill. Mr. Sheridan wished to point out that it was promoted by a public company. Mr. Speaker: It is a Provisional Order Bill, and all Provisional Order Bills are Public Bills, [282] 1303

Bills having the same object—Mr. Speaker: I have examined the two Bills to which the hon. Member (Mr. Stanley Leighton) refers. The scope of the one is limited to providing a Court of Appeal; the other has a much wider scope. Now, these are both measures for the consideration of the House; and, as the House is well aware, it very often has before it several Bills for effecting the same object. No doubt, if one of these Bills were rejected by this House, and it were proposed to them to proceed with another Bill substantially the same, it would be irregular. But no Bill has yet been rejected by this House on this matter; and I see no ground for interposing, [278] 92

Land Improvement and Arterial Drainage (Ireland) Bill—Moved, "That the Second Reading of the Bill be deferred till Thursday next." Colonel King Harman, complaining that the Government had brought in Bills and placed them on the Orders of the Day before they had been printed, and that that was the third time during that week that the same course had been taken, moved "That the Order for the Second Reading be discharged" in consequence of the Bill not having been printed. Mr. Speaker said: The hon. and gallant Gentleman proposes to take a course which is most unusual and without precedent, [279] 879

Reference in Part—Mr. Stanhope said, he should like to ask the Speaker whether it was not competent for any hon. Member to move to add, at the end of the Attorney General's Motion, the words "except any particular clauses of the Criminal Code (Indictable Offences Procedure) Bill." Mr. Speaker: I think the proposal of the hon. Member is so novel that I cannot give an affirmative answer. I never heard of a Bill being referred to a Select Committee in part only, [278] 346

Consideration of Bill as amended—When the Order of the Day for the consideration of a Bill as amended in Committee of the Whole House has been read, the House will proceed to consider the same, unless the Member in charge of the Bill shall desire to postpone its consideration, or a Motion is made to re-commit the Bill (*New Rule 11*). Therefore, at this stage a Motion to re-commit the Bill (*Friendly Societies (Nominations) Bill*) could be made. Whereupon Mr. Whitely moved that the Bill be re-committed. After debate, Motion withdrawn; Bill considered, [280] 1828

SPEAKER, The—*cont.*

New Clauses—On the occasion of considering new clauses, an hon. Member could delegate the duty of moving a new clause to another hon. Member; but he must present to move it himself, [282] 1995
Bill considered as amended—Mr. O'Kelly said, that, with the permission of the House, would move that the Bill (*Irish Reproduction, &c. Bill*) be read a third time. Objected to. Mr. Speaker: I must point out to hon. Member that it is not the constant practice of the House; but on occasions when a Bill has not been opposed at any of stages, and particularly at the end of a Session, that course is sometimes taken; and the hon. Member can plead urgency, it may be taken in this case, if the House think [282] 268

Money Bills

Sir R. Cross asked whether, inasmuch as several provisions of the Bill cast an expense upon the Exchequer, it was not necessary that the Bill (*Court of Criminal Appeal Bill*) should pass through Committee of the Whole House? Mr. Speaker: If the Bill involves a question of money, it would no doubt, be necessary that it should be committed, [277] 1246

Mr. Gorst: The Prime Minister proposes to convert the Annuities originally proposed by the Lords Alcester and Wolseley's Annual Bills into the payment of "a lump sum" and I want to know if that can be done by the present Bills, without bringing in new Bills? Mr. Speaker: In the event of being proposed to convert the Annuities into what is called "a lump sum," it would be necessary that the Committee should be instructed to take that course, [279] 46

The Bill to which the hon. Member (Mr. O'Connor) refers (*Poor Relief (Ireland) Bill*) deals in almost every clause with money and because one particular clause may refer to money, that does not bring the Bill under the Half-past Twelve o'clock Rule. Being a Money Bill, it is clearly in Order to bring it on, [280] 1983

SUPPLY

Nomination of a Chairman of Committee of Ways and Means—Mr. Speaker states that course he has taken, following precedent established on similar occasions, on proposal, "That an hon. Member do take the Chair," as Chairman of a Committee, [276] 1321, 1325

Order in Committee of Supply—It is not the Speaker to say what will be either in or out of Order in Committee of Supply, [276] 221

The New Rule, No. 12 (425a) provides that the Speaker shall leave the Chair on Mondays and Thursdays without Question put, except first going into Committee of Supply upon Army, Navy, and Civil Service Estimates. On question, Mr. Speaker said: If Supplementary Estimates are proposed on Monday as the first Order of the Day, it will be the duty, as soon as the Order for going

SPEAKER, The—cont.

Supply is read, to leave the Chair, [276] 1261

Votes on Account—Mr. Speaker said, that if a Vote on Account should be proposed, either on Monday or Thursday, he should consider that, in pursuance of the Standing Orders with regard to Supply, he should be bound to leave the Chair at once, [277] 220

Amendments that are not relative to the class of Votes that are about to be considered in Committee cannot properly be moved on Motion, "That Mr. Speaker do leave the Chair," [277] 221

Captain Price asked whether it was in Order for the Government to take Votes 15 and 16 (of the Navy Estimates) that night, taking into consideration the fact that when the Committee last reported Progress they were in the middle of Vote 2? Mr. Speaker said, it was quite competent for the Government to do so, and that it was not altogether a question of Order, but a question of the convenience of the House, [280] 1713

Civil Service Estimates—Mr. Labouchere asked whether an hon. Member would have the right to call attention to grievances on the occasion of the Motion for Supply (Civil Service Estimates) set down for the first Thursday after the Vacation, or whether he would be precluded on account of a Vote on Account having been taken already? Mr. Speaker replied, that an Amendment relative to the Civil Service Estimates would be admitted on that occasion. Mr. Speaker considered the Revenue Estimates to be a branch of the Civil Service Estimates, [277] 815

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Labouchere asked Mr. Speaker whether he had received certain resolutions referred to by the Prime Minister; and, if so, whether he deemed it advisable to communicate them to the House. Mr. Speaker said, that several resolutions had been sent to him by chairmen of public meetings, but they had no official character, and therefore he should not be warranted in communicating them to the House, which could only be properly approached by petition on a subject of this kind (Mr. Bradlaugh), [280] 1145

Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Durham) Bill—Sir Wilfrid Lawson said, he heard the Clerk call the Motion that the Order be discharged. He should like to know what hon. Member moved the discharge of the Bill? Mr. Speaker: The discharge of the Order is proposed in pursuance of the directions by telegraph of Mr. Theodore Fry, whose name is on the back of the Bill. Sir W. Lawson asked, was it possible to make a Motion in relation to a Bill by telegraph; and also, whether another hon. Gentleman whose name was on the back of the Bill wishing to put it down for to-morrow, would the telegram stand in his way? After conversation, Mr. Speaker said: The House will take what course it thinks best, [282] 2247, 2248

Parliament—Order—Making a House—Impeding the entrance to this House, [283] 587

Spirits in Bond Bill

(Mr. O'Sullivan, Colonel Nolan, Mr. Richard Power, Mr. Daly, Mr. James Richardson)

a. Considered in Committee; Resolution agreed to, and reported; Bill ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 38]

Bill withdrawn * Aug 1

Stage Plays in Aid of Charities Bill [H.L.]

(The Earl of Onslow)

l. Presented; read 1^o April 13 (No. 32)
2R. after short debate, resolved in the negative April 20, [278] 720

Stage Plays (Oxford and Cambridge) Bill

(Mr. Shield, Mr. William Fowler, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Bulwer)

c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 35]
Bill withdrawn * July 26

STAIR, Earl of

Representative Peers (Scotland), Comm. cl. 8, [279] 1088; Report, cl. 2, Amendt. [285] 15

Stamp Duties—Marine Insurance

Question, Mr. Anderson; Answer, Mr. Courtney April 5, [277] 1501

STANHOPE, Earl

Africa (South)—Transvaal—Policy of H.M. Government, [277] 341

Agricultural Holdings (England), Commons Reasons Consid. [283] 1638

Criminal Law Amendment, Comm. cl. 5, [280] 1386; Motion that the Bill do pass, cl. 9, [281] 410

Eddystone Lighthouse, [276] 825

Egypt (Military Expedition)—The late Professor Palmer, Motion for Papers, [277] 683

Parliament—Business of the House, [276] 280

Payment of Wages in Public-Houses Prohibition, 2R. [276] 1505; Comm. cl. 3, [277] 316; Report, 518, 519; 3R. 684

Tithe Rent-Charge, 2R. [279] 1273, 1279, 1282

Treaty of Berlin—Article X.—Bulgaria, [279] 1476

STANHOPE, HON. E., Lincolnshire, Mid

Afghanistan—Subsidy to the Ameer, [281] 1211; [282] 2006

Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. 5, [282] 68; cl. 23. 365, 372, 373, 380, 384, 385; Consid. add. cl. Motion for Adjournment, 818, 820, 821

Alloa, Dunfermline, and Kirkcaldy Railway, 2R. Motion for Adjournment, [276] 961

Asia (Central)—Russian Advance, [277] 1153

Bankruptcy, 2R. Amendt. [277] 835, 912

Bankruptcy Bill—Official Receivers, [277] 197

Channel Tunnel—Joint Committee, Res. [277] 1382

Criminal Code (Indictable Offences Procedure), Motion for Commitment, [278] 341, 345, 346

[cont.]

STANLEY of ALDERLEY, Lord—cont.

Indian Marine, 2R. [280] 776
 Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister, Comm.
add. cl. [280] 922
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 ment, 3R. [280] 517
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 Navy—H.M.S. "Triumph"—Court Martial
 on Louis Price, Motion for a Paper, [281]
 927
 New Guinea, Motion for Papers, [281] 13
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 tion, 2R. [276] 1573
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 Galleries, Res. [279] 107
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 Trinity College, Dublin, Leasing and Per-
 petuity Act, 1851, Motion for an Address,
 [281] 27

STANSFELD, Right Hon. J., Halifax
 Contagious Diseases Acts, Res. [278] 749, 751,
 752, 799
 Explosive Substances, Comm. *cl.* 4, [277] 1855,
 1859, 1860

STANTON, Mr. W. J., Stroud
 London and North Western Railway (Addi-
 tional Powers), Consid. [278] 1567; 3R.
 [279] 216
 Lord Alcester's Grant, Comm. [280] 78
 Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal
 Practices), Comm. *cl.* 3, [280] 978; *cl.* 6,
 1486; Amendt. 1557, 1568; *cl.* 37, [281]
 636; *cl.* 44, 844; *add. cl.* 1297, 1298, 1319

Statute Law Revision Bill [H.L.]

(*The Lord Chancellor*)

- l.* Presented; read 1st Aug 3 (No. 176)
 Read 2nd Aug 9
 Committee*; Report Aug 10
 Read 3rd Aug 13
- c.* Read 1st (Mr. Attorney General) Aug 14
 Read 2nd Aug 16 [Bill 291]
 Committee*; Report; read 3rd Aug 17
- l.* Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 39]

**Statute Law Revision and Civil Pro-
 cedure Bill [H.L.]**

(*The Lord Chancellor*)

- l.* Presented; read 1st Aug 3 (No. 177)
 Read 2nd Aug 7
 Committee*; Report Aug 9
 Read 3rd Aug 10
- c.* Read 1st (Mr. Attorney General) Aug 14
 Read 2nd Aug 16, [283] 921 [Bill 290]
 Committee*; Report Aug 17
 Considered*; read 3rd Aug 18
- l.* Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 49]

Statute of Frauds Amendment Bill

(*Mr. Reid, Mr. Whitley, Mr. Arthur Elliot*)

- c.* Ordered; read 1st May 30 [Bill 204]
 Read 2nd June 13
 Committee—R.P. June 18, [280] 896
 Committee; Report July 13, [281] 1463
 Considered* July 23

[cont.]

Statute of Frauds Amendment Bill—cont.

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3rd"
 July 27, [282] 862
 Amendt. to leave out "now," add "upon this
 day three months" (*Mr. Lewis Fry*); Ques-
 tion proposed, "That 'now' &c.;" after
 short debate, Question put; A. 43, N. 47,
 M. 4 (D. L. 239)
 Words added; main Question, as amended,
 put, and agreed to

Statutes, Fromulgaion of the

Moved, "That it is expedient that the recom-
 mendations contained in the Report of the
 Committee appointed by the Secretary of
 State for the Home Department to consider
 and revise the List of 1801 for the Promul-
 gation of the Statutes, and the Revised List
 contained in the said Report, should be
 adopted; and that the Controller of Her
 Majesty's Stationery Office should be autho-
 rized and directed to cause the printing and
 delivery of copies of the Public General
 Statutes and the Public Local and Personal
 Acts, according to the mode of distribution
 contained in the said Report and Revised
 List; and the Secretary of State, with the
 sanction of the Treasury, may vary the dis-
 tribution authorized by the said Revised List
 from time to time" (*Mr. Hibbert*) July 12,
 [281] 1338; after short debate, Resolution
 agreed to

Resolved, "That it is expedient that the re-
 commendations contained in the Report of
 the Committee appointed by the Secretary of
 State for the Home Department to consider
 and revise the List of 1801 for the Promul-
 gation of the Statutes, and the Revised List
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 Acts, according to the mode of distribution
 contained in the said Report and Revised
 List; and the Secretary of State, with the
 sanction of the Treasury, may vary the dis-
 tribution authorized by the said Revised
 List from time to time" (*The Lord Sudeley*)
 July 19 [See title *Commons (Questions)*]
 Report of Committee . . P.P. [3648]

Steam Boilers (Persons in Charge) Bill

(*Mr. Broadhurst, Mr. Burt, Mr. Craig*)

- c.* Ordered; read 1st Feb 16 [Bill 57]
 2R., Debate adjourned May 2, [278] 1700
 2R. [Dropped]

Steam Traction Engines—Legislation

Question, Mr. Stuart-Wortley; Answer, Sir
 Charles W. Dilke Aug 21, [283] 1495

STEVENSON, Mr. J. C., South Shields

Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 5),
 2R. [281] 317
 Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 8),
 2R. [281] 1194

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Hyde Park Corner, [278] 1263 ; [279] 933 ; [281] 1342, 1345
St. James's Park, [278] 411, 734
Wellington Statue, [276] 284 ; [279] 1291
Metropolitan District Railway—Ventilators on the Victoria Embankment, [278] 732
Metropolitan District Railway, Res. [277] 153
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Sea Fisheries, 2R. [280] 319
Tramways Provisional Orders (No. 3), Comm. Amendt. [281] 2, 3, 920

Suez Canal (Questions)

A Ship Railway, Questions, Sir Eardley Wilmot ; Answers, Mr. Gladstone Aug 14, [283] 469
Corruptness of the Local Administration, Question, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett ; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain July 31, [282] 1144
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List of Shareholders, Question, Mr. J. Lowther ; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer July 24, [282] 304
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Protest of M. de Lesseps in 1872, Question, Mr. Gorst ; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Aug 2, [282] 1341 ;—*Correspondence of 1872*, Question, Baron Henry De Worms ; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer Aug 10, [273] 61

Suez Canal—Concessions to M. de Lesseps

Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty for copies of the original concessions to M. de Lesseps with regard to the Isthmus of Suez Canal" (*Lord Stratheden and Campbell*) Aug 6, [282] 1602 ; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Suez Canal Company (Future Negotiations)

Sir Stafford Northcote's Motion, Notice of Amendment, Baron Henry De Worms July 27, [282] 774 ; Question, Mr. Callan ; Answer, Sir Stafford Northcote July 30, 961
Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that, in any negotiations or proceedings with reference to the Suez Canal Company to which Her Majesty may be a party, she will, while respecting the undoubted rights of the Company in regard of their own concession, decline to recognize any claim on their part to such a monopoly as would exclude the possibility of competition on the part of other undertakings, designed for the purpose of opening a water communication between the Mediterranean and the Red Sea" (*Sir Stafford Northcote*) July 30, [282] 962
Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "this House desires to maintain its entire freedom of judgment in regard to all matters connected with the question of water communication between the Mediterranean and the Red Sea ; and this House, in consequence, declines to pass any Resolution as to future negotiations or proceedings respecting the same" (*Mr. Norwood*) v. ; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after long debate, Question put ; A. 183, N. 282 ; M. 99

Div. List, A. and N. 1051

Words added ; main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to

Suez (Second) Canal (Questions)

Negotiations, Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote, Sir R. Assheton Cross ; Answers, Mr. Gladstone Aug 20, [283] 1363
M. de Lesseps' Proposed Duplicate Canal, Questions, Mr. Norwood ; Answers, Mr. Gladstone May 25, [279] 697 ; June 14, [280] 228 ; Questions, Mr. W. M. Torrens, Mr. Cartwright ; Answers, Mr. Gladstone June 25, 1430

[cont.]

[cont.]

SULLIVAN, Mr. T. D.—cont.

- Post Office—Letter Carriers, [283] 279
- Prevention of Crime Act, 1882—Searches in Public-houses, [277] 551
- Prisons—Mr. Harrington, [283] 267;—Mullingar Gaol—Pollution of the Brosna, [276] 1730
- Law and Police—Reported Dog Fight at Blackburn, [283] 728, 729
- Lord Alcester's Grant, Comm. [280] 80
- Parliament—Election of Mr. T. Harrington for Westmeath, [276] 1020, 1021;—Privilege—Member Imprisoned (Mr. Healy), [276] 80
- Parliament—Queen's Speech, Address in Answer to, [276] 449, 457, 511, 647, 920, 928, 1187
- Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. [279] 1938, 1969; Considered, cl. 15, [283] 77; Schedule 1, 115, 129
- Parliamentary Registration (Ireland), Comm. cl. 11, [283] 505
- Post Office—Telegraph Department—Telegraph Messengers, [278] 610
- Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Act (1882) (Audience of Solicitors), Comm. cl. 2, [278] 397
- Supply—Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, &c. [283] 1377
- Civil Contingencies Fund, [277] 130, 131
- Criminal Prosecutions, &c. in Ireland, [283] 327
- Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Household of, &c. [283] 1148
- Prisons, Ireland, [283] 871
- Supply—Supplementary Estimates, 1882-3—Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, &c. [276] 1831
- Commissioners of Police, &c. of Dublin, [277] 98, 102, 103
- Criminal Prosecutions, &c. in Ireland, [276] 1989, 2001
- Post Office Services, &c. Amendt. [277] 136
- Tramways, &c. (Ireland), Leave, [282] 1977
- Union Officers' Superannuation (Ireland), 2R. [281] 1587

Summary Jurisdiction (Repeal, &c.) Bill
(*The Lord Chancellor*)

- l.* Presented; read 1st July 19 (No. 153)
- Read 2^d, after short debate July 23, [282] 120
- Committee * Aug 2
- Report * Aug 3
- Read 3^d * Aug 9
- c.* Read 1st * Aug 14 [Bill 289]
- Bill withdrawn * Aug 23

SUMMERS, Mr. W., Stalybridge

- Duchy of Lancaster—Foreshores—The Corporation of Southport, [278] 73, 106, 1719; [280] 1419
- Railways (India), [283] 1501

Sunday Closing (Wales) Act

- Questions, Mr. Callan, Mr. Carbutt; Answers, Sir William Harcourt June 4, [279] 1630

Sunday Opening of National Museums and Galleries

- Moved to resolve, "That, seeing the success which has attended the action of Her Majesty's Government in opening on Sundays the national museums and galleries in the

Sunday Opening of National Museums and Galleries—cont.

suburban districts of London and in the city of Dublin, and whereas this House was last Session informed by Her Majesty's Government that no opposition to Sunday opening, so far as it had already gone, had come before them, this House is of opinion that the time has arrived for extending the policy of Sunday opening after Two o'clock to all museums and galleries supported by national funds" (*The Earl of Dunraven*) May 8, [279] 155

Amendt. to leave out after ("That") insert ("inasmuch as a Select Committee of the House of Commons on Public Institutions have reported, on the 27th of March, 1860, that such institutions as the British Museum and the National Gallery should be opened on week-day evenings to the public between the hours of seven and ten in the evening at least three days in the week, this House is of opinion that the time has arrived when this recommendation should be carried out") (*The Earl of Shaftesbury*); after debate, on Question, whether the words, &c. ? Cont. 91, Not-Cont. 67; M. 24; resolved in the negative; Div. List, Cont. and Not-Cont, 185 Then the Earl of Shaftesbury's Resolution proposed; Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*The Earl of Carnarvon*); after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Moved, as an amendment to the foregoing Resolution, to leave out ("the time has arrived when") and in the last line after ("should") to insert ("if and so far as may be found consistent with the safety and general welfare of those institutions") (*The Earl Cairns*); after further short debate, the said amendment, on question, agreed to Resolved, That inasmuch as a Select Committee of the House of Commons on Public Institutions have reported, on the 27th of March 1860, that such institutions as the British Museum and the National Gallery should be opened on week-day evenings to the public between the hours of seven and ten in the evening at least three days in the week, this House is of opinion that this recommendation should, if and so far as may be found consistent with the safety and general welfare of those institutions, be carried out

Sunday Trading (London)—Legislation

Questions, Mr. Grantham; Answers, Sir William Harcourt May 8, [279] 227

Superannuation (Ireland) Bill

(*Mr. Herbert Gladstone, Mr. Courtney*)

- c.* Ordered; read 1st * Aug 7 [Bill 285]
- Bill withdrawn * Aug 21

SUPPLY

Resolved, That this House will, To-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee to consider of the Ways and Means for raising the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty Mar 1

The Army Estimates (Questions)

Questions, Sir Henry Fletcher, Sir Walter B. Barttelot; Answers, Mr. Brand May 21, [279] 587; Question, Sir Walter B. Bar-

SUPPLY—*cont.*

- 277] Original Question put, and agreed to, 639
 . Resolutions reported *Mar* 16, 702
 . Considered in Committee *Mar* 29, 1037—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—CLASS I.—PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS, Votes 1, 2, 3
 Resolutions reported *April* 2
 Moved, "That this House will, upon Monday next, resolve itself into the Committee of Supply" (*Lord Richard Grosvenor*) *May* 4, 278] 1915
 Amendt. to leave out "upon Monday next," insert "immediately" (*Lord Randolph Churchill*) *v.*; Question proposed, "That the words 'upon Monday next,' &c.:" after short debate, Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (*Mr. Molloy*); after further short debate, Question put; A. 49, N. 83; M. 34 (D. L. 83)
 Question again proposed, "That the words 'upon Monday next,' &c.," 1930; after short debate, Question put; A. 76, N. 40; M. 36 (D. L. 84)
 Main Question proposed, "That this House will, upon Monday next, resolve itself into the Committee of Supply," and, after short debate, agreed to, 1937
 279] Considered in Committee *May* 7, 75—NAVY ESTIMATES—Vote 2, £937,400, Expense of Victuals and Clothing for Seamen and Marines; after long debate, Committee —R.F.
 . Considered in Committee *May* 10, 421—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—CLASS I.—PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS, Votes 4 to 6
 Resolutions reported *May* 11
 . Considered in Committee *May* 21, 588—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—CLASS I.—PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS, Votes 7 to 16
 Resolutions reported *May* 22
 . Considered in Committee *May* 24, 786—ARMY ESTIMATES, Votes 2, 3, 5, and 6
 . Resolutions reported *May* 28, 1076
 Resolutions 1 and 2 agreed to
 Resolution 3; after short debate, Resolution agreed to
 Remaining Resolution agreed to
 . Considered in Committee *May* 28, 982—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—CLASS I.—PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS, Votes 17 to 22
 Resolutions reported *May* 29
 CIVIL SERVICES (FURTHER VOTE ON ACCOUNT, £2,864,950)
 Moved, "That a further sum, not exceeding £2,864,950, be granted on account, &c."
 After debate, Moved, "That a further sum, not exceeding £2,859,950, &c." (*Lord R. Churchill*); after short debate, Motion withdrawn
 Moved, "That a further sum, not exceeding £1,487,546, &c." (*Sir W. Barttelot*); after short debate, Motion withdrawn; original Question put, and agreed to, 1412
 Resolutions reported *June* 1
 . Considered in Committee *May* 31, 1344—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—CLASS I.—PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS, Votes 23 to 27;—CLASS II.—SALARIES AND EXPENSES OF CIVIL DEPARTMENTS, Votes 1 to 7; 9 to 15

SUPPLY—*cont.*

- 279] Resolutions reported *June* 1, 1566
 Resolutions 1 to 6 agreed to
 Resolution 7; after short debate, Resolution agreed to
 Resolutions 8 and 9 agreed to
 Resolution 10 postponed
 Resolutions 11 and 12 agreed to
 Resolution 13; after short debate, Resolution postponed
 Remaining Resolutions agreed to
 . Postponed Resolutions considered *June* 4, 1707
 Resolution 10; after short debate, Resolution further postponed
 Resolution 13; after short debate, Resolution agreed to
 . Postponed Resolution considered *June* 7, 1982
 Resolution 10; said Resolution read a first time; Moved, "That the said Resolution be now read a second time;" Question put, and agreed to; Resolution read a second time, and agreed to
 Considered in Committee *June* 8; Committee —R.F.
 280] Considered in Committee *June* 28, 1716—ARMY ESTIMATES, Votes 9 to 14;—NAVY ESTIMATES, Vote 15
 Resolutions reported *June* 29
 281] Considered in Committee *July* 12, 1242—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—CLASS II.—SALARIES AND EXPENSES OF CIVIL DEPARTMENTS, Votes 16 to 24 and 27
 Resolutions reported *July* 13
 . Considered in Committee *July* 16, 1528—NAVY ESTIMATES, Votes 1, 3 to 10, Sec. II., 11, 14, 16
 Resolutions reported *July* 17
 First Four Resolutions agreed to
 Fifth Resolution postponed
 Subsequent Resolutions agreed to
 Postponed Resolution further considered *July* 19, 2023
 (b.) £1,556,400, Expenses of the Dockyards and Naval Yards at Home and Abroad; after debate, Resolution agreed to
 282] Considered in Committee *July* 26, 585—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—CLASS IV.—EDUCATION, SCIENCE, AND ART, Vote 1—CIVIL SERVICES (FURTHER VOTE ON ACCOUNT)
 Moved, "That a further sum, not exceeding £1,032,570, on Account, be granted, &c.;"
 . after short debate, Vote agreed to, 667
 Resolutions reported *July* 27
 . Considered in Committee *Aug* 2, 1351—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—CLASS II.—SALARIES AND EXPENSES OF CIVIL DEPARTMENTS, Votes 26, 27, 29, 30 to 33—CLASS III.—LAW AND JUSTICE, Votes 1 to 8
 Resolutions reported *Aug* 3
 . Considered in Committee *Aug* 6, 1659—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—CLASS V.—FOREIGN AND COLONIAL SERVICES, Vote 7—CLASS III.—LAW AND JUSTICE, Votes 9 to 12
 Resolutions reported *Aug* 7
 . Considered in Committee *Aug* 9, 2117—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—CLASS V.—FOREIGN AND COLONIAL SERVICES, Votes 1, 2, and 5—CLASS III.—LAW AND JUSTICE, 13 to 15A, 17 to 23
 Resolutions reported *Aug* 10

SUP SUP { SESSION 1883 } SUP SUP
276-277-278-279-280-281-282-283.

Supply—cont.

DEFICIENCIES, 1881-82.

	Total of Vote.	
£ s. d.		
COMMITTEE Mar 9—REPORT Mar 10		
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £3,706 7s. 2d., be granted to make good Deficiencies, &c., as follows:—		
CIVIL SERVICES, viz.,		
CLASS II.—SALARIES AND EXPENSES OF CIVIL DEPARTMENTS.		
Board of Trade	553	5 6
Civil Service Commission	5	14 5
Fishery Board, Scotland	20	6 10
CLASS III.—LAW AND JUSTICE.		
Law Charges and Criminal Prosecutions, Ireland	222	17 0
Supreme Court of Judicature, Ireland	1,080	10 4
Dublin Metropolitan Police	1,551	16 0
CLASS V.—FOREIGN AND COLONIAL SERVICES.		
Suppression of the Slave Trade ...	142	5 11
Orange River Territory and St. Helena (Non-Effective Charges)	129	5 8
CLASS VI.—NON-EFFECTIVE AND CHARITABLE SERVICES.		
Pauper Lunatics, Scotland	0	5 6
Total ...	£3,706	7 2

ARMY DEFICIENCIES, 1881-82

COMMITTEE Mar 9—REPORT Mar 10

For making good Excesses of Army Expenditure beyond the Grants for the year ended on the 31st day of March 1882 £44,197 2 6

SUPPLEMENTARY, 1882-83.

COMMITTEE Mar 5—REPORT Mar 8

CIVIL SERVICES.

CLASS I.—PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS.

	Total of Vote.	
£		
Royal Parks and Pleasure Grounds		
Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £2,400, be granted, &c."		
Moved to report Progress (<i>Lord Randolph Churchill</i>); after short debate, Motion withdrawn; after further debate, original Question put, and agreed to; Vote agreed to [276] 1636	2,400	
Houses of Parliament	5,200	
Moved, "That the Vote be reduced by £340" (<i>Viscount Emlyn</i>); after short debate, Amendt. withdrawn; Vote agreed to [276] 1538		
County Court Buildings	1,700	
Harbours, &c. under the Board of Trade	350	

[cont.]

Supply—cont.

Total of
Vote.
£

Rates on Government Property ...	6,700	
After short debate, Vote agreed to [276] 1541		
Shannon Navigation [276] 1542	4,741	
After short debate, Vote agreed to		
Royal University, Ireland, Buildings	1,000	
After short debate, Vote agreed to [276] 1544		
Diplomatic and Consular Buildings		
Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £2,000, be granted, &c."		
After short debate, Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £1,500, &c." (<i>Mr. Rylands</i>); after further short debate, A. 59, N. 92; M. 33; Vote agreed to [276] 1545	2,000	
CLASS II.—SALARIES AND EXPENSES OF CIVIL DEPARTMENTS.		
Foreign Office ... [276] 1552	6,300	
After short debate, Vote agreed to		
Board of Trade ... [276] 1555	3,500	
After short debate, Vote agreed to		
Charity Commission [276] 1558	2,053	
After short debate, Vote agreed to		
Civil Service Commission [276] 1558	465	
After short debate, Vote agreed to		
COMMITTEE Mar 8—REPORT Mar 9		
Friendly Societies Registry ...	500	
After short debate, Vote agreed to [276] 1759		
Stationery and Printing		
Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £20,280, be granted, &c."		
Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £19,780, &c." (<i>Mr. Buxton</i>); after short debate, Motion withdrawn		
Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £15,280, be granted, &c." (<i>Mr. H. H. Fowler</i>); after short debate, A. 50, N. 118; M. 68; Vote agreed to [276] 1759	20,280	
Office of Works [276] 1784	1,100	
After short debate, Vote agreed to		
Fishery Board, Scotland [276] 1786	627	
After short debate, Vote agreed to		
Ireland		
Household of the Lord Lieutenant ...	18	
Chief Secretary's Offices		
Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £2,750, be granted, &c."		
After long debate, Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £750, &c." (<i>Mr. A. O'Connor</i>); after further debate, A. 15, N. 156; M. 141; Vote agreed to [276] 1803	2,750	
Record Office	142	
CLASS III.—LAW AND JUSTICE.		
Wreck Commission [276] 1851	1,700	
After short debate, Vote agreed to		
Revising Barristers, England ...	210	

[cont.]

SUP SUP [SESSION 1883] SUP SUP

276—277—278—279—280—281—282—283.

REVENUE DEPARTMENTS.			Total of Vote £
COMMITTEE Mar 9—REPORT Mar 10			
Customs ...	[276]	2028	
After short debate, Vote agreed to			17,000
Inland Revenue ...	...	...	11,000
COMMITTEE Mar 10—REPORT Mar 12			
Post Office			
Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £138,500, be granted, &c."			
Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £137,500, &c." (Mr. T. D. Sullivan); Question put, and negatived; Vote agreed to	[277]	133	138,500
COMMITTEE Mar 9—REPORT Mar 10			
Post Office Packet Service ...			14,000
Telegraphs ...			87,000
Total for Revenue Departments ...			<u>£267,500</u>
Grand Total ...			<u>£576,555</u>

NAVY, SUPPLEMENTARY, 1882-83. £

COMMITTEE Mar 5—REPORT Mar 8			
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £350,000, be granted, &c."			
After short debate, Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £274,000, &c." (Lord Randolph Churchill); after further debate, A. 19, N. 156; M. 137			
Original Question again proposed; after short debate, Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £345,000, &c." (Mr. O'Donnell); after further debate, Question put, and negatived; original Question put, and agreed to	[276]	1438	350,000

ARMY, SUPPLEMENTARY, 1882-83. £

COMMITTEE Mar 2—REPORT Mar 5			
ARMY SERVICES — EXPEDITIONARY FORCE TO EGYPT			
After debate, Vote agreed to	[276]	1349	728,000

EGYPT (CIVIL CHARGES OF EXPEDITION), 1882-83.

COMMITTEE Mar 5—REPORT Mar 8			
Vote agreed to ...	...	...	17,500

EGYPTIAN EXPEDITION (GRANT IN AID), 1882-83. £

COMMITTEE Mar 2—REPORT Mar 5			
After short debate, Vote agreed to	[276]	1327	500,000

[cont.]

Supply—cont.	Total of Vote. £
TRANSVAAL, 1882-83.	
COMMITTEE Mar 5—REPORT Mar 8	
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £14,000, be granted, &c."	
Moved to report Progress (Sir R. Assheton Cross); A. 96, N. 128; M. 32; original Question put, and agreed to	14,000

NAVY ESTIMATES, 1883-84.

COMMITTEE Mar 15—REPORT Mar 16	
Departmental Statement of the Secretary to the Admiralty (Mr. Campbell-Bannerman) in moving the first Vote—"That 57,250 Men and Boys be employed for the Sea and Coast-guard Service for the year ending the 31st day of March, 1884, including 12,400 Royal Marines"	Numbers
After long debate, Question put, and agreed to	[277] 599
	<u>57,250</u>

Total of
Vote.
£

(1.) Wages to Seamen and Marines 2,633,300

COMMITTEE May 7	
(2.) Victuals and Clothing for ditto	937,400
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £937,400, be granted, &c."	
Moved to report Progress (Mr. Jenkins); after debate, Motion agreed to; Comm.—R.P.	[279] 75
July 16—Original Question again proposed; after long debate, Vote agreed to	[281] 1528
Report July 17	

COMMITTEE July 16—REPORT July 17, 19

(3.) Admiralty Office ...	182,300
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £182,300, be granted, &c."	
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £181,300, &c." (Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett); after short debate, Motion withdrawn; original Question put, and agreed to; Vote agreed to	[281] 1577
(4.) Coast Guard Service, Royal Naval Reserves, &c.	[281] 1680
After short debate, Vote agreed to	
(5.) Scientific Branch ...	113,100
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £113,100, be granted, &c."	
After short debate, Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £103,919, &c." (Mr. Gorst); after further debate, Motion withdrawn; original Question put, and agreed to; Vote agreed to	[281] 1590
(6.) Dockyards and Naval Yards at Home and Abroad ...	1,556,400
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £1,556,400, be granted, &c."	

[cont.]

SUP SUP { SESSION 1883 } SUP SUP

276—277—278—279—280—281—282—283.

Supply—cont.

COMMITTEE Aug 18—REPORT Aug 20

(7.) Volunteer Corps Pay and Allowances ... [283] 1246 562,800

After debate, Vote agreed to

(8.) Army Reserve Force Pay and Allowances (including Enrolled Pensioners) ... [283] 1250 278,000

After debate, Vote agreed to

COMMITTEE June 28—REPORT June 29

III.—COMMISSARIAT AND ORDNANCE

STORE ESTABLISHMENTS, &c.

(9.) Commissariat, Transport, and Ordnance Store Establishments, Wages, &c. ... [280] 1716 419,600

After long debate, Vote agreed to

(10.) Provisions, Forage, Fuel, Transport, and other Services [280] 1753 3,117,000

After short debate, Vote agreed to

(11.) Clothing Establishments, Services, and Supplies [280] 1753 784,000

After debate, Vote agreed to

(12.) Supply, Manufacture, and Repair of Warlike and other Stores

Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £1,269,600, be granted, &c.;" after short debate, Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £1,269,500, &c." (Sir Herbert Maxwell); after further debate, Motion withdrawn; original Question again proposed, and, after debate, agreed to [280] 1765 1,269,500

IV.—WORKS AND BUILDINGS.

(13.) Superintending Establishment of, and Expenditure for, Works, Buildings, and Repairs, at Home and Abroad ... [280] 1787 739,400

After short debate, Vote agreed to

V.—VARIOUS SERVICES.

(14.) Establishments for Military Education ... [280] 1798 127,300

After short debate, Vote agreed to

COMMITTEE Aug 18—REPORT Aug 20

(15.) Miscellaneous Effective Services 34,000

(16.) Salaries and Miscellaneous Charges of the War Office

Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £241,800, be granted, &c.;" after debate, A. 15, N. 42; M. 27; after further debate, Vote agreed to ... [283] 1266 241,800

Total Effective Services £12,688,500

VI.—NON-EFFECTIVE SERVICES.

(17.) Rewards for Distinguished Services, &c. ... 22,800

(18.) Half-Pay ... [283] 1300 80,000

After short debate, Vote agreed to

(19.) Retired Pay, Gratuities, and Payments allowed by Army Purchase Commissioners ... 1,134,000

(20.) Widows' Pensions and Compassionate Allowances ... 118,200

[cont.]

Supply—cont.

Total of Vote. £

(21.) Pensions for Wounds ... 16,000

(22.) Chelsea and Kilmainham Hospitals (In-Pensions) ... 32,900

(23.) Out-Pensions ... 1,269,900

(24.) Superannuation Allowances ... 195,000

(25.) Militia, Yeomanry Cavalry, and Volunteer Corps, Retired Pay ... 48,000

Losses Written off as Irrecoverable, &c. ... —

Total Non-Effective Services £2,915,900

Total Effective and Non-Effective Services ... £15,604,400

COMMITTEE Aug 18—REPORT Aug 20

ARMY (INDIAN HOME CHARGES) ... £1,280,000

After short debate, Vote agreed to [283] 1301

CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES, 1883-84.

CLASS I.—PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS.

GREAT BRITAIN: Vote Total

COMMITTEE Mar 29— to Vote for REPORT April 2 complete. 1883-84.

(1.) Royal Palaces

Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £30,053, be granted, &c."

Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £28,985, &c." (Mr. Dillwyn); after long debate, A. 23, N. 64; M. 41; Vote agreed to

£ 30,053 £ 40,053

[277] 1037

(2.) Marlborough House

Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £1,953, be granted, &c."

Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £953, &c." (Mr. Rylands); after short debate, Motion withdrawn; Vote agreed to [277] 1069

1,953 2,953

(3.) Royal Parks and Pleasure Grounds

Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £93,322, be granted, &c."

Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £71,322, &c." (Mr. H. H. Fowler); after debate, A. 28, N. 76; M. 48; Vote agreed to [277] 1077

93,322 113,322

COMMITTEE May 10—

REPORT May 11

(4.) Houses of Parliament

Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £28,220, be granted, &c."

[cont.]

<i>Supply—cont.</i>	Vote to Complete. £	Total Vote for 1883-84. £	<i>Supply—cont.</i>	Vote to Complete. £
After debate, Moved, "That a sum, not ex- ceeding £27,880, &c." (<i>Sir E. Watkin</i>); after further debate, Motion withdrawn; after fur- ther short debate, Vote agreed to [279] 421	28,220	40,115	(12.) Sheriff Court Houses, Scotland	6,520
(5.) Beaconsfield Monu- ment			(13.) New Courts of Jus- tice, &c. Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £42,013, be granted, &c."	
After short debate, Vote agreed to [279] 448	550	1,050	Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £27,013, &c." (<i>Mr. A. O'Connor</i>); after debate, Motion withdrawn	
(6.) Public Buildings			Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £40,513, &c." (<i>Mr. A. O'Connor</i>); A. 30, N. 79; M. 49; Vote agreed to [279] 639	42,013
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £117,762, be granted, &c."			(14.) Surveys of the United Kingdom	
Moved, "That the Item £5,000 National Galle- ry (Improvement of Accommodation) be omitted" (<i>Mr. Gorst</i>); after short debate, Mo- tion negatived			After short debate, Vote agreed to [279] 659	192,500
[279] 448			(15.) Science and Art De- partment Buildings	
Moved, "That the Item £3,500 Tower of Lon- don (Works of Restora- tion) be omitted" (<i>Mr. P. Wyndham</i>); after short debate, Motion withdrawn [279] 461			Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £21,379, be granted, &c."	
Moved, "That the Item of £5,000, New Works, &c., be omitted" (<i>Lord R. Churchill</i>); after further debate, A. 29, N. 79; M. 50			After debate, Moved, "That a sum, not ex- ceeding £15,379, &c." (<i>Mr. Labouchere</i>); after further debate, Motion withdrawn; original Motion withdrawn [279] 668	
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £113,062, &c." (<i>Mr. H. H. Fowler</i>); A. 40, N. 69; M. 29			Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £16,379, &c."	
[279] 470			Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £15,379, &c." (<i>Mr. Labouchere</i>); after short debate, Mo- tion withdrawn; after further debate, Vote agreed to [279] 675	16,379
After further debate, Vote agreed to	117,762	147,762	(16.) British Museum Buildings	
COMMITTEE May 21— REPORT May 22			Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £6,338, be granted, &c."	
(7.) Public Offices Site			Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £5,838, &c." (<i>Mr. J. M'Carthy</i>); after short de- bate, Question put, and negatived; Vote agreed to [279] 684	6,338
After debate, Vote agreed to [279] 588	95,000	100,000		
(8.) Furniture of Public Offices				
After debate, Vote agreed to [279] 610	14,730	16,730		
(9.) Revenue Depart- ment Buildings				
After debate, Vote agreed to [279] 611	279,312	334,312		
(10.) County Court Build- ings				
After debate, Vote agreed to [279] 632	29,150	35,150		
(11.) Metropolitan Police Courts				
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £4,675, be granted, &c.;" after short debate, A. 50, N. 15; M. 35; Vote agreed to [279] 635	4,675	6,175		

[cont.]

SUP

SUP

{ SESSION 1883 }

SUP

SUP

276-277-278-279-280-281-282-283.

Supply—cont.

	Vote to Complete. £	Total Vote for 1883-84. £
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £8,763, &c." (<i>Mr. A. O'Connor</i>); A. 19, M. 120; M. 101		
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £7,043, &c." (<i>Mr. Molloy</i>); after debate, A. 16, N. 82; M. 66; Vote agreed to [279] 982	7,193	15,016
(19.) Rates on Government Property (Great Bri- tain and Ireland) After short debate, Vote agreed to [279] 990	136,880	211,880
(20.) Metropolitan Fire Brigade After short debate, Vote agreed to [279] 1000	7,500	10,000
(21.) Disturnpiked and Main Roads (England and Wales) Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £165,000, be granted, &c." After short debate, Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £140,000, &c." (<i>Mr. Ramsay</i>); after further debate, A. 49, N. 162; M. 113; Vote agreed to [279] 1018	165,000	200,000
(22.) Disturnpiked Roads (Scotland) Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £20,000, be granted, &c.;" after short debate, A. 202, N. 12; M. 190; Vote agreed to [279] 1037	20,000	25,000
COMMITTEE May 31— REPORT June 1		
IRELAND :		
(23.) Public Buildings Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £180,546, be granted, &c." Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £173,257, &c." (<i>Mr. A. O'Connor</i>); after debate, A. 25, N. 74; M. 49 Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £184,546, &c." (<i>Mr. Molloy</i>); after debate, A. 9, N. 59; M. 50; after debate, Vote agreed to [279] 1344	180,546	210,546
(24.) Royal University Buildings After short debate, Vote agreed to [279] 1365	21,000	21,000
(25.) Science and Art Buildings (Dublin)	10,000	10,000

[cont.]

Supply—cont.

	Vote to Complete. £	Total Vote for 1883-84. £
ABROAD :		
(26.) Lighthouses Abroad After short debate, Vote agreed to [279] 1366	9,253	11,253
(27.) Diplomatic and Con- sular Buildings After short debate, Vote agreed to [279] 1367	22,323	27,823
Total of Votes Class I. ...	£1,926,116	
SUPPLEMENTARY (included in the above Sum) COMMITTEE Aug 17—REPORT Aug 18		
(1.) Royal Palaces ...	...	4,000
(4.) Houses of Parliament...	...	4,895
		<u>£8,895</u>
CLASS II.—SALARIES AND EXPENSES OF CIVIL DEPARTMENTS.		
ENGLAND :		
COMMITTEE May 31		
(1.) House of Lords Offices ...	£ 37,485	£ 43,485
(2.) House of Commons Offices ...	45,057	51,557
(3.) Treasury, including Parliamentary Counsel	49,017	59,017
(4.) Home Office and Subordinate Depart- ments ...	77,904	92,904
(5.) Foreign Office ...	57,263	67,263
(6.) Colonial Office ...	34,370	40,370
(7.) Privy Council Office and Subordinate De- partments ...	26,513	30,513
(8.) Privy Seal Office ...	1,855	1,000
COMMITTEE July 26 Observations, [282] 670		
COMMITTEE May 31		
(9.) Board of Trade and Subordinate Depart- ments ...	100,233	125,233
(10.) Charity Commission (including Endowed Schools Department)	25,434	30,434
(11.) Civil Service Com- mission ...	25,347	32,347
(12.) Exchequer and Audit Department ...	48,220	57,22
(13.) Friendly Societies Registry Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £7,019, be granted, &c." Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £6,719, &c." (<i>Dr. Cameron</i>); after debate, A. 29, N. 57; M. 28; after further debate, Vote agreed to [279] 1370	7,019	8,519

[cont.]

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276-277-278-279-280-281-282-283.

<i>Supply</i> —cont.	Vote to Complete. £	Total Vote for 1883-84. £
(35.) Chief Secretary's Office, &c. Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £27,555, be granted, &c." After short debate, Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £21,430, &c." (<i>Mr. Biggar</i>); Question put, and negatived; Vote agreed to [283] 1203	27,555	42,155
(36.) Charitable Donations and Bequests Office ...	1,280	2,120
(37.) Local Government Board Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £85,482, be granted, &c." Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £84,482, &c." (<i>Mr. O'Brien</i>); after short debate, A. 19, N. 53; M. 34; Vote agreed to ... [283] 1210	85,482	135,482
(38.) Public Works Office After short debate, Vote agreed to [283] 1219	32,262	51,262
(39.) Record Office After short debate, Vote agreed to [283] 1220	3,708	6,308
(40.) Registrar General's Office ...	9,261	16,061
(41.) Valuation and Boundary Survey Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £13,385, be granted, &c." Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £12,985, &c." (<i>Mr. Callan</i>); after short debate, A. 18, N. 51; M. 33; Vote agreed to ... [283] 1221	13,385	23,785
Total of Votes Class II.	...	£2,374,809

SUPPLEMENTARY (included in the above Sum)

(2.) House of Commons Offices After short debate, Vote agreed to [283] 1087	£500
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CLASS III.—LAW AND JUSTICE.

	Vote to Complete.	Total Vote for 1883-84.
ENGLAND :		
COMMITTEE Aug 2— REPORT Aug 3		
(1.) Law Charges After short debate, Vote agreed to [282] 1401	£ 49,006	£ 84,006

[cont.]

<i>Supply</i> —cont.	Vote to Complete. £	Total Vote for 1883-84. £
(2.) Public Prosecutor's Office After short debate, Vote agreed to [282] 1403	2,427	3,867
(3.) Criminal Prosecutions After short debate, Vote agreed to [282] 1414	116,880	195,880
(4.) Chancery Division, High Court of Justice Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £103,237, be granted, &c." Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £103,187, &c." (<i>Mr. Stanley Leighton</i>); after debate, Question put, and negatived; after further short debate, Vote agreed to [282] 1417	103,237	168,237
(5.) Central Office of the Supreme Court, &c. Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £74,459, be granted, &c." Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £71,459, &c." (<i>Mr. Rylands</i>); after debate, Question put, and negatived; Vote agreed to [282] 1438	74,459	115,459
(6.) Probate, &c. Registries, High Court of Justice ...	57,606	88,606
(7.) Admiralty Registry, High Court of Justice	6,818	10,918
(8.) Wreck Commission	7,675	13,375

COMMITTEE Aug 6—

REPORT Aug 7

(9.) Bankruptcy Court (London) Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £20,077, be granted, &c." Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £15,077, &c." (<i>Mr. Rylands</i>); after short debate, Motion withdrawn; Vote agreed to [282] 1758	20,077	34,677
(10.) County Courts ...	394,122	454,122
(11.) Land Registry Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £2,842, be granted, &c." Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £842, &c." (<i>Mr. A. Arnold</i>); after debate, A. 40, N. 65; M. 26; Vote agreed to [282] 1764	2,842	5,442
(12.) Revising Barristers, England ...	18,690	18,690

[cont.]

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276—277—278—279—280—281—282—283.

<i>Supply—cont.</i>	<i>Vote to Complete.</i> £	<i>Total Vote for 1883-84.</i> £	<i>Supply—cont.</i>	<i>Vote to Complete.</i> £
COMMITTEE Aug 9— REPORT Aug 10			Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £244,953, &c." (Sir G. Balfour); after debate, Motion withdrawn; Vote agreed to [283] 752	
(13.) Police Courts (London and Sheerness)	10,038	15,638	(30.) Land Commission	261,103
(14.) Metropolitan Police	255,233	515,233	After long debate, Vote agreed to [283] 780	89,381
(15.) County and Borough Police, Great Britain ...	946,698	949,298	(33.) Constabulary	
(15a.) Rewards to Police	1,500	1,500	Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £781,345, be granted, &c.;" after debate, A. 111, N. 20: M. 91; Vote agreed to [283] 830	781,345
(17.) Prisons, England ...	309,852	481,852	Report, 1020, 1110	
(18.) Reformatory and Industrial Schools, Great Britain ...	138,518	268,518	(34.) Prisons, Ireland	
(19.) Broadmoor Criminal Lunatic Asylum ...	17,520	26,720	After long debate, Vote agreed to [283] 852	88,689
SCOTLAND:			Total of Votes Class III. ... £6	
(20.) Lord Advocate, and Criminal Proceedings	41,370	64,370	SUPPLEMENTARY (included in the above sum)	
(21.) Courts of Law and Justice ...	41,506	62,506	COMMITTEE Aug 9—REPORT Aug 10	
(22.) Register House Departments ...	25,491	37,491	(14.) Metropolitan Police ...	...
(23.) Prisons, Scotland...	76,670	109,670	(15a.) Rewards to Police ...	...
IRELAND:			CLASS IV.—EDUCATION, SCIENCE, AND	
COMMITTEE Aug 13— REPORT Aug 14			COMMITTEE July 26— REPORT July 27	
(24.) Law Charges and Criminal Prosecutions			Vote to Complete.	
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £38,235, be granted, &c."			ENGLAND:	
After long debate, Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £29,235, &c." (Mr. Parnell); A. 24, N. 93; M. 69; Vote agreed to [283] 284	38,235	100,235	(1.) Public Education	£
(25.) Supreme Court of Judicature ...	55,651	89,651	Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £1,938,930, be granted, &c."	
(26.) Court of Bankruptcy			After debate, Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £1,938,930, &c." (Mr. Richard); after further long debate, Motion withdrawn; Vote agreed to [282] 585	1,938,930
After short debate, Vote agreed to [283] 389	6,813	10,213	COMMITTEE Aug 13— REPORT Aug 14	
(27.) Admiralty Court Registry ...	845	1,285	(2.) Science and Art Department	
(28.) Registry of Deeds...	10,927	18,727	Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £225,690, be granted, &c."	
(29.) Registry of Judgments ...	1,464	2,344	After debate, Motion withdrawn [282] 660	
(31.) County Court Officers, &c. ...	60,720	99,720	Comm. Aug 13—Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £241,690, be granted, &c."	
(32.) Dublin Metropolitan Police (including Police Courts) ...	72,498	139,498	After debate, Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £240,690, &c." (Mr. Cavendish Ben-	
(35.) Reformatory and Industrial Schools ...	51,968	96,968		
(36.) Dundrum Criminal Lunatic Asylum ...	4,345	6,645		
COMMITTEE Aug 16— REPORT Aug 17				
(16.) Convict Establishments in England and the Colonies				
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £261,103, be granted, &c."				

[cont.]

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276—277—278—279—280—281—282—283.

Supply—cont.

	Vote to Complete. £	Total Vote for 1883-84. £
<i>tinak</i>); after debate, Motion withdrawn; Vote agreed to [283] 391	241,690	365,690
COMMITTEE Aug 16—		
REPORT Aug 17		
(3.) British Museum After short debate, Vote agreed to [283] 877	96,019	146,019
(3A.) Ashburnham Manu- scripts Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £45,000, be granted, &c. for purchase Ashburnham MSS." After short debate, Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £35,000, &c." (<i>Mr. Labouchere</i>); after further debate, A. 11, N. 84; M. 73; Vote agreed to [283] 882	45,000	45,000
(4.) National Gallery Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £8,530, be granted, &c." Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £8,380, &c." (<i>Mr. Cavendish Bentinck</i>); after short debate, Question put, and negatived; Vote agreed to [283] 886	8,530	14,030
(5.) National Portrait Gallery	1,277	2,157
COMMITTEE Aug 17—		
REPORT Aug 18		
(6.) Learned Societies, &c.	14,250	23,050
(7.) London University	7,749	11,749
(8.) Aberystwith College	2,400	4,000
(9.) Deep Sea Exploring Expedition (Report)	4,000	5,800
(10.) Transit of Venus, 1882	570	1,070

SCOTLAND :

COMMITTEE July 26

(11.) Public Education Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £255,723, be granted, &c.;" after short debate, Motion withdrawn [282] 660 Aug 17—Original Ques- tion again proposed; Vote agreed to [283] 1022	255,723	465,723
<i>Report Aug 18</i>		

[cont.]

Supply—cont.

	Vote to Complete. £	Total Vote for 1883-84. £
COMMITTEE Aug 17—		
REPORT Aug 18		
(12.) Universities, &c.	12,852	19,052
(13.) National Gallery	1,700	2,100
(13A.) Scottish Historical Portrait Gallery After short debate, Vote agreed to [283] 1034	10,000	10,000
IRELAND :		
(14.) Public Education After short debate, Vote agreed to [283] 1034	408,339	720,339
(15.) Teachers' Pension Office	1,040	1,860
(16.) Endowed Schools Commissioners After short debate, Vote agreed to [283] 1054	410	670
(17.) National Gallery Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £1,029, be granted, &c." Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £879, &c." (<i>Mr. Cavendish Bentinck</i>); Question put, and negatived; Vote agreed to [283] 1055	1,029	2,189
(18.) Queen's Colleges Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £10,728, be granted, &c." Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £5,928, &c." (<i>Mr. Parnell</i>); after debate, A. 23, N. 72; M. 49; Vote agreed to [283] 1061	10,728	14,728
(19.) Royal Irish Academy After short debate, Vote agreed to [283] 1080	1,200	2,000
Total of Votes Class IV. ... £4,803,656		

SUPPLEMENTARY (included in the above sum) £

(3A.) Ashburnham Manuscripts ...	45,000
(14.) Public Education, Ireland ...	100
£45,100	

CLASS V.—FOREIGN AND COLONIAL SERVICES.

COMMITTEE Aug 9—

	Vote to Complete. £	Total Vote for 1883-84. £
REPORT Aug 10		
(1.) Diplomatic Services Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £113,300, (including Supplemen- tary sum of £6,000), be granted, &c." After long debate, Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £111,300,		

[cont.]

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276—277—278—279—280—281—282—283.

Supply—cont.

Vote to Complete.	Total Vote for 1883-84.
£	£

&c." (*Mr. Labouchere*) ;
after further long de-
bate, A. 42, N. 114 ;
M. 72

Moved, " That a sum, not
exceeding £112,800,
&c." (*Mr. R. N. Fow-
ler*) ; Question put,
and negatived ; Vote
agreed to [282] 2117

(2.) Consular Services

After short debate, Vote
agreed to [282] 2227

113,300 213,300

152,477 252,477

COMMITTEE Aug 17—

REPORT Aug 18

(3.) Suppression of the
Slave Trade ...

6,894

10,294

(4.) Tonnage Bounties,
&c. ...

2,671

7,571

COMMITTEE Aug 9—

REPORT Aug 10

(5.) Suez Canal (British
Directors)

After short debate, Vote
agreed to [282] 2230

990

1,670

COMMITTEE Aug 17—

REPORT Aug 18

(6.) Colonies, Grants-in-

Aid

After short debate, Vote
agreed to [283] 1081

18,801

28,801

COMMITTEE Aug 6—

REPORT Aug 7

(7.) South Africa and
St. Helena

Moved, " That a sum,
not exceeding £9,425
(including Supplemen-
tary sum, £3,808), be
granted, &c.

Moved, " That a sum,
not exceeding £7,105,
&c." (*Mr. Gorst*) ; after
long debate, Question
put, and negatived

Moved, " That a sum,
not exceeding £8,225,
&c." (*Mr. Dawson*) ;
after debate, Motion
withdrawn ; Vote

agreed to [282] 1659

9,425

12,525

COMMITTEE Aug 17—

REPORT Aug 18

(8.) Subsidies to Tele-
graph Companies ...

17,300

35,300

(9.) Cyprus, Grant-in-
Aid

Moved, " That a sum,
not exceeding £5,000,
be granted, &c."

Supply—cont.

Vote to Complete.	£
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After short debate, A.
66, N. 20 ; M. 46 ;
Vote agreed to

[283] 1081

5,000

(10.) Fortune Bay Fishery
Claims

After short debate, Vote
agreed to [283] 1085

11,246

Total of Votes Class V. ...

SUPPLEMENTARY (included in the
above sum)

(1.) Diplomatic Services ...

(7.) South Africa and St. Helena ...

(10.) Fortune Bay Fishery Claims ...

CLASS VI.—NON-EFFECTIVE AND CE
SERVICES.

COMMITTEE Aug 17—

REPORT Aug 18

Vote to Complete.	£
-------------------------	---

(1.) Superannuation and
Retired Allowances ...

210,737

(2.) Merchant Seamen's
Fund Pensions, &c. ...

10,800

(3.) Pauper Lunatics,
England ...

442,500

(4.) Pauper Lunatics,
Scotland ...

51,500

(5.) Pauper Lunatics,
Ireland ...

7,000

(6.) Hospitals and Infir-
maries, Ireland ...

8,725

(7.) Friendly Societies
Deficiency ..

48,583

(8.) Miscellaneous Char-
itable and other Allow-
ances, &c., Great Bri-
tain ...

1,888

(9.) Miscellaneous Char-
itable and other Allow-
ances, Ireland ...

2,722

(10.) Commutation of An-
nuities ...

8,422

(11.) Cochrane's Deposits

1,000

Total of Votes Class VI. ...

SUPPLEMENTARY (included in the
above sum)

(10.) Commutation of Annuities

CLASS VII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

COMMITTEE Aug 17—

REPORT Aug 18

Vote to Complete.	£
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(1.) Temporary Commis-
sions ...

19,523

(2.) Miscellaneous Ex-
penses ...

2,912

Total of Votes Class VII. ...

[cont.]

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Supply—cont.

REVENUE DEPARTMENTS, 1883-84.

COMMITTEE Aug 17— REPORT Aug 18	Vote to Complete.	Total Vote for 1883-84.
Vote I. For Salaries and Expenses of the Customs Department ...	£ 810,785	£ 1,006,785
Vote II. For Salaries and Expenses of the Inland Revenue Department	1,438,366	1,768,366
Vote III. For Salaries and Expenses of the Post Office Services, the ex- penses of Post Office Savings Banks, and Go- vernment Annuities and Insurances, and the Col- lection of the Post Office Revenue (including a Supplementary sum of £339,466) ...	... 3,683,218	4,403,218

Supply—cont.

	Vote to Complete. £	Total Vote for 1883-84. £
Vote IV. For the Post Of- fice Packet Service ...	486,235	706,285
Vote V. For Salaries and Expenses of the Post Office Telegraph Service	1,226,073	1,718,073
Total Revenue Depart- ments	<u>£9,662,727</u>

SUPPLEMENTARY (included in the
above sum)

(V.) Telegraphs	<u>£ 200,000</u>
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COMMITTEE Aug 18—REPORT Aug 20	£
GREENWICH HOSPITAL AND SCHOOL	<u>154,332</u>

COMMITTEE Aug 17—REPORT Aug 18	£
AFGHAN WAR (GRANT IN AID) ...	<u>£500,000</u>

**Supreme Court of Judicature (District
Courts) Bill**

(*Mr. Joseph Cowen, Mr. Eustace Smith, Mr.
Rowley Hill, Mr. John Morley*)

- a. Ordered; read 1^o *May 30* [Bill 203]
2R. [Dropped]

**Supreme Court of Judicature (Funds,
&c.) Bill [H.L.] (*The Lord Chancellor*)**

- i. Presented; read 1^o *June 26* (No. 130)
Read 2^o *June 29*
Committee *July 2*
Report *July 3*
Read 3^o *July 5*
e. Read 1^o (*Mr. Courtney*) *July 23* [Bill 270]
Read 2^o *July 26*
Committee *—R.F. July 27*
Committee *—Report July 30*
Considered *July 31*
Read 3^o *Aug 1*
i. Royal Assent *Aug 20* [46 & 47 Vict. c. 29]

Supreme Court of Judicature [*Funds, &c.*]
c. Resolution considered in Committee, and
agreed to *July 27*, [282] 892

**Supreme Court of Judicature—*The New
Rules*—See title *Law and Justice***

Surrey (Trial of Causes) Bill

(*Mr. Warton, Captain Aylmer*)

- a. Ordered; read 1^o *Feb 16* [Bill 65]
Moved, "That the 2R. be deferred till Wednes-
day 4th July" *June 13*, [280] 514
Amendt. to leave out all after "That the," add
"Order for 2R. be discharged" (*Mr. Monk*)

[*cont.*]

Surrey (*Trial of Causes*) Bill—cont.

v.; Question proposed, "That the words,
&c.;" after short debate, Debate adjourned
Adjourned Debate resumed, and further ad-
journed *June 14*, 653
Bill withdrawn *Aug 1*

Surveyors, Institute of

Question, Mr. Broadhurst; Answer, Mr. Mun-
della *Feb 22*, [276] 681

SUTHERLAND, Duke of

London and North-Western Railway (Addi-
tional Powers), 2R. [279] 1266

Swiss Republic, The—*The Salvation Army*

Question, Sir John Hay; Answer, Lord Ed-
mond Fitzmaurice *Mar 1*, [276] 1156

SYDNEY, Earl (Lord Steward)

Parliament—Queen's Speech—Her Majesty's
Answer to the Address, [276] 280

SYNAN, Mr. E. J., *Limerick Co.*

Ireland—Questions

Dispensary Houses Act, 1879—Sec. 8—
Pallaskerry Dispensary, [279] 1902, 1903
Gun Licences—Pallaskerry Petty Sessions,
[283] 955
National Education—School House at
Mungret, County Limerick, [281] 1506;
—Action of the Trustees, [282] 2089,
2090;—Irish Model Farms, [282] 928,
930, 1616
National School Teachers—Salaries, [281]
1351
Peace Preservation Act, 1881—Gun
Licences, [283] 1354, 1355

[*cont.*]

SYMAN, Mr. E. J.—cont.

Poor Law—Rathkeale Union—Insurance of the Union Buildings, [280] 209
Prisons—Limerick Gaol, [279] 941, 942
Royal Irish Constabulary—Limerick City, [282] 2085
Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. cl. 2, [280] 732, 889
Post Office—Remuneration of Sub-Postmasters, [282] 2090
Supply—Queen's Colleges in Ireland, [283] 1070
Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland), Comm. cl. 1, [283] 983

TALBOT, Mr. J. G., *Oxford University*

Bankruptcy, Lords Amendts. Consid. [283] 1773
Constabulary and Police Administration (Ireland), Motion for Leave, [282] 884
Contagious Diseases Acts—Non-enforcement of Compulsory Examination—Withdrawal of Police from Chatham—Action of the Government, [279] 881
Corn Sales, 2R. [279] 1716
Education Department—London School Board, [283] 1727
Endowed Schools—Middle 'Class School at Tunbridge, [281] 708
Ireland—Prisons Act—Convict Establishment at Spike Island, [282] 535
Local Government Board (Scotland), Comm. Schedule, [283] 913, 919
Local Option, Res. [278] 1302
Parliament—Standing Committee on Trade, Shipping, and Manufactures, Res. [279] 2015
Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. add. cl. [281] 1392
Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Amendment, 2R. [278] 1651
Parochial Charities (London), Comm. cl. 46, [282] 881
Patents for Inventions, Motion for Commitment, [278] 393
Post Office—Parcel Post—Rural Letter Carriers, [283] 744
Public Health (Metropolis)—Sewer Ventilation, [283] 717, 1763
Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Durham), 2R. [279] 1221, 1224
Supply—Manuscripts from the Collection of the Earl of Ashburnham, [283] 884
Public Education in England and Wales, &c. [282] 613, 616
Universities Committee of Privy Council, 2R. [277] 1397

Taxation—Property held in Mortmain

Question, Mr. Firth; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer Aug 6, [282] 1628

TAYLOR, Mr. P. A., *Leicester*

Army—Vaccination of Recruits, [276] 1606
Criminal Law—Case of Foote and Ramsey, [282] 295
India—Compulsory Vaccination, [278] 611;—Madras, [278] 1158
Law and Justice—Alleged Severity of Sentence, [279] 1900

TAYLOR, Mr. P. A.—cont.

Law and Justice—Excessive Sentences 436
Magistracy—Language of a Sitting-trate at Sedgley, [282] 1839;—L Magistrates, [278] 59
Parliament—Questions
Business of the House, [278] 1437
Mr. Bradlaugh, [280] 1145
Parliamentary Oaths Act, &c.—Pment of Orders of the Day, [278]
Poor Law (Metropolis)—St. Pancras house—Re-vaccination of Female 1322
Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday, 2R. [279] 1910
Vaccination Acts—Questions
Brighton Board of Guardians, [28 Case of Mr. Armfield, [276] 1757
Compulsory Vaccination, [277] 361
Prosecutions—Bristol, [279] 1740
Syphilitic Infection, [279] 1919
William H. Kennard, [280] 1689
Vaccination, Res. [280] 986, 1043, 104

Technical Education, Commission of Report

Question, Mr. O'Donnell; Answer, liam Harcourt May 8, [279] 230

Tenure of Land—Peasant Propriety

Amend. on Committee of Supply June leave out from "That," add "in the of this House, it is desirable, in increase the productiveness of the arrest the decline of the rural population and to promote the interests of the special industries of the Country, that should be made by Parliament to the acquirement by agricultural tenant farmers, and others, of pre rights in agricultural land" (*M Collings*) v., [282] 95; Question p "That the words, &c.:" after debate counted out]

Thames Navigation Bill (by Order)

c. Read 2^o, after short debate Mar 1, [27

Theatres and Places of Public Entertainment—Precautions against Fire

Captain Shaw's Report, Questions, Mr Hartland; Answers, Sir William I Feb 19, [276] 297; June 25, [280] 1
The Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, C Mr. Macfarlane; Answer, Sir William court June 14, [280] 552

Theatres Regulation Bill

(*Mr. Dixon-Hartland, Mr. J. Lawra Mr. Macfarlane*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [B Moved, "That the Bill be now re May 9, [279] 331
Amendt. to leave out "now," add "u day six months" (*Sir James M'Garra* Question proposed, "That 'now,' after short debate, Question put; A 141; M. 119 (D. L. 88)
Words added; main Question, as a put, and agreed to; 2R. put off

THOMASSON, Mr. J. P., Bolton

Agricultural Holdings (England), *Consid. cl. 52*, Amendt. [282] 1196
 Armenia and European Turkey, *Res.* [279] 928
 East India (Expenditure), *Res.* [279] 314
 Parliament—Business of the House—Parliamentary Oaths Act, &c.—Postponement of Orders of the Day, [278] 1600
 Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), *Comm. cl. 2*, [280] 649; *Consid. cl. 6*, Amendt. [282] 2029
 Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Durham), 2R. Amendt. [279] 1207
 Supply—Embassies and Missions Abroad, [282] 2215, 2224

THOMPSON, Mr. T. C., Durham

Cemeteries, 2R. [278] 1101
 Constabulary and Police (Ireland) (Pay and Pensions), *Comm. cl. 7*, [279] 1056
 Criminal Code (Indictable Offences Procedure), Motion for Commitment, [278] 337
 India—Criminal Code (Procedure)—Corporal Punishments, [282] 1316
 Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), *Comm. cl. 1*, [280] 575; *cl. 23*, [281] 363; *cl. 31*, 534; *add. cl. 1122*, 1326
 Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Durham), 2R. [279] 1215
 Supply—Criminal Prosecutions—Sheriffs' Expenses, &c. [282] 1416
 Supply—Supplementary Estimates, 1882-3—Criminal Prosecutions, &c. in Ireland, [276] 1982

THURLOW, Lord

Arrears of Rent (Ireland) Act, 1882—Irish Church Fund, [280] 1688
 Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 1), 2R. [282] 1450
 Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (Nos. 5 & 8), 2R. [282] 2033
 Expiring Laws Continuance, 3R. [283] 1608
 Merchant Shipping (Fishing Boats), 2R. [282] 263; Commons Amendts. *Consid.* [283] 1713
 Metropolis—Drainage, [282] 1615
 Street Traffic—Hamilton Place, Piccadilly, [283] 1837
 Metropolitan Improvements—Parliament Street, [283] 454;
 Statue of the Duke of Wellington, [283] 1716
 Parliament—Palace of Westminster—House of Lords—Peers' Robing Room, [282] 690
 Post Office—Parcel Post, [283] 453
 Underground Telegraph and Telephone Wires, [283] 214
 Post Office (Money Orders) Acts Amendment, 2R. [283] 1713
 Public Health—Sanitary Condition of Somerset House, [282] 279
 Public Offices, Motion for a Return, [283] 213
 Public Offices Site, [283] 1319
 Railway Passenger Duty, &c. 2R. [282] 1611; 3R. 2063
 Revenue and Friendly Societies, 2R. [283] 1602; *Comm.* 1603; Amendt. 1604; *cl. 1*, Amendt. *ib.*
 Scotland—Queen's Park, Edinburgh, [283] 4
 Sea Fisheries (Ireland), 2R. [282] 273

Tithe Rent Charge Bill [H.L.]

(*The Earl Stanhope*)

1. Presented; read 1st April 5 (No. 22)
 Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2nd" May 31, [279] 1273
 Amendt. to leave out ("now," add ("this day six months")) (*The Lord Bramwell*); after short debate, Amendt., original Motion, and Bill withdrawn

Tithe Rent Charge (Extraordinary) Bill

(*Mr. Inderwick, Mr. Duckham, Sir Edward Filmer, Mr. Edward Leatham, Sir John Lubbock, Mr. Arthur Vivian, Mr. Walter*)

c. Ordered; read 1st Feb 16 [Bill 52]
 2R. [Dropped]

Tithe Rent Charge Recovery Bill

(*Mr. Stanley Leighton, Mr. Cropper, Mr. Pell, Mr. Bulwer*)

c. Ordered; read 1st Mar 13 [Bill 119]
 2R. deferred, after short debate June 28, [280] 1830
 2R. [Dropped]

Tobacco, Cultivation of, for Sale by Farmers

Question, Lord John Manners; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer April 19, [278] 621; Question, Mr. Arthur O'Connor; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer May 10, [279] 420

TOLLEMACHE, Mr. H. J., Cheshire, W.

Contagious Diseases (Animals) Acts—Foot-and-Mouth Disease, [276] 711

TOMLINSON, Mr. W. E. M., Preston

Africa (South)—Transvaal and Bechuanaland, [277] 934
 Agricultural Holdings (England), *Comm. Schedule 1*, [282] 414
 Alloa, Dunfermline, and Kirkcaldy Railway, 2R. [276] 903, 905, 1597, 1598
 Army Estimates—Volunteer Corps, [283] 1246, 1250
 War Office, [283] 1300
 Army (Supplementary Estimate), 1882-3—Expeditionary Force to Egypt, [276] 1362
 Bankruptcy, 2R. Motion for Adjournment, [277] 905
 Cemeteries, 2R. [278] 1098
 Constabulary and Police (Ireland) (Pay and Pensions), *Comm. cl. 7*, [279] 1060
 Egypt—Rise of the Nile, [282] 2114
 Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 5), 3R. [282] 1303
 Friendly, &c. Societies (Nominations), *Comm.* [280] 651; 3R. [281] 2041; *Re-comm. cl. 5*, Amendt. [282] 419; *cl. 10*, Amendt. 420, 421; *Consid. cl. 10*, 683
 Limited Partnerships, 2R. [278] 1692
 Literature, Science and Art—The Reputed Raphael, [279] 1486
 Navy Estimates—New Works, Buildings, &c. Motion for reporting Progress, [281] 1650, 1651

TOMLINSON, Mr. W. E. M.—cont.

- Parliament—Business of the House—Questions [282] 1540
- Ministerial Statement, [282] 1155
- Notices of Motions, &c., Motion for Postponement, [276] 400
- Parliament—Queen's Speech, Address in Answer to, [276] 456, 462
- Parliamentary Elections (Closing of Public Houses, 2R. [277] 922
- Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. cl. 6, [280] 1579, 1592, 1608; cl. 15, [281] 233, 238, 252, 261; Amendt. 262, 263, 269; cl. 17, 322; cl. 18, 335; cl. 23, 373; cl. 31, 518; cl. 33, 616; cl. 35, 625; cl. 41, 833; cl. 44, 843; add. cl. 1282, 1285, 1332; Schedule 1, 1410, 1419, 1450; Consid. cl. 4, [282] 2022; cl. 8, [283] 74
- Protection of Juvenile Morals, [277] 803
- Railway Commission—Permanency, [277] 360
- Railway Commission, Res. [278] 1902
- Railway Companies, Charges of—Recommendations of the Select Committee, [276] 298
- Railways (Rates and Fares), Select Committee, [276] 593
- Revenue and Friendly Societies, 2R. Motion for Adjournment, [282] 1217
- Ribble Navigation, Preston Dock and Borough Extension, Lords Amendts. Consid. [281] 433, 443
- Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Durham), 2R. [279] 1239
- Settlement and Removal Law Amendment, 2R. Motion for Adjournment, [281] 724
- Statute of Frauds Amendment, Comm. cl. 1, Amendt. [281] 1464
- Suez Canal (Purchase of Shares)—Drawn Shares, [282] 1333
- Supply—British Museum, [283] 881
- Houses of Parliament, Buildings of, [279] 444
- Public Works in Ireland, [279] 1354
- Report, [283] 1303

Tonquin and Annam

- Diplomatic Representatives*, Question, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Aug 21, [283] 1499
- French Protectorate over Tonquin*, Question, Sir Donald Currie; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice April 23, [278] 912
- The French Invasion*, Question, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Aug 23, [283] 1755
- [See title *France and Annam*]

TORRENS, Mr. W. T. M'C., Finsbury

- Bankruptcy, 2R. [277] 971
- Customs and Inland Revenue—Duty on Tramways, [280] 555
- Education Act, 1870—The School Rate, Res. [282] 838
- Metropolitan Improvements—Re-building of Angler's Gardens, Islington, [277] 939
- North Metropolitan Tramways, 2R. [277] 356
- Parks (Metropolis)—Finsbury Park, [281] 475
- Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. cl. 44, [281] 847
- Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Amendment, 2R. [278] 333

TORRENS, Mr. W. T. M'C.—cont.

- Public Health—Metropolitan Asylum—Hampstead Hospital, [280] 202
- Suez Canal—A Parallel Canal, [280] 1
- Water Supply (Metropolis), [283] 62

TOTTENHAM, Mr. A. L., Leitrim

- Army—Questions
- Auxiliary Forces—Militia Surgeon Corbin, [282] 132
- Mess Plate, [282] 1139, 1140
- Promotion Warrant—Sir Andrew [283] 253, 254
- Army Estimates—Works, Buildings, Home and Abroad, [280] 1797
- Cholera Hospitals (Ireland), Comm. Amendt. [283] 142
- Constabulary and Police (Ireland) (Pensions), Comm. cl. 7, [279] 1053
- Contagious Diseases Acts, [278] 425
- Cruelty to Animals Acts Amendment cl. 2, Amendt. [282] 1963; 3R. 19
- Ireland—Questions
- Drainage, &c.—Rathangan Drain tract, [277] 1175
- Irish Land Commission Court—Mgher and Mr. Ryan, [281] 465, 1891
- Land Law Act, 1881—Irish Land sion—Sec. 60 — “Chaine v. [280] 198, 199
- Law and Justice — Mr. Bolton Solicitor for Tipperary Co. [277]
- Magistracy—Law Adviser, [278]
- Ireland—Irish Land Commission—S missionaries—Questions
- Co. Kerry, [276] 1743
- Fitzpatrick, Mr. Peter, [276] 83
- 1164, 1165, 1166
- Mr. M'Devitt, [278] 1704
- Ireland—Poor Law—Questions
- Bantry—Election of Guardians, [2] 421
- Leitrim Co. — Election of Gua
- Alleged Intimidation, [278] 907
- Oldcastle Union, [283] 280
- Poor Law Elections, [277] 1495
- Land Improvement and Arterial (Ireland), 2R. [279] 879
- Law and Police—The Dynamite Con
- Rewards to the Police, [282] 163
- Navy—H.M.S. “Valorous,” [277] 941
- Parliament—Business of the House, for Adjournment, [282] 1593
- Parliamentary Registration (Ireland) add. cl. [283] 508, 516; Consid. 1108
- Post Office (Contracts)—Irish Mail [277] 788, 790, 929, 1112, 111
- 1007; [281] 1222; [282] 541, 1
- Irish and Scotch Mail Service, [27]
- Supply—Irish Land Commission, [283]
- Public Education in Ireland, [28] 1044
- Tramways and Public Companies (Comm. cl. 1, Amendt. [283] 996, 1000, 1001, 1002; cl. 2, 1007, 100
- 1010; cl. 7, 1013; add. cl. 1102
- Union Officers' Superannuation (Irela [282] 1582

Trade and Commerce

Agricultural and Commercial Depression, Observations, The Duke of Rutland; Reply, The Earl of Kimberley; short debate thereon June 8, [280] 3

Commercial Negotiations with Spain, Question, Mr. Monk; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Mar 5, [276] 1413

France—Commercial Negotiations—Brokerage on Shipping, Questions, Mr. Charles Palmer; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice June 25, [280] 1408; July 2, [281] 32

Correspondence . . . P.P. [3553]

Ireland—Customs Dues in Cork, Question, Mr. O'Donnell; Answer, Mr. Courtney April 5, [277] 1491

Italy—Commercial Treaty, Question, Mr. Monk; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice June 14, [280] 548 The Treaty. P.P. [6666]
[See title *Italy—The New Treaty of Commerce*]

New Turkish Tariff—British Imports into Turkey, Questions, Mr. Monk, Mr. Bourke; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice June 11, [280] 204

Oversizing of Cotton Cloth, Question, Mr. Broadhurst; Answer, Sir William Harcourt Mar 9, [276] 1899

The Sugar Duties, Question, Mr. Samuel Morley; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain May 10, [279] 413

Sugar Imports, Question, Mr. John Morley; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain Aug 21, [283] 1491

Vexatious Proceedings of the French at Smyrna, Question, Mr. McCoan; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Aug 16, [283] 752

The Western Bank, Question, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain Aug 20, [283] 1365

Trade Marks Bill (Mr. Arthur Arnold, Mr. Armitage, Mr. Arnold Morley, Mr. Orr-Ewing)

Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 70]
2R., after short debate, [House counted out] Feb 20, [276] 500
2R. [Dropped]

Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland) Bill

Question, Colonel Nolan; Answer, Mr. Courtney July 19, [281] 1903; Question, Mr. Barry; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Aug 2, [282] 1342; Questions, Mr. Findlater, Mr. Parnell; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan Aug 6, 1657; Questions, Mr. Sexton, Mr. Gibson; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan, Mr. Gladstone Aug 10, [283] 62

Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland) Bill

Mr. Trevelyan, Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Attorney General for Ireland, Mr. Courtney
Motion for Leave (Mr. Trevelyan) Aug 7, [282] 1965; after debate, Question put, and agreed to; Bill ordered; read 1^o [Bill 286]
83] Read 2^o, after long debate Aug 14, 547

[cont.]

Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland) Bill—cont.

283] Committee—s.r. Aug 17, 977
Committee; Report Aug 17, 1090
Considered; read 3^o, after short debate, Aug 18, 1304
l. Read 1^o (Lord President) Aug 20 (No. 205)
Read 2^o, after short debate Aug 21, 1478
Committee; Report Aug 22
Read 3^o Aug 23
Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 43]

Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland) [Advances]

c. Considered in Committee Aug 14
Resolution reported Aug 15

Tramways Provisional Orders (No. 1) (Aldershot and Farnborough, &c.) Bill
(Mr. John Holms, Mr. Chamberlain)

c. Ordered; read 1^o May 4 [Bill 167]
Read 2^o May 25
Report June 14
Considered June 15
Read 3^o June 18
l. Read 1^o (Lord Sudeley) June 19 (No. 110)
Read 2^o June 25
Committee July 6
Report July 9
Read 3^o July 10
Royal Assent Aug 2 [46 & 47 Vict. c. cxxxi]

Tramways Provisional Orders (No. 2) (Birmingham and Western District, &c.) Bill

(Mr. John Holms, Mr. Chamberlain)

c. Ordered; read 1^o May 4 [Bill 168]
Read 2^o May 22
Report June 1
Considered June 4
Read 3^o June 5
l. Read 1^o (Lord Sudeley) June 7 (No. 80)
Read 2^o June 15
Report June 21
Read 3^o June 22
Royal Assent June 29 [46 & 47 Vict. c. xlvii]

Tramways Provisional Orders (No. 3) (Colchester, &c.) Bill

(Mr. John Holms, Mr. Chamberlain)

c. Ordered; read 1^o May 4 [Bill 169]
Read 2^o May 29
Report June 14
Considered June 15
Read 3^o June 18
l. Read 1^o (Lord Sudeley) June 19 (No. 111)
Read 2^o June 25
Committee July 2, [281] 2
Committee July 10, 920
Report July 12
Read 3^o July 13
Royal Assent Aug 2 [46 & 47 Vict. c. cxxxiii]

Tramways Provisional Orders (No. 4) (South Shields, &c.) Bill

(Mr. John Holms, Mr. Chamberlain)

c. Ordered May 24

[cont.]

Tramways Provisional Orders (No. 4) (South Shields, &c.) Bill—cont.

- Read 1^o * May 25 [Bill 201]
 Read 2^o * June 4
 Report * June 13
 Considered * June 14
 Read 3^o * June 15
 l. Read 1^o * (Lord Sudeley) June 18 (No. 104)
 Read 2^o * June 25
 Committee * July 2
 Report * July 3
 Read 3^o * July 5
 Royal Assent July 16 [46 & 47 Vict. c. xciii]

Tramways (Ireland) Provisional Order (Extension of Time) Bill [H.L.] (The Lord President)

- l. Presented; read 1^o, and referred to the Examiners April 10 (No. 28)
 Read 2^o * April 19
 Committee *; Report April 27
 Read 3^o * April 30
 c. Read 1^o * May 7 [Bill 181]
 Read 2^o * May 22
 Report * June 5
 Considered * June 6
 Read 3^o * June 7
 l. Royal Assent June 18 [46 Vict. c. xxx]

Treasury Solicitor Act, 1876

- The "Crown's Nominee Account,"* Question, Sir Herbert Maxwell; Answer, Mr. Courtney July 23, [282] 132
 Abstract for 1882 . . . (P.P. 235)
The Goods of Felons, Question, Mr. Anderson; Answer, Mr. Courtney July 9, [281] 792

Treaty of Berlin

- Article V.—Religious Liberty in Bulgaria,* Question, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice May 24, [279] 758
Article X.—Bulgaria, Question, Observations, Earl Stanhope; Reply, Earl Granville June 1, [279] 1476;—*The Varna Railway Claims,* Questions, Mr. Dixon-Hartland; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice May 28, 933; June 11, [280] 207; Question, Mr. Joseph Cowen; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice June 15, 691; Questions, Mr. Dixon-Hartland; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice June 25, 1407; Question, Observations, Earl De La 282] Warr; Reply, Earl Granville July 24, 277; Question, The Marquess of Salisbury; Answer, Earl Granville Aug 20, 1309

Article XXIII.

- The European Provinces of Turkey,* Questions, Sir George Campbell, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Mar 12, [277] 201
The Island of Chios, Question, Mr. Ralli; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 16, [281] 1508
The Tribute of Bulgaria, Question, Mr. Bourke; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice April 16, [278] 316

Treaty of Berlin—cont.

- Articles LII, LIV, LV.—The Danubian* Questions, Mr. Joseph Cowen; Henry De Worms; Answers, Lord Fitzmaurice Mar 12, [277] 304
Article LXI.—Reforms in Armenia, Mr. Baxter; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Feb 19, [276] 298; Question, Mr. Bryce; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice April 9, [277] 1827; Question, Lord Mead-Bartlett; Answer, Mr. Bryce June 15, [280] 693

Treaty of Berlin—Articles L2 XXIII. — Armenia and E Turkey

Amendt. on Committee of Supply Mr. Bryce leave out from "That," add "the trusts that Her Majesty's Government in conjunction with the other Powers of Europe, signatories of the Treaty continue to press upon the Ottoman Government the duty and necessity of forthwith carrying out effective reforms in Armenia and in European Turkey, conformably to the stipulations of the Sixty-first and Twenty-third of the Treaty of Berlin" (Mr. Bryce) v.; Question, "words, &c.," put, and negatived

Another Amendt. to leave out from add "this House trusts that the Government will continue to press upon the Ottoman Porte the duty and necessity of forthwith carrying out effective reforms in Armenia and in European Turkey, conformably to the stipulations of the Sixty-first and Twenty-third Articles of the Treaty of Berlin" (Mr. Bryce) v.; Question, "words, &c.," put, and negatived
 Words added; main Question, as amended, agreed to

Treaty of Washington

- The "Alabama" Claims—The Geneva Convention,* Questions, Mr. Coleridge Kennard; Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Mar 541; April 3, 1275; Questions, Mr. Coleridge Kennard, Mr. Montague Sturt; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice [279] 1638
The "Alabama" (Surplus) Claims—Commission, Question, Mr. Coleridge Kennard; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 20, [282] 35

Trees Planting (Ireland) Bill

(Mr. Corry, Viscount Crichton, Sir Henry Campbell, Captain Aylmer)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o * Feb 10 [2R. [Dropped]]

Trees Planting (Ireland) (No. 2)

(Mr. Marum, Mr. Parnell, Sir George Murray, Mr. Patrick Martin, Mr. Richard Martin)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o * Feb 16 [Bill withdrawn * July 2]

TREVELYAN, Rt. Hon. G. O. (Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland), *Hawick &c.*

Borough Franchise (Ireland), 2R. [276] 1698
Consolidated Fund (Appropriation), 3R. [283] 1782

Constabulary and Police Administration (Ireland), Motion for Leave, [282] 884, 887, 1055, 1085

Constabulary and Police (Ireland) (Pay and Pensions), Res. [278] 1825, 1826

Constabulary and Police (Ireland) (Pay and Pensions), Leave, [278] 1942, 1952, 1953; 2R. [279] 690, 691; Comm. cl. 2, 1042; cl. 3, *ib.*, 1044, 1048, 1051; cl. 7, 1063, 1063, 1067; cl. 8, *ib.*, 1070; cl. 10, 1073; cl. 12, 1074; cl. 13, 1430; cl. 14, 1432; *add. cl.* 1439, 1444; Schedule 1, 1445; Schedule 2, 1447, 1449, 1451, 1452, 1453; Preamble, 1454; 3R. 1569, 1570, 1571

Court of Criminal Appeal, [282] 1538

Egypt (Re-organization)—Mr. Clifford Lloyd, [282] 1480, 1481, 2116

Elective Councils (Ireland), 2R. [278] 22

Ireland—Questions

Army—Withdrawal of the Royal Marines, [280] 201

Arrests for Drunkenness—Constabulary Reports, [278] 80

Audit of Accounts—Wexford Corporation, [279] 1637

Borough and County Valuation, [282] 1134

Borough Boundary Commission, [279] 944

Butter Trade—Cork Butter Market, [280] 1406; [281] 179

Cattle Disease, [278] 1155; —Westmeath, [278] 1267, 1433

Commissioners of Public Works—Erection of Barracks, [281] 42

Commissioners of Towns—Account Audits, [277] 693

Corporation of Wexford, [280] 221

County Government—The Grand Jury Panels, 1882-3 [283] 1740

Drainage of the River Barrow, [277] 1507

Dublin Metropolitan Police and Royal Irish Constabulary, Committee of Inquiry, [279] 229; —Alleged Misconduct, [282] 1619

Electoral Franchise, [280] 208, 209

Endowed Schools—Swords Borough School, Dublin, [282] 2084, 2085; [283] 464

Executive Government—Office of Law Adviser of the Crown, [278] 67, 608

Explosives Act, 1875—Storage of Gunpowder in Ireland, [277] 1969; [278] 1142

Fisheries, [280] 532, 1714

Fishery Piers and Harbours, [276] 411; —Piers in Co. Donegal, [280] 926

Government of Ireland—Under Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant, [278] 1157, 1427, 1428

Gun Licences—Pallaskenry Petty Sessions, [283] 956

Harbours of Refuge—Irish Convict Labour, [282] 930

Hunting in Carlow Co. [279] 395, 396, 397

Industrial Schools—Grants, [280] 1130

Inland Navigation, &c.—Bridge across the Shannon, [280] 203

TREVELYAN, Right Hon. G. O.—*cont.*

Inland Navigation and Drainage—Scariff Drainage Board, [282] 944; —The Blackwater (Co. Cavan), [283] 284

Inland Revenue—Selling Porter without a Licence, [279] 1305

Irish Bankrupt and Insolvent Act, 1857—Transfer of Funds, [279] 580

Irish Church Act, 1869—Purchasers—"Fair Rents," [276] 574, 1425

Irish Famine of 1847—Payment of Debt resulting, [276] 1172

Irish Mail Contract—Registration of Voters Bill, [278] 2

Kildare County Infirmary, [283] 1337, 1338

Labourers' Bill, [280] 565; [283] 1843

Land Law Acts—Rights to Turf and Seaweed, [280] 926

Landlord and Tenant—Reductions of Rent, [279] 1323

Licensing Acts, Dublin, [279] 35

Local Government Board—Mr. H. J. M'Farlane, Inspector for Donegal, [282] 2087, 2088

Lunacy Commissioners' Reports for 1882, [280] 1419

Maintenance of Harmless Idiots and Lunatics, [277] 940

Medical Appointments, [278] 623

Medical Charities Act, 1852—Dispensary Officers, [282] 2078

Nationalization of the Land, [277] 551

Parliamentary Elections—Wexford Election, [280] 768

Passenger and Emigrant Ships—Alleged Starvation of Emigrants, [279] 1980

Phoenix Park Murders—Memorial to the late Mr. Burke, [279] 1650

Province of Ulster—County Valuation, [282] 775, 776

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- Business of the House, [282] 47, 4
- Election of Mr. T. Harrington fmeath, [276] 1021, 1022
- Labourers (Ireland) Bill, [279] 11
- Privilege—Member Imprisoned (M [276] 77, 1893
- Public Business, [277] 1821
- Parliament—Queen's Speech, Address to, [276] 725, 731, 736, 738, 7 Amendt. 855, 877, 878, 882, 106 1070, 1081, 1084, 1087, 1204
- Parliamentary Elections—Sligo E
- Alleged Intimidation, [283] 727
- The Monaghan Election, [281] 12
- Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt an Practices), Comm. cl. 31, [281] 548
- Parliamentary Registration (Ireland), 1543; Comm. cl. 3, [283] 483; c 491; cl. 6, 498, 502; cl. 8, 504; c cl. 11, 506; add. cl. 508, 512, 5
- Consid. add. cl. 1102, 1105; Amen
- Poor Law Guardians (Ireland), 2R. [497
- Poor Relief (Ireland), Motion for Lea 1257, 1260, 1261; 2R. [280] 198 [281] 56; Comm. 152, 153; cl. 1, 568, 571; cl. 5, 573, 575, 576; 900, 911
- Prison Service (Ireland), 2R. [281] 15
- Registration of Voters (Ireland), 2R. [Sale of Liquors on Sunday (Irela [280] 1824
- Sea and Coast Fisheries Fund (Irela [277] 987
- Sea Fisheries (Ireland), Comm. cl. 1337
- Supply—Chief Secretary to the Lo tenant of Ireland, &c. [283] 120 1210
- Civil Services and Revenue Dep [282] 671
- Constabulary Force in Ireland, [2 843

[*cont.*

TRUVELVAN, Right Hon. G. O.—*cont.*

- Criminal Prosecutions, &c. in Ireland, [283] 367, 369, 370
- Endowed School Commissioners, Ireland, [283] 1054, 1055
- Irish Land Commission, [283] 799, 800, 803, 807, 808, 810, 822
- Local Government Board in Ireland, &c. [283] 1214, 1215
- Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Household of, &c. [283] 1126, 1132, 1145, 1157, 1158, 1178
- Prisons, Ireland, [283] 854, 857, 870, 875
- Public Education in Ireland, [283] 1035, 1042, 1043, 1049, 1053
- Queen's Colleges in Ireland, [283] 1076, 1078
- Report, [283] 1110
- Supply (Supplementary Estimates), 1882—3—Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, &c. [276] 1807, 1808, 1810, 1812, 1813, 1814, 1839, 1841, 1842
- Commissioners of Police, &c. of Dublin, [277] 94, 97, 98, 99, 103
- County Court Officers, &c. Ireland, [277] 78, 80, 84
- Criminal Prosecutions, &c. in Ireland, [276] 1971, 1975, 1997, 2000
- Irish Land Commission, [277] 27, 28, 32, 74, 75
- Prisons, &c. in Ireland, [277] 122, 124, 125
- Supreme Court of Judicature—The New Rules, [282] 140
- Tramways and Public Companies (Ireland), 282 Leave, 1965, 1970, 1973, 1976
- 283 [63; 2R. 571; Comm. 972; cl. 1, 984, 985, 988, 989, 990, 993, 995; Amendt. 998, 1002, 1003; cl. 4, 1011; cl. 6, Amendt. 1012; cl. 7, 1013; cl. 11, Amendt. 1016, 1018; cl. 12, 1093, 1094; cl. 21, Amendt. 1097; add. cl. 1098
- United States—Irish Emigrants, [279] 1651
- Vice-Royalty (Ireland), 2R. [280] 1094

Trial of Lunatics Bill [H.L.]

(*The Lord Chancellor*)

- 1. Presented; read 1st Aug 2 (No. 169)
- Read 2nd Aug 6
- Committee Aug 9 (No. 184)
- Report Aug 10
- Read 3rd Aug 13
- a. Read 1st (Mr. Attorney General) Aug 14
- Read 2nd, after debate Aug 16, [283] 922 [Bill 292]
- Committee; Report Aug 17
- Considered; read 3rd Aug 18
- 1. Royal Assent Aug 25 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 38]

Truck Act—Medical Attendance in Mining Districts

Question, Mr. Burt; Answer, Sir William Harcourt June 28, [280] 1690

TRURO, Lord

- Army—Recruiting for the Army and Militia, [280] 335
- Army (Auxiliary Forces), [279] 1810
- Army (India)—Surgeon-Major Thorburn, [278] 400

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TRURO, Lord—*cont.*

- Army Organization—Militia and Militia Reserve, Res. [281] 739
- Criminal Law Amendment, Comm. cl. 5, [280] 1388; cl. 6, 1391; cl. 7, Amendt. 1394; Report, cl. 6, 1857; cl. 9, 1861; Motion that the Bill do pass, cl. 2, [281] 404
- India—Criminal Law Amendment—Punishment of Flogging, [281] 581, 585
- Metropolitan Improvements—Hyde Park Corner—Re-erection of the Wellington Statue, [279] 1194
- Pawnbrokers, 2R. [280] 1251
- Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Cornwall), 3R. [282] 918

Trust Funds (Scotland) Bill

(Mr. James Stewart, Mr. Mackintosh, Mr. Crum)
a. Ordered; read 1st May 8 [Bill 180]
2R. [Dropped]

Tunis

- Arrest of a British Subject*, Question, Mr. A. J. Balfour; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 12, [281] 1238
- The Bombardment of Sfax*, Question, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Aug 23, [283] 1754
[See title *France and Tunis*]

Tunis—The Capitulations

- Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty for papers and correspondence respecting the rights of British subjects in the Regency of Tunis under the capitulations, in connexion with the proposed Treaty between France and the Bey of Tunis" (*The Earl De La Warr*) Feb 20, [276] 395; after short debate, Motion withdrawn
- Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty for Papers and Correspondence respecting the arrest of a Maltese British Subject at Tunis" (*The Earl De La Warr*) July 24, [282] 274; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Turkey

- Disorders in Upper Macedonia*, Question, Mr. Bryce; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Mar 15, [277] 549
- Finance, &c.—The Public Debt*, Question, Mr. Bourke; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Aug 21, [283] 1499
- Loan of 1855 P.P. 221
- Greek Subjects of the Porte*, Question, Mr. Arthur Arnold; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 9, [281] 793
- Servia—Detention of Prisoners*, Question, Sir William M^rArthur; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Mar 5, [276] 1426
- The New Tariff*, Question, Mr. Arthur Arnold; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice May 24, [279] 783
[See titles *Trade and Commerce—Treaty of Berlin*]

Turkey in Asia

- Armenia—The Anglo-Turkish Convention*, Questions, Mr. M^rCoan, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answers, Mr. Gladstone April 2, [277] 1278

[*cont.*]

Turkey in Asia—cont.

Governorship of the Lebanon, Question, Mr. Cartwright; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice April 9, [277] 1827; Question, Mr. Bourke; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice April 26, [278] 1139; Questions, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett, Mr. O'Donnell; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice May 10, [279] 402;—*Rustem Pasha*, Question, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Aug 16, [283] 722

Jews in Palestine, Question, Mr. Serjeant Simon; Answer, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Feb 26, [276] 832

The Euphrates and Tigris Steam Navigation Company, Questions, Mr. Arthur Arnold; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Feb 19, [276] 300; July 10, [281] 956; July 12, 1218; Questions, Mr. R. N. Fowler, Mr. Arthur Arnold; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice July 19, 1889; Questions, Mr. Arthur Arnold; Answers, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Aug 6, [282] 1633; Aug 7, 1846

Turkey (Asiatic Provinces)—Euphrates Valley Railway

Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty for Papers respecting the formation of the Euphrates Valley line of railway" (*The Lord Lamington*) July 26, [282] 507; after short debate, Motion agreed to

Turnpike Acts Continuance Act, 1882

Select Committee appointed, to inquire into the Fifth and Sixth Schedules of "The Annual Turnpike Acts Continuance Act, 1882" April 9

Committee nominated as follows:—Mr. Wentworth Beaumont (Chairman), Mr. Acland, Mr. Beach, Lord Edward Cavendish, Viscount Folkestone, Mr. Hibbert, Mr. Lambton, and Mr. Salt

Turnpike Acts Continuance Bill

(*Mr. Hibbert, Mr. George Russell, Sir Charles Dilke*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o June 18 [Bill 231]

Read 2^o June 21

Committee; Report June 25

Read 3^o June 26

l. Read 1^o (Lord Carrington) June 28 (No. 132)

Read 2^o July 16

Committee; Report July 17

Read 3^o July 19

Royal Assent Aug 2 [46 & 47 Vict. c. 21]

TYLER, Sir H. W., *Harwich*

Egypt (Military Expedition)—Supply of Flour for the Troops, [279] 1902

Underground Railways Bill

(*Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett, Mr. Alderman Fowler, Mr. Coddington*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o Mar 13 [Bill 120]

2R. [Dropped]

Union of Benefices Act (1860) Amendment Bill

(*Mr. George Russell, Mr. Edward Sta*

c. Ordered; read 1^o May 9 [Bi

Read 2^o May 22

Order for Committee read; Moved, "

Speaker do now leave the Chair"

[279] 1189; Moved, "That the Debat

adjourned" (*Mr. Cavendish B.*

after short debate, Question put; 1

44; M. 11 (D. L. 107)

Original Question again proposed;

"That this House do now adjourn

(*Onslow*); after short debate, Moti

drawn

Original Question again proposed;

"That the Debate be now adjourne

(*George Russell*); Question put, and

to; Debate adjourned

Adjourned Debate on going into Cc

[Dropped]

Union Officers' Superannuation (I Bill

(*Mr. Herbert G*

Mr. Trevelyan, Mr. Attorney Gen

Ireland)

c. Ordered; read 1^o April 5 [Bil

Moved, "That the Bill be now re

Aug 4, [282] 1580

Amendt. to leave out "now," add "u

day three months" (*Mr. Biggar*);

proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" aft

debate, Question put; A. 80, N. 25

(D. L. 259)

Main Question put, and agreed to; Bil

Committee deferred, after short debate

[283] 1712

Bill withdrawn * Aug 23

United States

Dynamite Conspiracies, Question, Mr. 1

Answer, Mr. Gladstone April 24, [2;

Irish Emigrants, Question, Mr. T. P.

nor; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan June

1850

The Revised Tariff, Question, Mr. M

Answer, Mr. Chamberlain Mar 1

1607; Question, Mr. Ecroyd;

Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice Mar 1

362; Questions, Mr. H. T. Davenp

Broadhurst; Answers, Mr. Chan

374 (P

United States and Mexico, The

Question, Mr. Slagg; Answer, Lord

Fitzmaurice April 24, [278] 1054

Universities Committee of Privy (Bill

(*Mr. Charles Roundell, M*

Mr. Shield, Mr. Thorold Rogers)

c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [B

Moved, "That the Bill be now re

April 4, [277] 1386

Amendt. to leave out "now," add

this day six months" (*Sir John R. Mo*

Question proposed, "That 'now,'

after short debate, Amendt. with

Motion withdrawn; Bill withdrawn

Universities (Scotland) Bill

The Lord Advocate, Secretary Sir William Harscourt, Mr. Solicitor General for Scotland

a. Ordered; read 1^o April 3 [Bill 131]
Bill withdrawn * July 9

Universities (Scotland) Bill

Question, Mr. Lyon Playfair; Answer, The Lord Advocate April 23, [278] 915; Question, Mr. Webster; Answer, The Lord Advocate May 3, 1718

Deanery of the Chapel Royal in Scotland, Question, Mr. Webster; Answer, Mr. Courtney Aug 6, [282] 1618

Sums voted, 1873 to 1893 . . . P.P. 167
Pensions 245

University College of South Wales—Claims of Aberystwith College

Question, Lord Claud Hamilton; Answer, Mr. Mundella Aug 2, [282] 1334

University Education (Ireland) Bill

(Sir Joseph M'Kenna, Mr. Gray, Mr. Dawson, Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. William Corbet)

a. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 32]
2R. [Dropped]

Vaccination

Death in St. Pancras Workhouse, Questions, Mr. Hopwood; Answers, Sir Charles W. Dilke June 11, [280] 199; June 18, 789

Syphilitic Infection, Questions, Sir Lyon Playfair, Mr. Hopwood, Mr. P. A. Taylor; Answers, Sir Charles W. Dilke June 7, [279] 1918

Communication of Diseases, Questions, Mr. Hopwood, Mr. Healy; Answers, Mr. George Russell Aug 20, [283] 1334

Vaccination Acts

Calf Lymph, Question, Mr. Hopwood; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke May 22, [279] 897

Vaccine Lymph, Question, Mr. Arthur O'Connor; Answer, Mr. George Russell Aug 6, [282] 1643

Case of Mr. Armfield, Question, Mr. P. A. Taylor; Answer, Mr. Hibbert Mar 8, [276] 1757

Case of E. A. Henning, Questions, Mr. Hopwood; Answers, Mr. George Russell Aug 21, [283] 1488; Aug 23, 1734

Case of William H. Kennard, Question, Mr. P. A. Taylor; Answer, Mr. George Russell June 28, [280] 1689

Compulsory Vaccination, Question, Mr. P. A. Taylor; Answer, Mr. Hibbert Mar 13, [277] 365

Fines, &c., Question, Mr. Hopwood; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan July 30, [282] 925

Legislation, Question, Mr. Burt; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke April 6, [277] 1632

Prosecutions—Mr. C. J. Neale (Bristol), Question, Mr. P. A. Taylor; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke June 5, [279] 1740

The Brighton Board of Guardians, Question, Mr. P. A. Taylor; Answer, Mr. George Russell July 19, [281] 1882

[See title *Public Health*]

Vaccination

Moved, "That, in the opinion of this House, it is inexpedient and unjust to enforce Vaccination under penalties upon those who regard it as unadvisable and dangerous" (*Mr. P. A. Taylor*) June 19, [280] 986

Amendt. to leave out from "That," add "a Select Committee of this House be appointed for the purpose of ascertaining whether a limitation of the accumulation of penalties for non-vaccination can be effected without endangering the practical efficiency of the Vaccination Acts" (*Sir Joseph Pease*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Amendt. withdrawn

Amendt. to leave out from "House," add "the practice of Vaccination has greatly lessened the mortality from small-pox, and that Laws relating to it, with such modifications as experience may suggest, are necessary for the prevention and mitigation of this fatal and mutilative disease" (*Sir Lyon Playfair*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" Question put; A. 16, N. 286; M. 270 (D.L. 145)

Main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to

Vaccination Laws (Germany)

Question, Dr. Cameron; Answer, Mr. George Russell July 6, [281] 601

VENTRY, LORD

Arrears of Rent (Ireland) Act, 1882, [278] 188

Irish Reproductive Loan Fund Act (1874) Amendment, 2R. [282] 906; Comm. cl. 3, Amendt. 1608, 1609; cl. 5, Amendt. 1611

Labourers (Ireland), 2R. [283] 927; Comm. 1321

VERNEY, Sir H., Buckingham

Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. cl. 4, [281] 1938; cl. 23, [282] 360

Channel Tunnel Railway, 2R. [282] 282

Madagascar—Claims of France on the North-West Coast—The Yellow Book, [277] 1154, 1490

The Envoys, [278] 306

Post Office—Communication from Aden to Madagascar, [277] 990

VERNON, LORD

Contagious Diseases (Animals) Acts—Foot-and-Mouth Disease, Motion for Correspondence, [278] 280

Vice-Royalty (Ireland) Bill

(Mr. Justin M'Carthy, Mr. Richard Power, Mr. O'Kelly, Mr. Kenny)

a. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 37]

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" June 20, [280] 1076

Amendt. to leave out "now," add "upon this day three months" (*Mr. J. N. Richardson*); Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" after debate, Debate adjourned

Adjourned Debate on 2R. [Dropped]

VIVIAN, Sir H. Hussey, Glamorganshire
 Agricultural Holdings (England), Comm. Schedule 1, Amendt. [282] 412
 Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 5), 2R. [281] 315
 Electric Lighting Provisional Orders Bills, Res. Amendt. [281] 447
 Mercantile Marine—Harbour Accommodation on the East Coast, Motion for a Select Committee, [277] 399
 Parliament—Business of the House—"Counts out," Res. [277] 1973, 1984
 Rivers Conservancy and Floods Prevention, Bill withdrawn, [281] 818

VIVIAN, Mr. A. P., Cornwall, W.

Board of Trade—Trinity House—Communication between Lighthouses and the Shore, [276] 1259
 Literature, Science, and Art—Meteorological Stations, [282] 1326
 Parliament—House of Commons—Ventilation of the Committee Rooms, [279] 1912

Vivisection Abolition Bill

(*Mr. Reid, Sir Eardley Wilmot, Mr. Samuel Morley Mr. Firth*)

a. Ordered; read 1st Feb 18 [Bill 46]
 Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" April 4, [277] 1399
 Amendt. to leave out "now," add "upon this day six months" (*Mr. Cartwright*); Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" after debate, Debate adjourned
 Adjourned Debate on 2R. [Dropped]

WADDY, Mr. S. D., Edinburgh

Agricultural Holdings (Scotland), Lords Amendts. Consid. [283] 1582, 1584, 1585
 Court of Criminal Appeal, 2R. [277] 1201
 Egypt—Law and Justice—Trial of Suleiman Sami, [280] 36
 Great Eastern Railway (High Beech Extension), 2R. [277] 187
 Lord Alcester's Grant, Comm. [280] 281
 Parliament—Business of the House, [277] 219
 Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), 2R. [279] 1692
 Post Office—Parcel Post—Rural Letter Carriers, [283] 1754
 Supply—Royal Palaces, [277] 1049, 1068
 Royal Parks and Pleasure Gardens, [277] 1081
 Supplementary Estimates, 1882-3—Embassies and Missions Abroad, Report, [277] 159

Wales (South) — Maintenance of Main Roads

Question, Mr. H. G. Allen; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke June 7, [279] 1904

WALLACE, Sir R., Lisburn

Ireland—Drainage and Inland Navigation—Drainage of Lough Neagh, [281] 602

WALBROND, Colonel W. H., Devon
 Minister of Agriculture and Commerce 176

WALSINGHAM, Lord

Payment of Wages in Public Houses tion, Comm. cl. 3, Amendt. [277] 31

WALTER, Mr. J., Berkshire

Local Option, Res. [278] 1346
 Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Practices), Comm. add. cl. [281] 114
 Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Amendt. 2R. Motion for Adjournment, [277] 1784, 1790

Warrington Tramways Bill (by O. C. Moved, "That the Bill be now read 1st (Mr. Rylands) April 5, [277] 1469

Amendt. to leave out "now," add "on this day six months" (*Mr. Chamberlain*); Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" short debate, Question put; A. 68, M. 55 (D. L. 51)

Words added; main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to; 2R. put off

WARTON, Mr. C. N., Bridport

Agricultural Holdings (No. 2), 2R. [277] 1921; cl. 4, 1936; cl. 6, Amendt. 184, 186, 198; cl. 16, 346; cl. 23, 367 390; Consid. cl. 13, Amendt. 1186 Amendt. 1193; Lords Reasons and Answer Consid. [283] 1768

Agricultural Holdings (Scotland), Comm. [282] 453; cl. 5, 496; cl. 7, 120; cl. 26, 1263, 1264; cl. 27, Amendt. cl. 37, 1285; Lords Amendts. Consid. 1585

Army Estimates—Medical Establishments, [283] 1246

War Office, [283] 1300

Ballot Act Continuance and Amendment, [277] 916; Motion for Adjournment

Bankruptcy, 2R. [277] 910, 911, 985; cl. 4, Amendt. [283] 527, 529; cl. 6, 533; Lords Amendts. Consid. 1771,

Cemeteries, 2R. [278] 1059, 1196

Constabulary and Police (Ireland) [Pensions], Comm. add. cl. [279] 1452

Schedule 2, Amendt. 1416, 1418

Contagious Diseases Acts, Motion for adjournment of the House, [279] 72

Court of Criminal Appeal, [277] 814

Court of Criminal Appeal Bill—Mr. Hawkins, [281] 1896, 1897

Criminal Code (Indictable Offences) Pro 2R. [278] 132, 138; Motion for Comm 340, 349

Criminal Procedure—Evidence of Persons, [278] 628

Cruelty to Animals Acts Amendment. Motion for Adjournment, [282] 155 Amendt. 1964

Customs and Inland Revenue, 3R. [277] 11

Detention in Hospitals, Leave, [280] 11

Diplomatic Service—H.M. Mission in [276] 588

ARTON, Mr. C. N.—*cont.*

Diseases Prevention (Metropolis), Motion for Leave, [282] 1445
 Education (Scotland), 2R. [282] 1771; Comm. add. cl. [283] 429
 Egypt—Law and Justice—Trial of Suleiman Sami, [280] 118, 127, 133, 260
 Elective Councils (Ireland), 2R. [278] 30
 Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 8), 2R. Amendt. [281] 1193
 Employers Liability Act (1880) Amendment, 2R. [280] 512
 Expiring Laws Continuance, Comm. Schedule, [283] 430
 Free Libraries, 2R. [277] 515
 Harrison's Estate, 2R. [282] 1113
 High Court of Justice (Service of Writs), 2R. [280] 481
 Hull, Barnsley, and West Riding Junction Railway and Dock (Interest), Consid. [282] 30
 Imprisonment for Debt, 2R. [280] 1631
 India—East India (Financial Statement), Res. [279] 723
 India—East India Revenue Accounts—Annual Financial Statement, [283] 1820
 Irish Reproductive Loan Fund Act (1874) Amendment, 2R. [280] 1620
 Isle of Man (Harbours), Motion for Leave, [276] 687
 Land Improvement and Arterial Drainage (Ireland), 2R. [279] 880
 Law and Police—Wandsworth Police Court, [279] 886
 Limited Partnerships, 2R. [278] 1693
 Local Government Board (Scotland), 2R. [282] 1534, 1553, 1572; Comm. [283] 623; cl. 2, Amendt. 638, 641, 649, 651; cl. 3, 659; cl. 4, Amendt. 667; cl. 5, Amendt. 674, 675, 679, 681; cl. 6, 899; Schedule, 910, 911, 912, 916, 917, 918, 919
 Local Option, Res. [278] 1327, 1355
 Lord Alcester's Grant, Comm. [280] 282
 Medals, 2R. [279] 877; Comm. Motion for reporting Progress, [283] 922, 923; cl. 1, Amendt. *ib.*; cl. 2, Amendt. *ib.*
 Mercantile Marine—Passing Tolls Act—Collection of the Light Dues, [279] 699
 Merchant Shipping (Fishing Boats), 2R. [283] 1446; Comm. cl. 1, 1593; cl. 36, 1597
 Minister of Education, Res. [280] 1978
 Municipal Corporations (Unreformed), Comm. [278] 1522
 National Debt, Comm. [283] 411
 Navy—Courts Martial—H.M.S. "Triumph"—Case of Louis Price, [282] 517, 934
 Navy Estimates—Machinery and Ships Built by Contract, Motion for reporting Progress, [281] 1648
 Sea and Coastguard Services, [277] 635
 Parliament—Questions
 Business of the House, [283] 750; Ministerial Statement, [280] 1712; [281] 1120, 1363; [282] 429;—Parliamentary Oaths Act, &c.—Postponement of Orders of the Day, [278] 1590
 Contagious Diseases Acts—Legislation, [278] 1867
 Half-past Twelve o'Clock Rule—Blocking, [279] 1750, 1753

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WARTON, Mr. C. N.—*cont.*

New Rules of Procedure—Grand Committees—Accommodation for Reporters, [277] 1117
 Order of Business—Payment of Wages in Public Houses Prohibition, [280] 1379
 Order—Surrey (Trial of Causes) Bill, [279] 320
 Policy of the Ministry—Mr. Chamberlain's Speech at Birmingham, [280] 798
 Precedence of Government Orders, [281] 191
 Privilege—[Reflections upon a Member, [277] 1838
 Rules of Debate—Blocking, [277] 1278
 Parliament—Ascension Day, Motion for Meeting of Committees, [278] 1672, 1673
 Parliament—Queen's Speech, Address in Answer to, [276] 208, 454, 943
 Parliament—Standing Committees, [282] 1156;—Attendance of Members, [278] 1578; Motion for Adjournment, 1702
 Parliament—Standing Committee on Trade, Shipping, and Manufactures, Res. [279] 2008
 Parliamentary Elections (Closing of Public Houses), 2R. [277] 919
 Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), 2R. Amendt. 1651
 280] Comm. cl. 1, 390, 396; Amendt. 401, 403, 404, 407, 408, 409, 567, 570, 573, 576, 577, 578, 580, 591, 597, 603; cl. 2, 642, 746; . Motion for reporting Progress, 893, 931, 935; cl. 3, 977; Amendt. 1169, 1179, 1183, 1188; cl. 4, 1319, 1326; cl. 5, 1461; cl. 6, 1893; cl. 7, 1925, 1926
 281] 82; cl. 13, Amendt. 119; cl. 15, 216, 266, 281; cl. 16, 308, 309, 312; cl. 17, Amendt. 319, 322, 323, 324; cl. 18, 325, 331; . cl. 22, 358; cl. 23, 376, 385, 387; cl. 24, 392, 394, 482, 488, 490; cl. 25, 491; cl. 26, Amendt. 496, 497, 498; cl. 31, 540, 549; . Amendt. 550; cl. 33, 616; cl. 34, 617; . cl. 44, 851; Amendt. 856; cl. 45, 877; . cl. 60, Amendt. 888, 889, 890, 892; cl. 61, Amendt. 967, 968; cl. 66, 971, 972; add. . cl. 1001, 1017, 1125; Amendt. 1129, 1281, 1287, 1292, 1300, 1377, 1396; Schedule 1, 1414, 1417, 1443, 1456; Amendt. 1458
 282] Consid. Amendt. 1989; add. cl. Amendt. 1997; cl. 1, 2003; cl. 3, 2020; cl. 5, Amendt. 2024
 283] cl. 15, Amendt. 76; cl. 25, 85; cl. 37, 90; . Schedule 1, Amendt. 118, 131
 Parliamentary Franchise (Extension to Women), Res. [281] 666
 Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Amendment, Motion for Leave, [276] 252; 2R. [278] 1493, 1739, 1740
 Parliamentary Registration (Ireland), Comm. [283] 480; cl. 3, 482, 483; cl. 4, 490
 Parochial Charities (London), 2R. [278] 1698; Comm. [282] 686; Consid. 1101, 1102
 Patents for Inventions, Motion for Commitment, [278] 392
 Payment of Wages in Public Houses Prohibition, 2R. [277] 1102, 1103, 1104; Comm. [282] 1595; cl. 3, 1788, 1789; 3R. Amendt. *ib.*
 Post Office—Parcel Post, [279] 886

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WARTON, Mr. C. N.—*cont.*

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Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Washington, D.C. 20246

ANSWER. Mr. CROFT. Aug 7

1-35

During the first interval of the lecture Mr. J. G. Hubbard, Mr. Macfarlane, Mr. R. Ashton Price, answered the questions of the audience.

March 1942

Intest. Turcas & Foreign Investments, Ques-
tione, Mr. Macfarlane, Answers, The Chan-
ge of the Turkish Empire, Mr. Macfarlane,

1741, June 3, 1741

In the Year 1870, at the Court of Sessions, Mr.

Answer, that we are of the same

Answer, The Chairman of the Executive
Committee, Mr. J. G. Hubbard. Answer, The Chairman of the
Executive Committee, Mr. J. G. Hubbard.

For copies of the 18, 1911, Quoted in, Mr.
W. H. Jones, Secretary of the Council of
the American Association of

Law of 17, 1840, and 1841, Question, Mr.

1. The New York Chamber of the
Federal Reserve Bank, 1961-1962

James J. [unclear] & Co., Question, Mr.
[unclear] [unclear] [unclear] Mr. [unclear]

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Quebec, Monday, March 11, 1889.

Mr Courtney May 22 1894
 Dear Sir I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th inst.

There are no other copies of this

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In the *Travels of the Queen*, Sir Joseph
 ... Mr. ...

James R. ...

The day after the 10th of March, 1861, I was informed by the
 authorities of the bank that

From *Journal of the Marine Biological Association of the United Kingdom*, 1964, 44, 1, 1-12.

[illegible]

The Judge of the Peace observed, Mr.
A. was an old lawyer - He said Mr. Court.

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Mr. J. H. ...

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c. Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" (*Mr. Dodds*) Feb 27, [276] 971; Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Viscount Folkestone*); Motion agreed to

Debate resumed Mar 6, 1600; Debate further adjourned

Read 2^o Mar 13, [277] 351

Moved, "That the Bill be now considered" 279] (*Mr. Dodds*) May 24, 749

Amendt. to leave out "now considered," add "re-committed to the former Committee" (*Viscount Folkestone*); Question proposed, "That 'now considered,' &c.;" after short debate, Question put, and negatived

Words added; main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to

Report of Select Comm. May 31, 1296

Moved, "That the Report do lie upon the Table" (*Sir Henry Selwin-Ibbetson*); after debate, Question put, and agreed to; Report to be printed.

Windsor, Ascot, and Aldershot Railway Bill—
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Moved, "That the Bill, as amended, be taken into consideration upon Thursday" (*Viscount Folkestone*) June 5, 1739
Amendt. to leave out "upon Thursday," insert "To-morrow" (*Sir Gabriel Goldney*) v.; Question put, "That 'upon Thursday,' &c.;" A. 37, N. 73; M. 36 (D. L. 116)
Main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to Moved, "That the Bill, as amended, be now considered" June 6, 1809
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Read 2^o * June 21
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ERRATA.

- In Vol. [281], page 1064, lines 25 and 26 from top, for "10 per cent, so that about £9,000,000,"
read "70 per cent, so that about £90,000,000."
" " page 1066, line 9 from top, for "Mr. James Howard," read "Colonel Kingscote."
In Vol. [282], page 166, line 12 from bottom, for "Colonel Dawnay," read "Mr. Guy Dawnay."
In Vol. [283], page 531, line 14 from bottom, for "bankrupt," read, "responsible for an act of bankruptcy"

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